

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER
City of Emporia
Has Levels of Total Trihalomethanes (THMs) Above Drinking Water Standards

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 are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Testing results for the quarterly samples collected during the compliance period of October 2016–September 2017 indicate that the running annual average exceeded the standard, or Primary Maximum Contaminant Level (PMCL), for THMs. The running annual average at our Briggs Street sampling site was 0.089 mg/L. This level exceeds the THM PMCL of 0.080 mg/L based on the average of four consecutive quarters of data.

What should I do?

You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

What does this mean?

This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. The criteria used to develop the standard were based on consuming 2 liters of water per day for 70 years.

What happened? What is being done?

THMs are byproducts of drinking water chlorination (disinfection/oxidation) reacting with precursors in the water. We are currently reviewing our operations and will adjust our system as needed. The MCL is calculated using the last four (4) quarters of data. We had a high result in the second quarter, which will remain in the calculations for a few quarters in the future.

For more information, please contact Mr. Linwood Pope at 434-624-4241, Emporia Public Utilities.

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 using the golf course, marina, 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 the City of Emporia, Department of Public Utilities.

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