

Nitrate MCL Template

DRINKING WATER ALERT

Mt. Pulaski Drinking Water has high levels of nitrate

Water sample results received on December 26th, 2019 showed nitrate levels of 11 mg/L. This is above the nitrate standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), of 10 milligrams per liter (mg/L). Nitrate in drinking water is a serious health concern for infants less than six months old.

What should I do?

- **DO NOT GIVE THE WATER TO INFANTS.** *Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome. Blue baby syndrome is indicated by blueness of the skin. Symptoms in infants can develop rapidly, with health deteriorating over a period of days. If symptoms occur, seek medical attention immediately.*
- Water, juice, and formula for children under six months of age should not be prepared with tap water. Bottled water or other water low in nitrates should be used for infants until further notice.
- **DO NOT BOIL THE WATER.** Boiling, freezing, filtering, or letting water stand does not reduce the nitrate level. Excessive boiling can make the nitrates more concentrated, because nitrates remain behind when the water evaporates.
- Adults and children older than six months can drink the tap water (nitrate is a concern for infants because they can't process nitrates in the same way adults can). However, if you are pregnant or have specific health concerns, you may wish to consult your doctor.

What happened? The nitrate levels have been on a slow increase. Probably being influenced by the nearby farming operations.

What is being done? We will continue to monitor the nitrate levels in your water. Until we notify you that the nitrate level has returned to below 10 mg/l, continue with the restrictions noted above.

Nitrate in drinking water can come from natural, industrial, or agricultural sources (including septic systems and run-off). Levels of nitrate in drinking water can vary throughout the year. [We'll let you know when the amount of nitrate is again below the limit].

We will continue to monitor the nitrate levels in your water. Until we notify you that the nitrate level has returned to below 10 mg/l, continue with the restrictions noted above. We are now testing the water each month for nitrate. We are also working with the EPA to design a system that can reliably deliver water well below the maximum level. As things progress, we will keep you informed.

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To be safe, We are continuing with the Nitrate Public Notice. We will issue the Public Notice every two months until a permanent solution has been installed. This improvement will take several months to complete after the EPA issues the required permits.

For more information, please contact Matt Presswood at 217-369-4534 .

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 Morningside Mobile Home Park. Water System ID# 1070400 Date originally distributed January 3rd 2020