

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Conifer HS

High Levels of Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Our water system recently violated a drinking water requirement. Although this situation is not an emergency, as our customers you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. On September 1, 2020 we were notified that our system exceeds the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5). The MCL for Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) is 60 ug/L. The average level of Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) over the last year was 60.98 ug/L.

NOTE: This advisory is NOT related to COVID-19. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has stated that the “Virus that causes COVID-19 has not been detected in drinking water.” For additional information on COVID-19 and drinking water, you can refer to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment’s website: <https://covid19.colorado.gov>.

What does this mean? What should I do?

- **You may want to use an alternative drinking water supply (e.g. bottled). If you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.**
- Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
- If you have an infant, severely compromised immune system, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your doctor about drinking this water. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by bacteria and other disease-causing organisms are available from EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

What is being done?

- High levels of manganese (a naturally occurring chemical element that dissolved in water causes discoloration and staining) are a problem in our source water for the Conifer area schools. In an effort to reduce these levels we increased the use of sodium hypochlorite (chlorination) which helps to oxidize the dissolved manganese and transform it into a particulate state so that it can be removed through filtration. As a side effect of the increased chlorination, HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids) were created above the maximum contaminant level. At this time we are working to balance our use of sodium hypochlorite to reduce the HAA5 levels while still oxidizing manganese. We are also looking at additional solutions to reduce dissolved manganese in our source water at West Jefferson Reservoir.

We anticipate having the HAA5's below the Maximum Contaminant Level prior to December 31, 2020. For more information, please contact **Ray Cosby** at ray.cosby@jeffco.k12.co.us or **303-982-2294**, or **809 Quail St Bldg 4 Lakewood CO 80215**.

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: Conifer HS - CO0230225

Date distributed: **October 14, 2020**