

Town of Dix

Town Hall – 304 Seventh Street, Watkins Glen, NY 14891

Telephone: (607) 535-7973

Fax: (607) 535-2590

Town Clerk, Extn. 201

Administration, Extn. 202

Code Enforcement, Extn. 205

December 23, 2019

Town of Dix Water Customers:

Attached is a notice from New York State Department of Health regarding our Total trihalomethanes (TTHM) violation for the third quarter of 2019.

The aeration system was installed in early August, right before this testing was completed so the violation occurred. We have received our results already for the fourth quarter testing and the TTHM's are well below the limit, which means the aeration system is working perfectly.

You do not need to use an alternative water supply (e.g., bottled water).

If you have any questions you can contact Michael Bailey at the Department of Health, his number is 607-324-8371. You can also contact the Town of Dix at 607-535-7973 ext.202

Town of Dix
Water Administration

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) Violation at:

Dix Water District No. 1
(Name of Public Water System)

Town of Dix, NY
(Location)

Contaminant	Date of Sample	Result	LRAA	MCL
TTHM	August 7, 2019	93.1 ug/L	89.1 ug/L	80 ug/l

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 have done and, or, are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Testing results from August 7, 2019 show that our system exceeds the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for TTHM. The Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA) standard for TTHM is 80 ug/l. It is determined by averaging all the samples collected at each sampling location for the past 12 months. The level of TTHM averaged at one of our system's locations for August 7, 201 was 89.1 ug/L.

What should I do?

- There is nothing you need to do. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. If a situation arises where the water is no longer safe to drink, you will be notified within 24 hours.
- 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 does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been an emergency, you would have been notified within 24 hours.

Trihalomethanes are a group of chemicals that are formed in drinking water during disinfection when chlorine reacts with naturally occurring organic material (e.g., decomposing vegetation such as tree leaves, algae or other aquatic plants) in surface water sources such as rivers and lakes. They are disinfection byproducts and include the individual chemicals chloroform, bromoform, bromodichloromethane, and chlorodibromomethane. The amount of trihalomethanes formed in drinking water during disinfection can change from day to day, depending on the temperature, the amount of organic material in the water, the amount of chlorine added, and a variety of other factors.

Disinfection of drinking water by chlorination is beneficial to public health. Drinking water is disinfected by public water suppliers to kill bacteria and viruses that could cause serious illnesses, and chlorine is the most commonly used disinfectant in New York State. All public water systems that use chlorine as a disinfectant contain trihalomethanes to some degree.

Some studies suggest that people who drank water containing trihalomethanes for long periods of time (e.g., 20 to 30 years) have an increased risk of certain health effects. These include an increased risk for cancer and for low birth weights, miscarriages and birth defects. The methods used by these studies could not rule out the role of other factors that could have resulted in the observed increased risks. In addition, other similar studies do not show an increased risk for these health effects. Therefore, the evidence from these studies is

not strong enough to conclude that trihalomethanes were a major factor contributing to the observed increased risks for these health effects. Studies of laboratory animals show that some trihalomethanes can cause cancer and adverse reproductive and developmental effects, but at exposures much higher than exposures that could result through normal use of the water. The United States Environmental Protection Agency reviewed the information from the human and animal studies and concluded that while there is no causal link between disinfection byproducts (including trihalomethanes) and human health effects, the balance of the information warranted stronger regulations that limit the amount of trihalomethanes in drinking water, while still allowing for adequate disinfection. The risks for adverse health effects from trihalomethanes in drinking water are small compared to the risks for illness from drinking inadequately disinfected water.

What is being done?

The Town of Dix has been awarded a NYS Water Grant to install TTHM removal equipment in the Business Park water storage tank. We anticipate resolving the problem prior to the end of this year.

For more information, please contact the Town of Dix at 607-535-7973.

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	<u>Town of Dix</u>
State Water System ID#:	<u>NY4830037</u>
Date distributed:	<u>12/23/19</u>

NYSDOH Hornell District Office
107 Broadway, Room 105
Hornell, NY 14843
Phone: 607-324-8371