NEW BRUNSWICK WATER UTILITY PWSID 1214001 NON-EMERGENCY NOTICE

On October 14th, 2020 New Brunswick Water Utility was notified by the NJDEP that we were deemed out of compliance for WATER QUALITY PARAMETER, specifically water pH, for the monitoring period 1/1/2020-6/30/2020.

Water Quality Parameters include values set by the State for the pH levels in your drinking water. pH is a simple measure of how acidic or basic a given water sample is determined to be. pH is highly variable and changes due to factors such temperature, alkalinity or carbon dioxide levels. The enclosed notice does not pertain to any primary contamination in your drinking water. These parameters are monitored continuously at the point of entry to the distribution system and sampled biweekly at 10 different sites throughout the service area.

At various times in April and again in June samples indicated pH levels slightly lower than the level prescribed by NJDEP, which triggered this notice. New Brunswick Water Utility tests for pH at least 2500 times per year in addition to continuous monitoring via online analyzer. We remain committed to complying with all NJDEP issued guidance and regulations. If you have any questions, please feel free to call New Brunswick Water Utility at (732) 418-5687 x110.

Porfavor contacte el departamento del agua de la ciudad de New Brunswick si tiene alguna pergunta o duda al (732) 418-5687 x 110 gracias. Porfavor refierase al sitio web de la ciudad de New Brunswick, la seccion "Water Utility" para una version en espanol de la notification.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER
New Brunswick Water Utility Fails to Meet Water Quality Parameter (WQP) Levels

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did (are doing) to correct this situation.

Our system has installed corrosion control treatment to help prevent lead and/or copper in the pipes from dissolving into the water. During the January through June 2020, monitoring period, we failed to consistently meet treatment technique requirements for our corrosion control system, specifically optimal pH. WQP results did not meet the optimal WQP control values set by the State 38 days in the 6-month monitoring period, and the system cannot be outside the values set by the State for nine or more days.

What should I do? Listed below are some steps you can take to reduce your exposure to lead and/or copper:

- Run water to flush out lead and/or copper. Run water for 15 – 30 seconds or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking, if it hasn't been used for several hours.
- Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula. Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap; Lead dissolves more quickly into hot water. Do not use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula.
- Do not boil water. Boiling water will not reduce lead and/or copper levels.
- Use alternate sources or treatment of water. You may want to consider using bottled water for drinking and cooking or a water filter designed to remove Lead. Read the package to be sure the filter is approved to reduce Lead or contact NSF International at 800-NSF-8010 or www.nsf.org for information on performance standards for water filters. Be sure to maintain and replace a filter device in accordance with the manufacturer's standards to ensure water quality.
- Get your child tested. Contact your local health department or healthcare provider to find out how you can get your child tested for lead if you are concerned about lead exposure.

What does this mean? This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours. Water Quality parameters are just one part in the myriad of parameters that can affect lead and copper release into drinking water. New Brunswick Water Utility's 2020 round of Lead and Copper Sampling has indicated that lead and copper levels are below the NJDEP/EPA Action Level.

However, infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal physician.

If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.

What is being done? New Brunswick Water Utility is completing the following steps to return into compliance: (1) having pH values above the established minimum pH value at the referenced locations, (2) increasing the minimum amount of lead and copper samples from 30 to 60 at a frequency of every six months starting with the 1st half of 2021, and (3) creating a new Quality Control procedures for the sampling and reporting of Water Quality Parameters. We anticipate resolving the problem within 45 days.

For more information, please contact New Brunswick Water Utility at (732) 418-5687 x110.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by New Brunswick Water Utility. State Water System ID#: NJ1214001.
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