



Leino Park Water District
 52 Old Oak Ave., Westminister, MA 01473
www.LeinoPark.org lpwd@LeinoPark.org

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

**To all customers of the Leino Park Water District located in Westminister, Massachusetts
 Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) are Above Drinking Water Standards**

This is an important notice - please translate it for anyone who does not understand English.

This notice is to advise our customers that our water system is in non-compliance with the drinking water standards for Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs). Although this is *not an emergency*, as our customer, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We are required to monitor the drinking water for TTHM levels on a quarterly basis (once every three months) at a specific location in our distribution system. Compliance is determined on a quarterly basis by adding the test level from the past 3 quarters plus the current level, then dividing by 4. This is the Running Annual Average (RAA). Non-compliance occurs when the TTHM RAA exceeds the MCL of 80 parts per billion (ppb). **The most recent quarterly sample result shows that our system exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for TTHMs during the April through June 2024 compliance period.** Our test results for the quarter are shown in the table below. Non-compliance is shown in red.

TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) January - March 2024			
Location	Quarterly Test Results (ppb)	Running Annual Average (RAA) (ppb)	Max Containment Level (MCL) (ppb)
DBP1 23 N. Shore Rd	72	85	80

Note that even though our 2 most recent quarterly Test Results are below MCL, we are non-compliant because our RAA exceeds the MCL. Even though the Test Results for the 2 quarters before that were above MCL we were in compliance because our RAA did not exceed the MCL.

What does this mean?

This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified right away. However, pregnant women, infants, and women of childbearing age may be at increased risk and should seek advice from their health care providers if they have any concerns. ***Some people who drink water containing 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?

Our water system purchases 100% of our drinking water from the Town of Westminister, who purchases that same water from the City of Fitchburg. The City of Fitchburg adds chlorine disinfectant as part of the treatment process. These disinfectants react with naturally-occurring organic and inorganic materials that are not filtered out as part of the treatment process, forming disinfection byproducts (DBPs) such as trihalomethanes.



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TTHM levels can vary depending on a number of factors including the amount of chlorine used, amount of organic and inorganic mater present in water sources, water age (or the time between water leaving the treatment facility and the time it comes out of your faucet), and temperature (TTHMs form more easily in the warmer, summer months).

What is being done?

We are working closely with MassDEP and the Town of Westminster to investigate the cause of the elevated levels and determine appropriate corrective actions to be taken. We may increase the frequency of our flushing efforts in affected areas if it is advised. This may cause some customers to experience water discoloration during the flushing events.

What can you do to reduce exposure?

- Some activated carbon type filters can help remove or lower chlorine and TTHM levels. For more information on filters please refer to US EPA Filtration Facts at: https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-11/documents/2005_11_17_faq_fs_healthseries_filtration.pdf
- Use bottled water for drinking.

Where to find more information?

- The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) has published a fact sheet with details about TTHMs, health risks, and what you can do. It is available on the MassDEP website at: <https://www.mass.gov/media/2532601/download>
- You can contact MassDEP Drinking Water Program at: program.director-dwp@mass.gov or 617-292-5770.
- You can also contact the US EPA Safe Drinking Water Hot Line at +1-800-426-4791.

Still have questions?

- We may not have the answers but we will help you find them. Email us at lpwd@leinopark.org, or contact Derek Knerr, Water Systems Operator, at 978-874-1036.

Please share this information with other people who drink this water and who may not have received this notice directly.

This notice is being sent to you by the Leino Park Water District PWS ID#: 2332005 Date distributed: 07/05/24
Phone: 978-874-1036 Email: lpwd@leinopark.org