

**IMPORTANTE !** “Este informe contiene información muy importante. Tradúscalo o hable con un amigo quien lo entienda bien.”



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

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

We are required to monitor your drinking water for the presence of disinfection byproducts (DBPs) on a quarterly basis. The DBPs test results from the last four (4) quarters (12 months) that ended in December 2021 show that our system exceeds the standards, or maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for total trihalomethanes (TTHM). MCLs for TTHM are calculated based on locational running annual averages (LRAA) of samples collected from the last four (4) quarters (12 months). The LRAA of TTHM at our Loomis Street sample station is at 0.085 milligrams per liter (mg/L). This value exceeds the MCL for TTHM of 0.080 mg/L. The TTHM range during that period was 0.072 mg/L to 0.096 mg/L.

### What should I do?

**You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions.** However, if you have any specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

- There is nothing you need to do. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. If a situation arises where the water is no longer safe to drink, you will be notified within 24 hours.
- If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.

### What does this mean?

**This is not an emergency.** If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. 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. Please see <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/tthm-in-drinking-water-information-for-consumers> for a fact sheet on TTHMs.

### What Happened? What is being done?

When disinfectants are used in the treatment of drinking water, they react with naturally occurring organic and inorganic matter present in water to form DBPs. We are taking and have taken the following corrective actions:

- We have flushed the water mains in that area to reduce matter that might react with the disinfectants that we use
- We will resample this location to confirm the expected drop in TTHM levels
- We have flushed organic material from the Granville reservoir to lower the load in our water
- We will implement a routine flushing practice at this and other key locations

We are conducting an evaluation of our treatment process and distribution system as required by Massachusetts Department of Environment Protection (MassDEP). We will confirm that the problem is resolved by completing the evaluation and ongoing monitoring of the Loomis Street location during 2022.

For more information, contact Heather Stayton, Systems Engineer, Westfield DPW-Water Division, at [h.stayton@cityofwestfield.org](mailto:h.stayton@cityofwestfield.org). You may also contact the DPW-Water Division at 413-572-6226, [DPW@cityofwestfield.org](mailto:DPW@cityofwestfield.org) or 27 Sackett Street, Westfield, MA, 01085.

*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.*

This notice is being sent to you by:  
Westfield DPW-Water Division

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