

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Lake Durango Water Authority Has Elevated Levels of Trihalomethanes

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.

Testing results we received for the second quarter 2018 show that our system exceeds the maximum contaminant level (MCL), for Total Trihalomethane. The MCL for Trihalomethane is 0.080 milligrams per liter (mg/L). The running annual average level of Total Trihalomethane over the last year was 0.082 mg/L.

What does this mean? What should I do?

- ✓ **You may want to use an alternative drinking water supply (e.g., bottled.)** If you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
- ✓ This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However, 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.

What happened? What is being done?

There are several factors which may have contributed to the increase of Trihalomethane in the water system. Since the year 2015 Lake Durango Water Authority (Authority) has increased the chlorine residual leaving the water treatment plant to meet Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment(CDPHE) regulation requiring a minimum chlorine residual of 0.20 mg/L in the distribution system. Water age and temperature are also contributing factors to Trihalomethane formation; decreased customer usage and increased water residual time in the distribution system due to leak repairs and reduced distribution water loss have resulted in longer water retention times in the distribution system. The Authority is working to evaluate the water system and researching options to reduce Trihalomethane levels. The Authority has begun adjusting chemical feed rates at the treatment plant, cycling water storage tanks to lower levels, and flushing distribution mains. Lower tank levels may result in decreased water pressure for some residences. Tank mixers will be added to the three main distribution tanks this summer. Additional testing is planned to monitor and determine if Trihalomethane concentrations in the system are decreasing (the average 2nd quarter 2018 testing result was 0.060625 milligrams per liter, the MCL is based on a four quarter running average.)

If these actions are insufficient additional treatment processes may be necessary.

We anticipate resolving the problem within 3 months. For more information, please contact General Manager Charles Smith at 970-247-4062, manager@lakedurango.org or by mail:

Lake Durango Water Authority
PO Box 657
Durango, CO 81328

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly. 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 Lake Durango Water Authority
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