



PUBLIC NOTICE

Hot Springs Utilities

March 9, 2019

The Hot Spring Utilities Department is a public water system subject to regulation under the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act. Those regulations require the notification of customers whenever a violation occurs, and is the basis of this notice.

The annual average of quarterly samples of the level of total Trihalomethanes, a disinfection by-product, in the water exceeded the MCL (maximum contaminant level) of 80 parts per billion (ppb) for the period from January 2019 through March 2019. The average level in the water for site # 209YD041 this period was 87 ppb.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sets national standards for drinking water and has established the maximum level for Total Trihalomethanes at 80 micrograms per liter. Trihalomethanes are a group of by-product chemicals that are formed by the use of chlorine in the treatment of drinking water. Disinfectants, such as chlorine, react with naturally occurring organic and inorganic matter present in water to form chemicals called disinfection byproducts (DBPs). EPA has determined that a number of DBPs are a health concern at certain levels of exposure.

Should you have any questions concerning this notice, contact the water system at (501)767-4888 or the Engineering Section of the Department of Health at (501)661-2623. Information on drinking water can be obtained from the Engineering Section and on the health effects of Trihalomethanes from the Epidemiology Section at (501)661-2796. ■

If you know anyone who may not receive a direct notice (apartments, nursing homes, schools, businesses, etc.) please direct their attention to this notice.

Some people who drink water containing Trihalomethanes 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. EPA has set standards to limit exposure to Trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids and other DBPs.

The Arkansas Department of Health has advised the water system that there is **no immediate health risk from consuming the water**. Failure to meet this requirement **does not mean that the water is unsafe or that alternate sources of water should be used**.

Hot Springs Utilities has a fire hydrant with an automatic flushing device at site # 209YD041 in the 1100 block of Amity Road. During winter months, we reduced the flushing frequency to one time each day. In spring and summer the frequency is increased to twice each day. **In order to correct this issue, the Utilities Department will increase the duration and frequency of flushing**. The new water treatment plant, to be built in the area, will eliminate this issue.