

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 0.021 mg/L, 0.015 mg/L, and 0.021 mg/L.

0.0187 mg/L, 0.0144 mg/L, 0.0231 mg/L for quarter one of 2024 on 01/30/2024
0.0234 mg/L, 0.0141 mg/L, 0.0172 mg/L for quarter four of 2023 on 11/03/2023
0.0216 mg/L, 0.0152 mg/L, 0.0217 mg/L for quarter three of 2023 on 08/28/2023
0.0203 mg/L, 0.0150 mg/L, 0.0219 mg/L for quarter two of 2023 on 05/17/2023

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.

Please share this information with all people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice (i.e., 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.

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:

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