

Why did this happen?

The treated water we receive from the Springfield Water & Sewer Commission comes from Cobble Mountain reservoir. The amount of natural organic material (NOM) in the reservoir, the main source of the drinking water supply, has an effect on the HAA5 levels that are present in treated water. The treatment process removes only some of the NOM and remaining NOM reacts with the chlorine to form HAA5.

What is being done?

Springfield Water and Sewer Commission (SWSC) has modified its existing treatment process and system operations to reduce the levels of HAA5 in the distribution system as much as possible while maintaining safe chlorine levels. A pilot study is underway to determine the most effective treatment process to help remove more Natural Organic Matter (NOM) and reduce HAA5. The pilot study will continue into September 2020. Results from the pilot study will determine the treatment upgrades needed to improve water quality, including HAA5. To date, results of the pilot study indicate potential benefits from utilizing an alternate coagulant that is more effective at removing NOM. If approved by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), SWSC is preparing to try a full-scale plant trial of this promising alternative planned for the fall and early winter of 2020. If successful, this treatment change would result in water quality improvements in 2021. Longmeadow is also conducting its own study to see if there are other ways or alternatives to reduce disinfection by-products in the distribution system.

For more information, please contact the Longmeadow DPW at (413) 567-3400 or 31 Pondsides Road, Longmeadow, MA 01106.

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:
distributed:

Longmeadow Water Department

PWS ID#:

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Date

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