# IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) MCL Violation at
Southeast Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority (SMCMUA or Authority)
PWS ID# NJ1424001

Please share this information with all 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.

Este informe contiene información importante sobre su agua potable. Si no puede entender lo que dice el informe, pidale a alquien que le traduzca y informe a usted.

Our water system recently violated the TTHM drinking water standard. Although this incident was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct this situation.

The standard for TTHM is 80 micrograms per liter (ug/L), or parts per billion (ppb), calculated as a locational running annual average (LRAA). Compliance with the standard is determined each quarter, for each sample location, by calculating the average TTHM concentration using the results reported for the past four (4) quarters (i.e. 12 months). The Authority samples quarterly at eight (8) locations in the service area.

The Authority exceeded the TTHM standard at one (1) of the eight (8) sample locations monitored. The TTHM average at the affected location for the third quarter of 2018 was 86.4 ppb which exceeded the standard and where all postal patrons in the service area were subsequently notified by mail. The third quarter 2018 TTHM LRAA was based on samples collected between 10/1/17 to 9/31/18. The TTHM average for the fourth quarter 2018 sample event was 80.9 ppb, reduced from that calculated for the third quarter of 2018; however, since this average is above the 80 ppb standard, we are required to issue a second public notification to all postal patrons in the service area. The fourth quarter 2018 TTHM LRAA was based on samples collected between 1/1/18 to 12/31/18.

## What should I do?

- There is nothing you need to do. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective
  actions. If a situation arises where the water is no longer safe to drink, you will be notified within
  24 hours.
- If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.

<sup>\*</sup> People who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.\*



Southeast Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority 19 Saddle Road Cedar Knolls, NJ 07927 PRSRT STD ECRWSS U.S. POSTAGE PAID EDDM RETAIL

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#### What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been an emergency, you would have been notified within 24 hours. TTHM are four (4) volatile organic chemicals which form when disinfectants react with natural organic matter in the water.

#### What is being done?

TTHM form in drinking water as a result of the disinfection (chlorination) process. TTHM can continue to increase as the water ages in the distribution system and also due to sourcewater quality, temperature and other factors. Our review of the data collected indicated that the third quarter TTHM exceedance was a result of high water age in the affected area and also due to the purchased sourcewater quality distributed at that time. To mitigate the TTHM exceedance, we improved the water age and changed from a purchased surface water supply to an Authority owned groundwater supply. These changes resulted in a decrease in the TTHM locational average for the third quarter to fourth quarter 2018, from 86.4 ppb to 80.9 ppb, respectively, but still above the 80 ppb standard. We anticipate that the first quarter 2019 TTHM LRAA will be below the standard where the next quarterly sample event is scheduled for January 2019. Our long-term solution is to improve water circulation by looping together dead-end water lines, installing automatic line flushing devices and to work with our water supplier to optimize the purchased sourcewater to ensure compliance with the TTHM standard.

## When will the next results be available?

The next sample event is scheduled for the month of January 2018, where results will be available by January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

For more information, please visit our website at <a href="www.smcmua.org">www.smcmua.org</a> or contact our Customer Service Department at 973-326-6880, <a href="customerservice@smcmua.org">customerservice@smcmua.org</a>, or SMCMUA, 19 Saddle Road, Cedar Knolls, NJ 07927. This notice is being sent to you by SMCMUA. State Water System ID#: NJ1424001.

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