

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

To all customers of the Millville Elementary School located in Millville, Massachusetts  
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) 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 noncompliance with the drinking water standards for Haloacetic Acids (HAA5). Although this is *not an emergency*, 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 HAA5 levels on a quarterly basis (once every three months). The results of last quarter's sampling which was performed on multiple dates in May and June 2019 show that our system exceeds the standard or maximum contaminant level (MCL) for HAA5. The standard for HAA5 is 60 parts per billion (ppb), and compliance is determined on a quarterly basis by averaging all samples collected during each quarter at each location then averaging the results for the last 12 months (Running Annual Average). The Running Annual Average from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 was **65 ppb** at location DBP1 (Nurse's Station) and **66 ppb** at location DBP2 (Teachers' Lounge) and therefore the water system exceeded the MCL for Haloacetic Acids.

### What does this mean?

This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified right away. However, pregnant women 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 haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.***

### What happened? What is being done?

HAA5 are a byproduct of chlorine disinfection which forms when chlorine combines with natural organic matter commonly found in surface water supplies. HAA5 levels can vary depending on a number of factors including the amount of chlorine used, amount of organic plant material in water sources, temperature, and seasons. We must control HAA5 levels while also maintaining appropriate levels of disinfectant in the water necessary to avoid bacterial issues. Our water system is working with MassDEP on evaluating the cause of the exceedance and identifying immediate short-term and long-term actions to correct the issue.

- A question and answer document on health effects, precautions, and water treatment options for HAA5 has been provided by MassDEP and is available at

<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/haa5-in-drinking-water-information-for-consumers>.

- You can also contact the US EPA Safe Drinking Water Hot Line at 1-800-426-4791.

For more information please visit our website at [http://www.bmrtd.net/millville\\_home.aspx](http://www.bmrtd.net/millville_home.aspx) or contact Christina Shafer,, Principal, at 508-876-0177 or [cshafer@bmrtd.net](mailto:cshafer@bmrtd.net).

*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.*