



BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

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ELECTRIC, WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENTS

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PUBLIC NOTICE **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER**

Hannibal has levels of Disinfection Byproducts above drinking water standards.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our water customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct the situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Testing results collected during the twelve (12) month periods ending September 30, 2011 and December 30, 2011 show that our system exceeded the standard or maximum contaminant level (MCL). See table below.

Analyte	Period End Date	Running Annual Average (RAA)	RAA Unit of Measure (UOM)	MCL Result	MCL UOM
TTHM	09/30/11	90.63	ug/L	80	ug/L
TTHM	12/31/11	90.68	ug/L	80	ug/L

What should I do?

You do not need to use an alternative water supply (e.g., bottled water). However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

What does this mean?

Disinfection Byproducts (DBPs) are formed when chlorine combines with naturally occurring organic matter in water. Disinfection is necessary to inactivate harmful microbes, such as bacteria and viruses, which may be present in untreated water. Regulated DBPs consist of Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) and Haloacetic Acids (HAAs). The MCL is based on long-term exposure of drinking two (2) liters of water every day for seventy (70) years. Some people who drink water containing THMs 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.

1 ug/L is equal to 1 part per billion (ppb). One ppb is roughly equivalent to a teaspoon of a material in an Olympic size swimming pool, or one drop of ink in a canal lock full of water, or one second per 32 years.

“The Mission of the Hannibal Board of Public Works is to provide safe, reliable utility products with excellent customer service at reasonable prices.”

What happened?

Samples are taken in four predetermined locations throughout the water system each quarter and sent to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) laboratory for compliance testing. To determine compliance the four sample sites are averaged along with the last three quarters' results. Test results taken in September 2011 were abnormally high; therefore we are above the RAA MCL of 80 ug/L for the 3rd and 4th quarter of 2011. It is likely that we will be out of compliance for the 1st and 2nd quarters of 2012 as well, until the September 2011 samples are no longer in the calculated average.

What is being done?

A yearlong engineering study began in the winter of 2011 to determine how to reduce DBPs in Hannibal's drinking water to maintain compliance when the regulation switches from a system wide average to an individual site average in October 2013. The study is examining the use of different treatment chemicals and treatment technologies at the Water Treatment Plant, along with possible changes within the water distribution system to reduce the levels of DBPs found within the drinking water. Samples taken as part of the study in mid November and early December of 2011 were all below the 80 ug/L MCL, but cannot be used for MDNR compliance.

For more information and/or questions regarding this matter, please contact Heath N. Hall at (573) 221-8050 ext. 6037 or Dave Lomax at (573) 248-1511. Additionally you may contact the Missouri Department of Natural Resources' Northeast Regional Office at (660) 385-2129 or Public Drinking Water Branch at (573) 751-5331.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink Hannibal's water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses).

January 2012