

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT APACHE JUNCTION WATER DISTRICT'S DRINKING WATER

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) MCL Violation at Public Water System AZ 11-039

Apache Junction Water District's (AJWD) water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this incident was not an emergency, as our customers, you have the right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct this situation.

AJWD routinely monitors for the presence of drinking water contaminants. We monitor for one group of contaminants, Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs), at four (4) monitoring stations spread across the District. Testing results from January 14, 2019 show that our samples were below the standard of 0.080 parts per million (mg/L). This particular location was at 0.045 parts per million (mg/L) for the sample taken in January. Unfortunately the maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 0.080 parts per million (mg/L) is based on the Location Running Annual Average (LRAA), for TTHM. It is determined by averaging all the samples collected at each sampling location for the past 12 months. Since the previous three quarters were high the LRAA did not allow this site to reach a level below the MCL. The LRAA level of TTHMs at one of our system's locations for April 2018 through January 2019 was 0.082 mg/L.

What should I do?

- There is nothing you need to do, and you can safely continue normal use of AJWD's drinking water. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. If your water ever became unsafe to drink, you would 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. TTHMs are four volatile organic compounds which form when disinfectants react with natural organic matter in the water. *"People who drink water containing TTHMs in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have increased risk of getting cancer."*

What is being done?

AJWD is in the process of adding pre-treatment and aeration systems to help lower TTHM levels. The pre-treatment system was ordered in September, 2018. These modifications to the Superstition Area Water Plant and water storage facilities are anticipated to be in place by the spring of 2019. In addition, operational changes at water reservoirs, blending TTHM-free water into the system, implementing chemical adjustments and flushing the system at strategic locations will continue. The District will increase non-compliance monitoring, and anticipates completing modifications prior to next year's summer months, when hot temperatures contribute to elevated TTHM levels. Compliance sample results will be due again to ADEQ in April, 2019. The District expects averages to drop to desired levels, during the cooler winter months, and upcoming sample results will confirm the effectiveness of system modifications.

For more information, please contact Frank Blanco at (480) 982-6030.

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 Apache Junction Water District – State Water System ID# 11-039

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