

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Garfield Water Department has Levels of Tetrachloroethylene above Drinking Water Standard.

Our water system has 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 routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Testing results received on January 26, 2016 and a confirmation sample on January 29th show that our system exceeded the standard or Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for Tetrachloroethene. The standard is 1.0 Part per Billion (PPB) and our Running Annual Average is 3.0 PPB. It should be noted that the USEPA standard for this contaminant is 5.0 PPB.

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor. If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at an increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.

What does this mean?

This is not an immediate health risk. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours. However, some people who drink water containing Tetrachloroethylene in excess of the MCL over many years could have problems with their liver and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

What happened? What is being done?

The newly reactivated Well 1A at the corner of Midland and Outwater Lane has drawn a contaminant into the area of the well. The City will be renting a temporary treatment system that will be installed until a permanent treatment works can be designed and constructed. We have also placed ourselves on MONTHLY monitoring until the exceedance has been corrected.

For more information, please contact Willard Bierwas, Facilities Manager (973) 546-2200 at 413 Midland Avenue, Garfield NJ 07026.

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.

System: Garfield Water Department - PWSID No. 0221001 - Date 2/22/2016

This well has been turned off until temporary treatment has been installed.