

NORTH SEWICKLEY TOWNSHIP  
WATER AUTHORITY

590 MERCER ROAD  
BEAVER FALLS, PA 15010  
PHONE: 724-846-7480  
FAX: 724-847-7408

Dear Customer:

Enclosed with this letter is a notice informing you that our average trihalomethane level for the past four quarters at .114 mg/l exceeds the E.P.A. allowable level of .080 mg/l (80 parts per billion parts of water).

Both Beaver Falls Municipal Authority and the North Sewickley Water Authority are pro-active in addressing the trihalomethane issue.

**WHAT IS BEAVER FALLS MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY (our Water Source) DOING?**

- a. They are in the process of constructing a new raw water intake system at a cost of \$6.5 million. To be completed June - July, 2010. It is expected that the new intake will reduce the organics in the raw water and thus reduce the concentration of trihalomethanes.
- b. Retained KLH engineers to study their treatment system and make recommendations that would improve the water quality they supply.
- c. Retained the services of a "water expert" to assist them in addressing these water quality issues.
- d. Beaver Falls board approved a \$500,000 addition to their 2010 budget for the purpose of improving their treatment system.

**WHAT IS NORTH SEWICKLEY WATER AUTHORITY DOING?**

- a. Testing water in our system every two weeks in order to track incoming water from Beaver Falls and what changes occur as it passes through our system.
- b. Changed the operating levels of our three storage tanks to reduce the time water is stored in each tank by 33%. This will also reduce the time available for trihalomethane formation.
- c. Developing a more effective "line flushing" system to remove as much sediment from our lines as possible; removing organics that could form additional trihalomethanes.
- d. Evaluating a plan to mix water of a low trihalomethane content with Beaver Falls Water such that the average of the two sources would result in a trihalomethane level in our water that would be in compliance.

**IN CONCLUSION.....**

***On the positive side, water from Beaver Falls and water tested in our system in January was under the allowable trihalomethane level.***

We believe February, March, and possibly April will be within the allowable limit of .080 mg/l. However, since reporting is based on the average of the four most recent quarters, we believe this average may be over the allowable level for two more quarters (first and second quarters of 2010) after which we are expecting the improvements made by Beaver Falls and the changes made by the North Sewickley Water Authority will reduce the trihalomethanes to be consistently below the allowable level.

We will continue to apply all our efforts along with Beaver Falls Municipal Water to rectify this situation as soon as possible. We will keep you advised of our progress.

We appreciate your patience and understanding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert Snyder".

Robert Snyder  
Board Chairman

RS/pfh

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER  
ESTE INFORME CONTIENE INFORMACION MUY IMPORTANTE SOBRE SU AGUA DE  
BEBER. TRADUZCALO O HABLE CON ALGUIEN QUE LO ENTIENDA BIEN.**

**North Sewickley Township Has Levels of Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)  
Above Drinking Water Standards**

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this incident was 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 drinking water contaminants. Testing results we received show that our system exceeds the maximum contaminant level (MCL), calculated as a Running Annual Average (RAA), for TTHMs, which is comprised of the four most recent quarterly samples. The standard for TTHMs is a RAA MCL of 0.080 mg/l. The RAA level of TTHMs over the last four quarters for our water system is 0.114 mg/l.

**What should I do?**

**You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply.** However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

**What does this mean?**

Where disinfection is used in the treatment of drinking water, disinfectants combine with organic and inorganic matter present in water to form chemicals called disinfection byproducts (DBPs). EPA and the PA DEP set standards for controlling the levels of disinfectants and DBPs in drinking water, including trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs).

**This is not an immediate risk.** If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However, some people who drink water that contains 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 was done?**

**See attached letter.**

For more information, please contact Robert Snyder at 724-846-7480

*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 the North Sewickley Township.

PWS ID#: 5040010

Date distributed: 1/26/10

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WATER AUTHORITY

580 MERCER ROAD  
BEAVER FALLS, PA 15010  
PHONE: 724-846-7480  
FAX: 724-847-7408

Dear Customer:

Enclosed with this letter is a notice informing you the trihalomethane level for the past four quarters was .120 which is above the allowable limit of .080 mg/l. The average level for the past six months (October thru March) was under the allowable limit.

The four quarters remain above the allowable limit due to the two quarters we experienced with high readings. As we add a new quarter, these two high quarters will eventually be excluded from the average calculation; at that time, we should see the four quarter average under the allowable limit.

Beaver Falls Municipal Authority continues to make progress on the changes listed in our previous letter. As to the North Sewickley Township Water Authority, we have recently completed a system wide flushing program designed by Michael Baker, Jr., Inc. The flushing program along with decreasing the time water is stored in our three tanks are significant improvement in our system management.

The most significant change was the recent public notification made by Beaver Falls that effective June 28, 2010, they plan to change their water treatment process from chlorine to chloramines. This will put an end to the trihalomethane problem. Incidentally, the chloramine treatment Beaver Falls is changing to is the same treatment system that Pennsylvania American Water Company changed to in 2003. As a side benefit, the chloramine treatment normally reduces odor and improves the water taste from that experienced with chlorine treatment. Hopefully, we will experience this benefit.

In conclusion, the changes being made by Beaver Falls Municipal and what we have done or will be doing with our system, the water quality you receive will meet the current established standards for potable water.

If you have any questions, please contact our office at 724-846-7480.

Sincerely,



Robert Snyder  
Authority Manager

Enclosed is a copy of the public notice we made in regards to the planned water treatment change by Beaver Falls Municipal Authority.