



IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

City of Sanford has levels of total trihalomethanes (TTHM) above drinking water standards

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

City of Sanford routinely monitors for drinking water contaminants. Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) and Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) are by-products of the reaction of the chlorine disinfectant with the natural occurring organic matter found in source water. The state of Florida as well as many other states requires the use of a disinfectant to control microbial pathogens in the drinking water distribution system. The Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) set by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) for TTHM is 80 parts per billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$) and for HAA5 is 60 ppb. Based on test results for samples collected in the 4th quarter in 2019 and 1st, 2nd and 3rd quarters in 2020, (November 2019 to July 2020), the locational running annual averages (LRAAs) for TTHM and HAA5 are 84.29 $\mu\text{g/L}$ and 16.79 $\mu\text{g/L}$ respectively. Based on the LRAAs for TTHM, a MCL exceedance exists.

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time. You do not need to boil your water or take corrective actions.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately.

Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL (80 ppb) over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. In setting drinking water standards, the EPA considers potential health effects after drinking 2 liters of water every day for 70 years.

What corrective action is being taken?

The City of Sanford started a Unidirectional Flushing (UDF) program in 2017 to help reduce TTHM levels in the distribution system. The program was temporarily suspended due to staffing issues; however, the location with the exceedance values will be flushed as part of a localized UDF in the months ahead, and plans are in place to accelerate the UDF program city-wide. Commercial and institutional water use has decreased due to the COVID19 pandemic and low water use is another factor for TTHM formation. In addition, the City of Sanford is in the planning stage for treatment improvements at the Main Water Plant that will further reduce TTHM levels.

City of Sanford will continue to monitor and report the TTHM and HAA5 results to you on a quarterly basis as long as the locational running annual average exceeds the MCL, as required by FDEP.

For more information, please contact the City of Sanford Utility Department at 407-688-5113 or utilitycustomerservice@Sanfordfl.gov.

Please share this information with 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.