



## HANNIBAL BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

ELECTRIC, WATER AND WASTEWATER

3 INDUSTRIAL LOOP DRIVE  
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August 28, 2015

To whom it may concern:

The Hannibal Board of Public Works (HBPW) will be converting from a chlorine system to a chloramine system for disinfection of your drinking water the last week of September 2015. As you may be aware, the HBPW has been in violation of federal drinking water standards since 2012, and has been sending public notices to customers quarterly since the violations began. The violation is related to disinfection by products (DBPs) which are formed from byproducts of chlorine disinfection and naturally occurring organics that are present in drinking water. The conversion to chloramine disinfection will resolve the DBP issue, get us back into compliance with federal drinking water standards, and will provide excellent protection from waterborne disease.

The change to chloramine disinfection can cause problems to persons dependent on dialysis machines. A condition known as hemolytic anemia can occur if the disinfectant is not completely removed from the water that is used for the dialysate. Consequently, the pretreatment scheme used for dialysis units must include some means, such as a carbon filter, for removing the chloramine. Medical facilities should also determine if additional precautions are required for other medical equipment.

In addition, chloraminated water may be toxic to fish. If you have a fish tank, please make sure that the chemicals or filter that you are using are designed for use in water that has been treated with chloramines. You may also need to change the type of filter that you use for the fish tank.

Some customers may notice slight changes to the taste and odor of the water. Our staff will be working hard to minimize such changes. Most people will not notice when we change over to the new disinfectant, but if you do, please be aware of the cause and allow a little time to get used to the new normal.

If there are additional questions or concerns that you would like to discuss, please contact me directly at (573) 221-8050 extension 6037.

Sincerely,

Heath N. Hall  
Director of Operations