



Town of

31 Pondsides Road – 01106

TEL (413) 567-3400 ~ FAX (413) 567-9018

Incorporated 1783 publicworks@longmeadow.org



IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER Total Trihalomethane (TTHM) & Haloacetic Acid (HAA5) MCL Violation

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 are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Testing results on August 5, 2019 showed that our system exceeded the maximum contaminant level (MCL) 12 month locational running annual average (LRAA), for one HAA5 site and four TTHM sites. The standard HAA5 is 60 parts per billion (ppb) over a 12 month running average, and the average was 70 (ppb) at one location. The TTHM standard is 80 parts per billion (ppb) over a 12 month running average, and our averages at four locations were 81 (ppb), 82 (ppb), 86 (ppb), and 90 (ppb).

What does this mean?

This was not an emergency. If it had been an emergency, you would have been notified within 24 hours. TTHMs and HAA5s are volatile organic compounds which form when disinfectants (chlorine) react with natural organic matter in the water. *Some people who drink water containing TTHM & HAA5 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.* Please see <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/haa5-in-drinking-water-information-for-consumers> or <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/tthm-in-drinking-water-information-for-consumers> for fact sheets.

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 not 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 is being done?

We are working closely with our water supplier at the Springfield Water and Sewer Commission (SWSC). The extreme wet weather contributed to an increase in organics entering the SWSC reservoir. Because of this, SWSC staff had to increase their chlorine output due to chlorine demand and is changing its treatment. This in turn has caused the creation of higher TTHMs and HAA5s. SWSC is now modifying its treatment practices to improve water quality. Longmeadow is also working with options with MassDEP to reduce the formation of HAA5 and TTHM in our water.

For more information, please contact the Longmeadow DPW at (413) 567-3400 or 31 Pondsides Road, Longmeadow, MA 01106.

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:
Longmeadow Water Department

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