

# Spring Lake Township Water System Did Not Meet Total Trihalomethane Requirements

Spring Lake Township water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this incident was not an emergency, as our customers, you have the right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor the water supplied by the Northwest Ottawa Water System for the presence of drinking water contaminants. The quarterly water sample in December 2018 showed that our system exceeded the standard, or maximum contaminate level (MCL), for total trihalomethanes (TTHM). The standard for TTHM is 80 parts per billion (ppb). The level of the TTHM in our system was determined by averaging all samples collected by our system for the past 12 months. The average level of TTHM at the one sample location was 81.3 ppb.

## **What should I do?**

- There is nothing you need to do unless you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, or are elderly. In that case, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice about drinking water from your health care provider.
- 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.

## **What does this mean?**

- This is not an emergency. If it had been an emergency, you would have been notified within 24 hours.
- 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 is being done?**

- We are currently evaluating this isolated water main to determine resolution options. In the interim additional water tests and water main flushing procedures have been instituted. We anticipate resolution in 2019.
- For more information, please contact Kyle Botbyl or Wally Delamater at 616-846-2422 or the Township offices at 101 S. Buchanan, Spring Lake, MI 49456.
- 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.