IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

The New Brunswick Water Utility has Levels of Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) Above the Drinking Water Standard

Our water system recently exceeded the drinking water standard or maximum contaminant level (MCL) for total trihalomethanes (TTHM) from 4/1/2026 to 6/30/26. TTHMs are a group of chemical compounds that can form when chlorine, used to disinfect drinking water, reacts with naturally occurring organic matter in the water. They are a common byproduct of the water treatment process and we routinely monitor for the presence of these contaminants. 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.

The standard for TTHM is 80 micrograms per liter (µg/L). These levels are determined by averaging all the samples collected at each sampling location for the past 12 months (a locational running annual average (LRAA)). The LRAA level(s) of TTHM at 1 of 8 sampling locations exceeded the standard, recording 82 micrograms per liter.

Site	LRAA (µg/L)
6 Burnet St	82

What should I do?

- There is nothing you need to do. 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.
- 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 water you consume.

What does this mean?

- This is not an emergency. TTHM are unstable organic chemicals, all of which form when disinfectants react with natural organic matter in the water during the raw water treatment process. This is commonly known as a disinfection by-product (DBP).

**People who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the standard or MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. **

How did this happen and what is being done?

- Organic matter is naturally forming and spikes in raw water sources during warmer months.

- The New Brunswick Water Utility is currently underway with a $58 million upgrade to the City's Water Treatment Plant (WTP). During this upgrade and construction process, the WTP has been limited in the amounts of organic material it can treat, and these limitations contributed to the TTHM elevations.

- To offset these limitations, the City is purchasing treated water from neighboring systems to meet the rising demand for water during the summer months. This will not cause an increase in water rates for our customers. The purchase of treated water from neighboring systems was a planned cost during the WTP upgrades.

- We have increased sampling throughout the treatment process to help us monitor progress and provide early insight into how well our efforts are working.

- Extra measures will remain in place until the WTP upgrades are completed in the spring of 2028.

For more details on TTHM and MCL, go to **NJ Drinking Water Watch** at: https://www9.state.nj.us/DEP_WaterWatch_public/index.jsp and enter the New Jersey Public Water System Identification Number (PWSID) at the bottom of this notice.

If you have questions about this notice or the New Brunswick Water Utility, please contact Alexei Walus, Water Utility Director, at 732-745-5211, or email Director Walus at: awalus@cityofnewbrunswick.org.

** Please share this information with any other water consumer, 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 New Brunswick Water Utility. **PWSID# NJ 1214001**

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