

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

JBSA-Randolph Has Levels of Fluoride Above Drinking Water Standards

The JBSA-Randolph drinking water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. On 14 March 2018, we received notice from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) that samples collected from 1 Oct 2017 to 31 Dec 2017 showed that our system exceeded the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for fluoride. The average level of fluoride in samples taken during 1 Oct 2017 to 31 Dec 2017 indicated a compliance value of 4.4 milligrams/liter (mg/L) for one sample site, EP003. The standard for fluoride is that the average of samples taken over the last year may not exceed 4.0 mg/L.

What should I do?

- **Children under the age of nine should use an alternative source of water that is low in fluoride.** In addition, you may want to consult your dentist about whether to avoid dental products containing fluoride. Adults and children over age nine should consult their dentist or doctor and show him/her this notice to determine if an alternate source of water low in fluoride should be used.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours. Fluoride in small amounts helps prevent tooth decay. **However, some people who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the MCL over many years could get bone disease, including pain and tenderness of the bones. Fluoride in drinking water at half the MCL or greater may cause mottling of children's teeth, usually in children less than nine years old. Mottling, also known as dental fluorosis, may include brown staining and/or pitting of the permanent teeth. This problem occurs only in developing teeth, before they erupt from the gums.** Although it takes many years mottling can occur after a relatively short period of exposure.

What is being done?

We are taking the following actions to address this issue:

Your water is **SAFE TO DRINK**. The high level of fluoride was the result of a poor sampling location. The area of concern is only at the entry point of site 3 (EP003), which is between the high school and the medical clinic.

The injection point (where the fluoride was introduced) and sample site (where it was collected) were only 3 feet away from each other. This was not enough distance for adequate dilution of additives (fluoride) to the drinking water supply.

Bioenvironmental Engineering (BEE) and the Water Plant operators have corrected this issue by moving the injection point 15 feet further away from the sampling point. **Current fluoride results at the sampling site have been reduced by more than half, and remain below the MCL.** In addition, BEE has taken samples at the nearest public entry point at the high school and MDG Clinic, approximately half a mile away from the EP003 site, and the results were well below the MCL. BEE also conducts monthly sampling for fluoride at the CDC and Youth Center, which have never exceeded the MCL.

Again, your water is SAFE TO DRINK. The JBSA-Randolph public drinking water customers are not affected and therefore JBSA-Randolph is not required to provide an alternate source of water.

Please share this information with all people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (i.e., 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.

If you have questions regarding this matter, you may contact JBSA RANDOLPH BEE at 210-652-3256.

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