

VILLAGE OF DEXTER, NEW YORK
Incorporated 1855

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To the residents of the Village of Dexter,

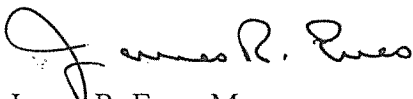
This letter is to inform you that Village of Dexter is aware that during the four calendar quarters ending December 31, 2020 their water distribution system has exceeded the maximum average level for trihalomethanes.

As a resolution, we are glad to announce the installation of a rotating aeration system into the Village water tower on November 7, 2020. In cooperation with the Town of Brownville this system will reduce the total Trihalomethanes (TTHM's), which are a byproduct of chlorine, found present in the Village drinking water. After only ten days of operation it was established that this new aeration system had already reduced our numbers well below NYS Health Department standards.

The presence of high TTHM's previously occurred during the summer months when our water tank was heated by the sun and the ground and the water was not being aerated and mixed fast enough to keep the temperature down. After much research an inquiry the Village believes that this new system will provide a better quality of drinking water to our community.

Please find attached further information regarding trihalomethanes.
Thank you for your time in this matter.

Respectfully,



James R. Eves, Mayor
Village of Dexter

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT VILLAGE OF DEXTER DRINKING WATER

The Village of Dexter exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 80 ug/L for Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM's) present in drinking water. During the four calendar quarters ending December 31, 2020 the locational running annual average (LRAA) for total trihalomethanes was 84.4 micrograms per liter at the Orchard sample site. This level is based on a locational running annual average of quarterly samples. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what you should do, where these contaminants came from, and what is being done.

What should I do?

You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. **No immediate action is required or necessary.**

Where do TTHM's come from?

Trihalomethanes are a group of chemicals that includes chloroform, bromoform, bromodichloromethane, and chlorodibromomethane. Trihalomethanes are formed in drinking water during treatment by chlorine, 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 trihalomethanes 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. Chlorine is the most commonly used disinfectant in New York State. For this reason, disinfection of drinking water by chlorination is beneficial to public health.

Some studies suggest that people who drink chlorinated water (which contains trihalomethanes) or water containing elevated levels of trihalomethanes for long periods of time may have an increased risk for certain health effects. For example, some studies of people who drank chlorinated drinking water for 20 to 30 years show that long term exposure to disinfection by-products (including trihalomethanes) is associated with an increased risk for certain types of cancer. A few studies of women who drank water containing trihalomethanes during pregnancy show an association between exposure to elevated levels of trihalomethanes and small increased risks for low birth weights, miscarriages and birth defects. However, in each of the studies, how long and how frequently people actually drank the water, as well as how much trihalomethanes the water contained is not known for certain. Therefore, we do not know for sure if the observed increases in risk for cancer and other health effects are due to trihalomethanes or some other factor.

The individual trihalomethanes chloroform, bromodichloromethane and dibromochloromethane cause cancer in laboratory animals exposed to high levels over their lifetimes. Chloroform, bromodichloromethane and dibromochloromethane are also known to cause effects in laboratory animals after high levels of exposure, primarily on the liver, kidney, nervous system and on their ability to bear healthy offspring. Chemicals that cause adverse health effects in laboratory animals after high levels of exposure may pose a risk for adverse health effects in humans exposed to lower levels over long periods of time.

Drinking water is disinfected by public water suppliers to kill bacteria and viruses that could cause serious illnesses. Chlorine is the most commonly used disinfectant in New York State. For this reason, disinfection of drinking water is beneficial to public health.

What happened and what is being done?

The combination of the quantity of disinfectant needed and the amount of naturally occurring organic material in the incoming water resulted in a level of TTHM's in excess of the MCL. In order to kill disease-causing microorganisms, water treatment regulations require a certain contact time for the chlorine and water before it enters the distribution system. Village personnel are currently working with an Engineering Consultant to identify solutions to this problem.

If you have any questions, please contact the Village of Dexter's Water Operator, Mr. Matt Shawcross at (315) 639-6260 or the New York State Department of Health, Watertown District Office at (315) 785-2277.