

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Hidden Acres Estates Water Treatment System has levels of Total Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids which exceed Standard

SITUATION

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) requires disinfection of drinking water to inactivate possible pathogens, because the health benefits of disinfection far outweigh its risks. However, when used in the treatment of drinking water, some disinfectants combine with organic and inorganic matter present in the water to form chemicals called disinfection byproducts (DBPs). A number of DBPs such as Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) and Haloacetic Acids (HAA5s) may be a health concern at certain levels of exposure.

The laboratory analyses results for the first, and second consecutive quarterly sets of samples for TTHMs and HAA5s collected on November 20, and September 24, 2012, from the Hidden Acres Estates public drinking water system, indicated TTHM concentrations of 160.9 micrograms per liter (ug/L), and 166.9 ug/L, respectively, as well as HAA5 concentrations of 134.72 ug/L, and 109.9 ug/L, respectively. Therefore, the Department has determined that this water system has generated Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) violations for both TTHMs and HAA5s. Table 3 of Rule 62-550.310, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), identifies the MCL for TTHMs as 80 ug/L, and the MCL for HAA5s as 60 ug/L.

HEALTH EFFECTS

Some people who drink water containing Trihalomethanes in excess of the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Some people who drink water containing Haloacetic Acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

WHAT SHOULD CUSTOMER DO?

This is not an immediate risk, however, until the problem is corrected, any customers who are concerned about their exposure to TTHMs or HAA5s may wish to use alternative sources of water for ingestion, such as commercial bottled water, or water treated by an appropriate home water treatment device. Appropriate home water treatment devices are those certified by the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) for reducing TTHMs and HAA5s in drinking water.

WHAT IS BEING DONE

On January 16, 2013, the Activated Carbon Filters at the water treatment plant were serviced and the old carbon media was replaced with new media. Hidden Acres Estates will continue to monitor and report the TTHM and HAA5 results to you on a quarterly basis as long as the running annual average exceeds the MCL, as required by the Department of Environmental Protection.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more information please contact Hidden Acres at (863) 763-8266, or you may contact Patty Baron of the Department of Environmental Protection at Patty.Baron@DEP.state.fl.us, or call (239) 344-5615.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly. You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail