

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

August 2016

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.

Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

### Lake Alpine Water System has levels of Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) above Drinking Water Standards

Our water system recently did not meet a drinking water standard. Although this is 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 including disinfection byproducts. Water sample results for the 3rd quarter (Jul-Sep) of 2016 indicated the running annual average of HAA5 at 61.7 micrograms per liter (ug/L). This is above the standard or maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 60.0 ug/L.

Distribution System HAA5 – We monitor quarterly for HAA5 in our distribution system. During the past 12 months, our distribution system had the results shown in the table below.

Parameter	Results				
	4th Quarter	1st Quarter	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	3rd Quarter	Average
HAA5	52.00	56.8	67.40	70.5	61.7

#### What are Haloacetic Acids?

Haloacetic acids (HAA5) are one group of many disinfection byproducts that occur from a chemical reaction between chlorine and organic carbon in the water. LAWC uses chlorine to disinfect the water therefore disinfection byproducts are present.

#### What should I do?

- You do not need to boil the water and you do not need to use an alternative water supply (e.g., bottled water).
- This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately.
- Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
- If you have other health issues concerning the consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your doctor.

#### Can I drink the water?

Yes, the water is still potable. If you have been away from your house, flushing all the taps for 2-3 minutes is a good way to remove water that has been idle in the pipes over time.

#### Why are disinfection byproducts levels elevated?

LAWC samples for HAA5 in May and July of 2016 were above the MCL. Although previous quarterly samples were below the MCL, the recent higher results contributed to an annual average calculation of 61.7 ug/L or parts per billion.

The recurrence of high levels of HAA5 is concerning to the LAWC staff and reducing levels of all disinfection byproducts is a high priority. The formation of disinfection byproducts is influenced by many factors including the level of organic carbon in the raw water, temperature, pH, the

type of disinfectant used as well as the amount of time between treatment and customer use of the water. Water samples taken this summer indicate that disinfection byproducts are low when the water leaves the plant but are high at other sampling points. This indicates that filtering and treatment are not the issue. The increase in disinfection byproducts is occurring later in the distribution system.

What are we doing to reduce disinfection byproducts?

An aerator has been added to the Clearwell tank to oxidize some of the disinfection byproducts. This has reduced Trihalomethanes (TTHM) byproducts by over 50% but does not affect the HAA5 byproducts.

In May of 2016, we began a lake oxygenation system and we will be monitoring the short and long term effects on organic carbon and the disinfection byproducts. Additionally, we have obtained a hydraulic model of the distribution system and will be investigating the water flows in the system to optimize continuous circulation to reduce water age.

Please know that LAWC is working diligently to improve the water quality for your health and enjoyment.

For more information, please contact LAWC at [info@lakealpinewater.com](mailto:info@lakealpinewater.com) or 209-753-2409.

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.

**Secondary Notification Requirements**

Upon receipt of notification from a person operating a public water system, the following notification must be given within 10 days [Health and Safety Code Section 116450(g)]:

- RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTY OWNERS OR MANAGERS: Must notify tenants.
- BUSINESS PROPERTY OWNERS, MANAGERS, OR OPERATORS: Must notify employees of businesses located on the property.

This notice is being sent to you by Lake Alpine Water Company.

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