



UP THE CREEK

August 1, 2008

IMPORTANT PUBLIC NOTICE - PLEASE READ

Upper Surface Creek Domestic Water Users Association has been notified by the Colorado Department of Health that the system violated the Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulations. This letter is to explain to you the details and circumstances of the violation, the potential health effects, and what actions are required by you and by the Association.

1. What was the violation? Per regulations, USCDWUA monitors quarterly for Haloacetic Acids (HAA). This means that, once per quarter, samples are taken from the distribution system and submitted to an authorized laboratory for analysis of the HAA concentration. The result of each quarterly test is averaged with the preceding three quarterly tests, and the average is compared with the maximum contaminant level (MCL). The MCL established for HAA is 60 parts per billion. The sample taken in February 2008 measured 91.8 parts per billion. When averaged with the previous quarters, the result was 67.9 micrograms per liter (parts per billion) of HAA, exceeding the MCL of 60.

2. What is HAA and what is the the potential health effect? Haloacetic acids are formed when chlorine reacts with organic compounds commonly present in soil and decaying plants. Some people who drink water containing HAA in excess of the maximum contaminant level over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

3. What should you be doing to protect yourself? USCDWUA is not aware that this situation presents an acute public health risk. You may continue to use the water as usual. If you are concerned about potential long-term adverse effects described in the preceding paragraph, you may wish to install a point-of-use water filter that is certified by its manufacturer to remove or reduce HAA from the water. An activated charcoal filter might be an economical choice. Or, you may choose to drink bottled water, if you can be sure that it does not exceed the MCL for HAA.

4. What is USCDWUA doing about the problem? We are working to ensure that all treatment steps are functioning at an optimum level. We are reducing the chlorine dosage, but we are limited in this regard by the need to be sure that an adequate disinfection residual is maintained throughout the distribution system. HAA strengthens with longer residence time in the distribution system. We may need to increase flushing of dead-end lines, and find ways to keep water moving through loops. We know that minimizing HAA is not easy; other water systems are experiencing similar difficulty. But, we intend to be back in compliance by the third quarter of 2008.

5. How can I obtain further information? Please call, write, or email the Association Manager:

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And check our website periodically for updates: www.uscdwua.com.

6. Please share this notice with people you know who may not have received a copy, such as a tenant who does not receive a water bill. Thank you.