



# WaterSmart NEWS

PUBLIC NOTICE

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER Haloacetic acids five (HAA5's) MCL violation at the Eastern Water System

OCTOBER 2015

### *Dear Eastern Water System Resident:*

Toho Water Authority's Eastern Water System violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. The State of Florida, as well as, many other states requires the use of a disinfectant to minimize the possibility of bacterial contamination in the drinking water distribution system. Total trihalomethanes (TTHMs) and haloacetic acids five (HAA5s) are by-products of the reaction of the chlorine disinfectant with the natural organic and inorganic matter in the water. The Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts (D/DBP) rule defines the standards. The standard or maximum contaminant level (MCL) for TTHMs is 80 micrograms per liter (ug/L) or parts per billion (ppb). The standard or MCL for HAA5s is 60 micrograms per liter (ug/L) or ppb.

Compliance with this standard is determined by a locational running annual average (LRAA) of samples taken quarterly at each monitoring site. Based on the last four quarterly test results from October 22, 2014 to September 3, 2015, the LRAA at one of the 6 monitoring locations, located at 2713 Rismen Ct., for HAA5's is 62.2 ug/L. The water system is considered to be in violation of the Stage 2 Rule since the LRAA exceeds the MCL for HAA5s (60 ug/L).

### HOW DOES THIS HAPPEN?

The Eastern Water System allows for a long residence time for the water in the mains in some areas. A long residence time has shown to be a significant contributing factor in producing DBPs in a water system. Another contributing factor is the presence of a level of dissolved organic matter in the water to react with chlorine to produce the levels of disinfection byproducts (DPBs).

### WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately.

*Some people who drink water containing HAA5's in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.*

### WHAT SHOULD I DO?

You do not need to boil your water or take corrective action. However, if you have specific health concerns, please consult your doctor. Any customers who are concerned about their exposure to DBPs may choose alternative sources of water for ingestion.

### WHAT IS BEING DONE?

We have implemented continuous flushing in the distribution system to reduce water age in the area. Additional sampling is being conducted, which will allow our engineers to study the effectiveness of the existing flushing. We will continue to report the MCL violation on a quarterly basis, as required by FDEP, until the situation is considered resolved. A public notice will be mailed to each customer every 90 days until these MCL violations are corrected.

For questions or additional information, please contact our Customer Service Department:

- By phone 407-944-5000
- By email [customerservice@tohowater.com](mailto:customerservice@tohowater.com)
- By writing to Toho Water Authority at 951 Martin Luther King Blvd., Kissimmee, FL 34741

*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.*

This notice is being sent to you by: Toho Water Authority, State Water System ID#: 3490751. **Date distributed: 10/23/15**

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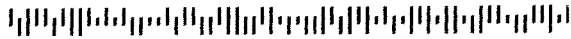
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Concorde Estate Comm Dev Dist C/O Rizzetta & Company, Inc  
2806 N 5th St, Ste. 403  
St. Augustine FL 32084-1904

951 Martin Luther King Blvd,  
Kissimmee, FL 34741



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