

Important Information About Your Drinking Water

The City of Lafayette has experienced levels of Chlorine above Drinking Water Standards.

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customer, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what the City of Lafayette did to correct this situation.

The City of Lafayette routinely monitors for the presence of chlorine residual in the distribution system. This measurement tells us whether we are effectively disinfecting the water supply. Testing results at the point of entry to the distribution system on April 1, 2008 indicated that our system exceeded the standard or Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) for chlorine. The standard for chlorine is 4.0 mg/l or less. On April 1, 2008 at 4:00 pm, the level was found to be at 4.09 mg/l. A malfunctioning chlorine pump in the city's watershed was the cause of this violation.

Corrective Action

Immediately upon discovering that the level exceeded the MRDL, the chlorine pump was taken off line to allow time for dissipation. The residual readings in parts of the distribution system reached a maximum level of 5.5 mg/l by the time the water made its way through the system, even after the corrective action was taken. Staff continued to monitor the residual at regular intervals throughout the day and night until it dropped below the MRDL during the early evening of April 3, 2008. They continued to monitor the situation until the level dropped well below the MRDL. Corrections have been made to the pump and the City of Lafayette will continue ongoing efforts to install a chlorine analyzer and an alarm system.

What should I do?

You do not need to use an alternative (e.g. bottled) water source. 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 use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and/or nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort.

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.

For more information, please contact Jim Anderson at (503) 437-0401 or mail to City of Lafayette, PO Box 55, Lafayette, OR 97127. This notice is being distributed on April 30, 2008 by the City of Lafayette, State Water System ID # OR4100452.