

NOTICE ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER
Disinfection Byproducts Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) Exceedance

Public Water System Name: Town of Plaistow PWS ID: 1931010

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. The locational running annual average (LRAA) calculation represents the average of all sample results collected at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters. The drinking water LRAA calculation is above the enforceable MCL at one or more sites for the following:

Contaminant and MCL	Detected Level	Date Sampled	Highest LRAA	Compliance Period
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) 0.060 mg/L	0.093 mg/L	Q1 2022	0.139 mg/L	Last 12 Months

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately.

For TTHM violations: *Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidney or central nervous system and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.*

For HAA5 violations: *Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.*

It is not necessary to use alternate water; however, if you have specific health concerns, please contact your health care professional. General health related questions may be directed to the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Steps being taken to correct the situation:

Please see the attached page

Expected Resolution Date: Spring 2023

Contact Name: Charlie Lanza Company: Hampstead Area Water Services, Co.

Address: 54 Sawyer Avenue Atkinson, NH 03811 Telephone Number: 603-362-1941

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.

STEPS BEING TAKEN TO CORRECT THE SITUATION

Soon after this first round of testing was found to exceed standards for Disinfection By Products (DBPs), the Town and their operator, HAWSCO, took prompt action to improve water quality. Additional flushing and cleaning took place within the distribution system and the Sweet Hill Tank to eliminate any organic matter that contribute to the DPB exceedance. This action proved effective as follow-up samples taken during Quarter 1 of 2023 indicate a significant decrease in HAA5s from 0.139 mg/L in Q4 2022 to 0.048 and additional sampling indicates the HAA5 results have been below the MCL. In an effort to further reduce the formation of HAA's the Town, HAWSCO, DES, and the Town's Engineer agrees that the best course of action is to change the disinfection process from chlorine to monochloramine. The proposed operational change will begin within the next few weeks. See the chart below for historical HAA5 results at the Sweet Hill Tank site.

The switch from chlorine to monochloramines means that the water treatment plant on East Rd. will now use a different chemical to disinfect the water. This change can have several benefits, such as reducing the formation of disinfection byproducts (DBPs) in the water, which can occur when chlorine reacts with organic matter in the water. Monochloramines are also known to provide longer-lasting disinfection and reduce the formation of harmful chemicals that can affect the taste and smell of the water. Additionally, using monochloramines requires less flushing of the water distribution system, which can help conserve water resources.

The transition to monochloramines likely will not result in any noticeable difference to the water you experience, though in many cases customers have noted experiencing a reduced chlorine odor and improved taste. The transition to monochloramines will result in:

- Compliance with Federal and state water quality regulations
- Fewer disinfection byproducts
- Reduced chlorine taste and odor

Monochloramines are safe for drinking, cooking, bathing, and other typical uses, though they can be harmful to anyone experiencing dialysis treatment. Chloramines, like chlorine, are dangerous when they are directly introduced to the bloodstream. Dialysis patients can utilize chloraminated water for the typical uses outlined previously, but it must be removed from any water source used by the dialysis machines. Hospitals and other medical centers that offer dialysis treatment are responsible for removing chloramines from any water source prior to treatment and are to be notified of this anticipated change.

While it is also safe for pets to consume, chloramines, like chlorine, can be harmful to fish and other aquatic life. Chloraminated water can directly enter the bloodstream of aquatic species through their gills and must be removed from the water prior to use in fish tanks and other aquatic environments. This can be achieved using chloramine removal products, which are readily available at most pet supply stores. Unlike chlorine, allowing water to sit for a few days does not effectively eliminate the monochloramines, as chloramines last longer and will not dissipate.

For pools and spa systems, it is not recommended to use chloraminated source water for fresh fills (e.g. first fill of the season). If chloraminated source water is used for a fresh fill, please consult with a pool or water expert. Chloraminated source water can be used in lesser amounts to provide make-up water (to replace water loss due to backwashing, evaporation and/or splash out) for these systems, though users should still be sure to monitor the chlorine concentration in their system when doing so.

The attached brochure further details the treatment changes. Customers can get more information from HAWSCO by calling (603) 362-1941.

HAA5 (Result) ug/L

