

## Tier 2 Public Notice

## CHEMICAL OR RADIOLOGICAL MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL (MCL) EXCEEDANCE

Violation of the MCL for a chemical or radiological contaminant requires a Tier 2 notice. Tier 2 notices should answer the most common questions people will have about the violation.

These instructions can be used to complete the accompanying public notice template. When you place your cursor in the blank form fields in the following template, look at the bottom left corner of your computer (just above the START button) for instructions on the information you should enter in that field. For example, if you place your cursor over the first blank form field in the template, the instructions will read "Insert system name."

### Community Delivery Requirements

**Community water suppliers** must provide within 30 days, a Tier 2 PN to **each customer** using one or more of the following forms of **direct delivery**:

- Hand delivery
- Postal mail
- Electronic mail

Additional forms of delivery should be used to reach other persons regularly served by the system if they can't be reached by one of the methods above. For example, in addition to sending a notice directly to bill payers, a water supplier may publish the notice in a local newspaper, or post it in public places served by the system or on the Internet. If you sell or provide water to another public water system, the notice must also be delivered to the owner or operator of that system.

### Noncommunity Delivery Requirements

**Noncommunity water suppliers** must provide a Tier 2 PN within 30 days to consumers using one of the following methods:

- Posting in conspicuous locations
- Hand delivery
- Postal mail
- Electronic mail
- Another method reasonably designed to reach other persons served by the system if they can't be reached by the above-bulleted methods

### Multilingual Requirements

To meet the multilingual requirements, you must include, at a minimum, information in Spanish regarding the importance of the notice. The Department will notify you if, and when, you need to include information in any other language. The required sentences in Spanish are provided for you in this template.

### Mandatory Language

Mandatory language on health effects and special notice language must be included in this notice in italics. The mandatory health effects language for the contaminant for which this notice is being issued can be found in **Appendix B** of the Environmental Protection Agency's *PN Handbook*, which can be obtained at: <https://nepis.epa.gov/Exe/ZyPDF.cgi?Dockkey=P1006ROA.txt>

The mandatory health effects language should be inserted under the "**What does this mean?**" section of the template in the form field after the word "However".

### **Corrective Actions**

In your notice, under the “**What happened? What was done?**” section of the template, describe corrective actions you are taking. Do not use overly technical terminology when describing treatment methods. Listed below are some steps commonly taken by water systems with chemical or radiological violations. Use one or more of the following actions, if appropriate, or develop your own:

- We are working with DEP to evaluate the water supply and researching options to correct the problem. These options may include treating the water to remove [Insert Contaminant Name] or connecting to [Insert purchased water system name's water supply] water supply.
- We have stopped using the contaminated well. We have increased pumping from other wells, and we are investigating drilling a new well.
- We will increase the frequency at which we test the water for [Insert Contaminant Name].
- We have since taken samples at this location and had them tested. They show that we meet the standards.
- Repeat Notices: If this is an ongoing violation and/or levels fluctuate above and below the MCL, you should give the history behind the violation, including the source of contamination, if known. List the date of the initial detection, as well as how levels have changed over time. If your levels are changing as a result of treatment, you can indicate this.

### **Contact Information**

Provide your name, business address and phone number or those of a designee of the public water system as a source for additional information concerning the notice.

### **Mandatory Statement to Encourage Distribution of the Notice to Others**

Use the **mandatory** statement provided in *italics* on the following template to encourage notice recipients to distribute the notice to others, where applicable. You may not change this wording.

### **PN Certification**

Send a copy of each type of notice distributed, published, posted and made available to persons served by the system and to the media and the certification form (3930-FM-BSDW0076) to your local DEP office within ten days after you issued the notice. To determine the mailing address and contact information for your local office, follow this link:

<http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-117702/3930-FM-BSDW0560.pdf>



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

### CHEMICAL OR RADIOLOGICAL MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL (MCL) EXCEEDANCE

**ESTE INFORME CONTIENE INFORMACIÓN IMPORTANTE ACERCA DE SU AGUA POTABLE. HAGA QUE ALGUIEN LO TRADUZCA PARA USTED, O HABLE CON ALGUIEN QUE LO ENTIENDA.**

#### Ebensburg Municipal Authority Has Levels of Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) 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 did to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for drinking water contaminants. Testing results we received on 11/12/2020 show that our system exceeds the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for Haloacetic Acids. The standard for Haloacetic Acids Locational Running Annual Average is 0.060 mg/L. Haloacetic Acids Locational Running Annual Average was found at a level of 0.077mg/L in your drinking water.

#### What should I do?

- There is nothing you need to do. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
- If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.

**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?

This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However, some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased cancer risk.

**What happened? What was done?** Haloacetic Acids maximum contaminant levels are based on a one year running average which means the average over the last four quarters exceeds the MCL. Ebensburg is required to sample at two locations within the distribution system and only one of the two locations is in exceedance. This location receives water from the Saltlick water system. The water from this system takes an extended amount of time to enter Ebensburg's water system due to low flows. Sections within the distribution system that have low flows have been known to have elevated levels of disinfection by products which in this case are Haloacetic Acids. The two water systems are working together with PA DEP to determine an appropriate solution.

We anticipate resolving the problem within the year as Saltlick water system is working with DEP to improve water quality.

For more information, please contact Ebensburg Municipal Authority at 814-472-8780.

*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.*



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
BUREAU OF SAFE DRINKING WATER

This notice is being sent to you by Ebensburg Municipal Authority.

PWS ID#: 4110009

Date distributed: 11-30-2020