

Notice on Drinking Water Arsenic Violation

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has notified the Tri-County Special Utility District water system that the drinking water being supplied to customers had exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for arsenic. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) has established the MCL for arsenic at 0.010 milligrams per liter (mg/L) based on a running annual average (RAA), and has determined that it is a health concern at levels above the MCL.

Analysis of drinking water in your community for arsenic based on a running annual average indicates a calculated compliance value of 0.023 mg/L, 0.015 mg/L, and 0.022 mg/L.

0.0205 mg/L, 0.0145 mg/L, 0.0216 mg/L for quarter three of 2022 on 09/01/2022
0.0261 mg/L, 0.0163 mg/L, 0.0229 mg/L for quarter two of 2022 on 05/12/2022
0.0229 mg/L, 0.0146 mg/L, 0.0216 mg/L for quarter one of 2022 on 03/17/2022
0.0212 mg/L, 0.0148 mg/L, 0.0212 mg/L for quarter four of 2021 on 10/26/2021

The arsenic levels are within the MCL limit at the southern wells; these areas include Bremond, Reagan, and some of the surrounding communities.

Tri-County S.U.D. has not changed standards or the quality of the water supply. The EPA reduced the maximum contaminated level for arsenic on January 23, 2006.

This is not an emergency. However, some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

YOU DO NOT NEED TO USE AN ALTERNATIVE WATER SUPPLY. However, if you have health concerns, you may want to talk to your doctor to get more information about how this may affect you.

Tri-County S.U.D. is working with their engineer to lower the levels of arsenic in the drinking water. Tri-County Special Utility is testing the water quarterly to ensure that all customers have safe drinking water. Our team of supervisors and engineers are working with EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) and TCEQ (Texas Commission on Environmental Quality) to find solutions for lowering the arsenic levels.

You may stop by the office located at 5212 Highway 7 East, Marlin if you wish to pick up a gallon of bottled drinking water. Again, nothing has changed with the quality of the water; EPA has reduced the maximum contaminated level for arsenic.

Tri-County Special Utility District - Public Water System ID# 0730004

For further information, please contact:

Joshua Simmons, Outside Plant Supervisor
Sandy Drews, Office Manager
Tri-County Special Utility District
P O Box 976
5212 Highway 7 East
Marlin, Texas 76661
254-803-3553