



Department of Health

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

JAMES V. McDONALD, M.D., M.P.H.
Commissioner

JOHANNE E. MORNE, M.S.
Executive Deputy Commissioner

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

May 6, 2024

JOHNSTOWN MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL
PO BOX 160
JOHNSTOWN, NY 12095

RE: FULTON CO. W.D. #1
FULTON COUNTY
PWSID: NY1730066
VIOLID: 2024 117 TYPE: 02

Dear JOHNSTOWN MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL:

This notice is to advise you that, according to our records, the following violation of Subpart 5-1 of the New York State Sanitary Code has occurred at your water supply for the 1/1/2024 to 3/31/2024 compliance period:

 X Exceeding the maximum contaminant level for haloacetic acids (HAA5s) during the compliance period noted above based on the running annual average.

As a result of the above violation, you are required to take the following action(s):

1. Public notification must be made by posting the notice at conspicuous locations in the area served by the system within 30 days after the system learns of a failure to comply.
2. Notification must also be provided to any other people served by the system that would not normally be reached by posting a notice.
3. Within 10 days of performing the required notification, please complete the attached Public Notice Completion Report and return it along with a copy of the Public Notice to this office.

A draft Public Notice is attached for your use. If changes to the notice are necessary, approval from this office is required prior to distribution.

Continued failure to comply with these requirements may result in additional enforcement actions being taken, including the possibility of fines up to \$2,000 and/or permit revocation.

If you have any questions, please contact this office at (315) 866-6879.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'KJM', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kathryn J. Morse
District Director

cc: Brian D Kranbuhl

PUBLIC NOTICE

FULTON CO. W.D. #1 has been found to be in violation of the New York State Sanitary Code Drinking Water Regulations and the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations. The violation results from exceeding the maximum contaminant level for haloacetic acids (HAA5s) during the 1/1/2024 to 3/31/2024 compliance period. Public water systems that violate drinking water standards, such as the above violation are required to make public notification of the violation through the following notice:

What are haloacetic acids (HAAs)?

HAAs are formed in drinking water during treatment by chlorine (the most commonly used disinfectant in New York State), which reacts with certain acids that are in naturally-occurring organic material (e.g., decomposing vegetation such as tree leaves, algae, or other aquatic plants) in surface water sources such as rivers and lakes. The amount of HAAs in drinking water can change from day to day, depending on the temperature, the amount of organic material in the water, the amount of chlorine added, and a variety of other factors. Drinking water is disinfected by public water suppliers to kill bacteria and viruses that could cause serious illnesses. For this reason, disinfection of drinking water by chlorination is beneficial to public health.

Some studies suggest that people who drank chlorinated drinking water containing disinfection by-products (possibly including HAAs) for long periods of time (e.g., 20 to 30 years) have an increased risk for certain health effects. These include an increased risk for cancer. However, how long and how frequently people actually drank the water as well as how much HAAs the water contained is not known for certain. Therefore, the evidence from these studies is not strong enough to conclude that the observed increased risk for cancer is due to HAAs, other disinfection by-products, or some other factor. Studies of laboratory animals show that the individual HAAs, dichloroacetic acid and trichloroacetic acid, can cause cancer following exposure to high levels over their lifetimes. Dichloroacetic acid and trichloroacetic acid are also known to cause other effects in laboratory animals after high levels of exposure, primarily on the liver, kidney, and nervous system and on their ability to bear healthy offspring. The effects reported in studies of laboratory animals occur at exposures much higher than exposures that could result through normal use of the water. The risks for adverse health effects from HAAs in drinking water are small compared to the risk for illness from drinking inadequately disinfected water.

What does this mean for you?

At present, the water is suitable to drink, cook with, and bath in. Some people may wish to take additional practical measures to reduce their exposure. We do not consider these measures necessary to avoid health effects, but they are provided as options. These include using bottled water for drinking and cooking purposes, or using water pitchers containing an activated carbon filter or a tap-mounted activated carbon filter. These filters are readily available in many grocery and home improvement stores. Ventilating bathroom areas (e.g., using exhaust fans or opening windows) when showering or bathing can also help reduce exposures from chemicals released into the air.

This notice is provided so that you can take prudent steps to protect your health. Individuals that have symptoms described in the above notice may wish to seek medical attention. Additional samples have been and will continue to be taken to monitor the water quality.

If you have any questions, please contact:

B. Kranbuhl
(Signature)

518-736-4027
(Telephone)

Brian Kranbuhl
(Print Name)

33-41 E. main St
(Address)
Johnstown NY 12095

or the New York State Department of Health, Herkimer District Office at (315) 866-6879.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION COMPLETION REPORT

FULTON CO. W.D. #1
FULTON COUNTY


PWSID: NY1730066

On (date) 5/28/24 the attached public notice was distributed to the public concerning the FULTON CO. W.D. #1 water system, located in FULTON COUNTY. The public notice was:

Provided by hand delivery

Posted at all locations at which water is made available to the public

I hereby certify that the above mentioned public notice was distributed in the indicated manner.


(Signature)

5/29/24
(Date)

Christopher J. Vose
(Print Name)

**RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO: New York State Department of Health
Herkimer District Office
5665 State Route 5
Herkimer, NY 13350**

WD-WATER DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY
Compliance Period: 1/1/2024 to 3/31/2024
haloacetic acids (HAA5s)
VIOLID: 2024 117 TYPE: 02