



December 8, 2020

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) MCL Violation at Town of Snow Hill

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

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Testing results from April 2020 to June 2020 show that our system exceeds the standard or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for TTHM. The standard for TTHM is 80 parts per billion (ppb). It is determined by averaging the samples collected at each sampling location for the past 12 months. The level(s) of TTHM averaged at the sampling location(s) for April 2020 through June 2020 were as follows:

System Location	Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)
Worcester County Jail	84.00

What should I do?

- There is nothing you need to do. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. Should a situation ever arise where the water is not safe to drink, you will be notified immediately.
- Certain people may be at an increased risk. Customers with severely compromised immune systems; infants; pregnant women; and the elderly are at an increased risk, and should receive advice from their health care providers about drinking this water.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been an emergency, you would have been notified immediately. TTHMs are total trihalomethane compounds which form when disinfectants react with natural organic matter in the water. *People who drink water containing total trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.*

What is being done?

This is an isolated incident within the distribution of our water supply: it only affects the area by the County Jail. TTHM is a group of chemicals that can form when organic compounds are treated with halogen disinfectants such as chlorine. The most common of these chemicals are TTHM's. These chemicals are measured in PPB (parts per billion), which would be 0.000000001 of a unit of measurement. EPA has set a MCL of 80 ppb as a threshold for upper limits. We exceeded that threshold and are required to issue a statement to the general public. EPA has also determined that this chemical can cause cancer and has showed up in the use of test animals. They also have determined that this would have to be ingested for decades, a lifetime, to have severe health effects on people. I want to assure you that we take this violation seriously and it does not present an immediate health risk to the public and is safe to drink. We are doing everything possible to reduce the levels to meet the guidelines presented by EPA and MDE.

To correct this problem, we have increased hydrant flushing procedures to a more frequent flushing cycle. It is our goal to have these compounds under the MCL by the end of the year 2020. We are doing everything that is needed to continue to provide the best quality drinking water to our recipients.

As always, the Mayor and Town Manager are available if you have any technical questions.

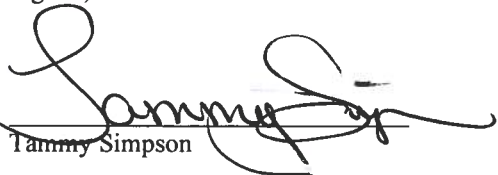
For more information, please contact Russell Harrison at 410-463-3314 or harrison@snowhillmd.com.

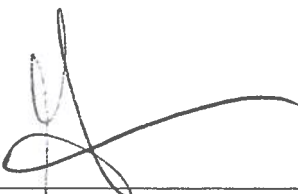
- *Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies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

This notice is being sent to you by the Town of Snow Hill. State Water System ID#: MD023-0007.

Date distributed: 12/09/2020

Signed,


Tammy Simpson


Gary Weber


Russell Harrison