

DRINKING WATER NOTICE

Tests show ARSENIC in the drinking water

Provided by: LEICESTER WATER SUPPLY DISTRICT
Name of Public Water System

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct the situation.

Arsenic occurs as a contaminant in some groundwater in Massachusetts, most frequently in the central part of the state. Drinking water from bedrock wells, also called drilled or artesian wells, may contain arsenic. We routinely monitor for the presence of these drinking water contaminants.

The running annual average level of arsenic for the #5 well (06G) was 12 ppb from October 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009. This exceeds the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 10 ppb.

** ppb = Parts Per Billion

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

- Hand washing and bathing in water that contains arsenic does not pose a known risk to human health
- Further health information is available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1 (800) 426-4791 and at the EPA Office of Groundwater & Drinking Water: Arsenic in Drinking Water website <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/arsenic/index.html>
- *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.*

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

THIS IS NOT AN EMERGENCY.
If it had been, you would have been notified immediately.

Arsenic: Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

STEPS WE ARE TAKING

Our system is taking the following corrective actions:

- We are notifying our customers of the violation by providing this public notice to you. We are also submitting a copy of this public notice to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and your local Board of Health.
 - We are working with the DEP to evaluate the water supply and are researching options to correct the problem, which may include: treating the water to remove the contaminant(s); removing the well from service; connecting to another approved water supply; or investigating drilling a new well.
- We have stopped using the contaminated well. We have increased pumping from other wells.
 We have increased sampling. We are providing an alternative source of water supply.
 Other action(s) The #5 well (06G) is currently completing construction to treat for Arsenic, Radon, and Uranium removal. The completion date is currently scheduled for the February 2010.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information please contact:

Frank W. Lyon, Supt. At 508 892-8484
Name of Contact *Phone#*
PWSID#: 2151000 Date Distributed: January 12, 2009