

**October 4, 2022**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER**

Este aviso contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable, por favor lea el aviso en español si va aquí incluido. Si el aviso en español no va incluido aquí, contacte al sistema de agua para pedir una copia.

**Disinfection By-Products (DBP) Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) Exceedance for Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) in the Lake Alpine Water Company (LAWC) system**

DBPs are formed in the distribution system when chlorine used for disinfection reacts with naturally occurring total organic carbon (TOC). Organics are present after the decomposition of plant matter and in the runoff in the watershed. LAWC is required to always detect a chlorine residual in the distributed water. The State has set an MCL on two groups of DBPs. The two DBPs are Total Tri-halomethanes (TTHMs – MCL of 80 ppb) and Haloacetic Acids (HAA5 – MCL of 60 ppb). DBPs are measured as parts per billion (ppb) and compliance is based on the Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA) of results.

In 2017 we set up a trial filter of granular activated carbon (GAC) to remove TOC from the water prior to chlorine contact. This has worked well, and we have been in compliance since January 2018. However, due to many factors our water system recently failed to meet this drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what you should do, what happened, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We sample for DBPs every three months. Results we received during the third quarter of 2022 were below the MCL for HAA5. The quarterly average at the Firehouse for HAA5 was 56 ppb and the quarterly average at Bloods Ridge for HAA5 was 56.5 ppb. However, the 2022 LRAA still exceeded the MCL because of the higher results earlier in the year. The LRAA at the Firehouse for HAA5 was 72.53 ppb, and the LRAA at Bloods Ridge for HAA5 was 77.10 ppb. This means the average concentration of HAA5 is on a decreasing trend toward compliance.

**What should I do?**

This is not an immediate risk. If it had been you would have been notified immediately. You are not required to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply. You can use a countertop or faucet mounted carbon filter to reduce the amount of chlorine and DBPs at the tap. Some people who drink water containing Haloacetic Acids in excess of than 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.

## **What happened? What was done?**

In November 2021 and January 2022, our sampling indicated higher than usual amounts of Total Organic Carbon (TOC). TOC is usually removed by the granular activated carbon filter. In September 2022 we created a second GAC filtering vessel at the plant to increase TOC removal. The GAC in both of those vessels will be exchanged for new carbon in November 2022 so that we can be operational throughout the winter.

Since early 2020, LAWC has been collaborating with engineers to design and install a redundant GAC filter system, known as a lead/lag series of vessels that will increase the rate and consistency of TOC removal and will have greater GAC capacity for variable water quality and extended winters. We hope to complete this project by the end of 2023.

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

## **Secondary Notification Requirements**

The following notification must be given within 10 days [per Health and Safety Code Section 116450(g)]:

- **SCHOOLS:** Must notify school employees, students, and parents (if the students are minors).
- **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 the Lake Alpine Water Company.

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