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| Manganese Health Advisory Exceedance Notice |

Drinking Water Health Advisory

DO NOT GIVE TAP WATER TO INFANTS UNDER 6 MONTHS OLD

[PWS NAME] has high levels of manganese

Sample results received on [select date] showed manganese levels of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ milligrams per liter (mg/L). This level is above the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA’s) short-term health advisory level of 0.3 mg/L for infants under 6 months old.

Manganese is a naturally occurring element found in soil, water, and air. It is commonly found in the food we eat, including nuts, legumes, seeds, grains, and green leafy vegetables and in drinking water. Our bodies require small amounts of manganese to stay healthy. Adults and children get enough manganese from the foods we eat. Infants and children get enough manganese from breast milk, food, or formula.

Too much manganese can increase the risk of health problems, particularly for infants under 6 months old. Infants are more at risk than older children and adults because their brains and bodies are still developing. Formula-fed infants get enough manganese from formula to meet their dietary needs. However, they may get too much manganese (above the recommended amount for nutrition) in their bodies when formula is mixed with water that contains elevated levels of manganese. Infants exposed to manganese over 0.3 mg/L may experience learning or behavioral problems. Adult’s drinking water with high levels of manganese for many years may experience impacts to their nervous system. EPA established a lifetime health advisory level of 0.3 mg/L which means adverse health effects are not expected below this level.

Manganese is not currently regulated in drinking water nationally although some states have set their own standards. This health advisory is being provided because EPA identified health risks from short-term exposure.

What should I do? What does this mean?

DO NOT GIVE TAP WATER TO INFANTS. Formula and other food preparations for infants under 6 months old should not be prepared with tap water. Use bottled water or alternative sources of water for infants. Making formula or foods with water containing manganese levels above the health advisory can increase an infant’s risk of health problems.

DO NOT BOIL THE WATER.Boiling, freezing, or letting water stand does not reduce manganese. Boiling can increase levels of manganese because manganese remains behind when the water evaporates.

Adults and children of all ages can continue to bathe and shower, brush their teeth, and wash clothes, food, and dishes in tap water.

If you have specific health concerns, you may wish to consult your doctor.

What is being done?

[Describe corrective actions being taken.]

We anticipate resolving this problem by **[select date].** You will be notified when the manganese levels are again below the health advisory level.

For more information, please contact [contact name] at [phone number] or [mailing address].

*\*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.\**

This notice is being sent to you by [PWS NAME]. State Water System ID#: [ID Number].

Date distributed: [select date].