



Incorporated 1783

Town of LONGMEADOW, MASSACHUSETTS

170 Dwight Rd. 01106

TEL (413) 567-3400



IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Disinfected by-products Rule MCL Violation

Our water system recently violated a 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.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Testing results for Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) samples collected at four sample locations on May 2, 2022, showed that levels for TTHM at the four sampling locations exceeded the maximum contaminant level (MCL) established by drinking water regulations. The TTHM standard is 80 parts per billion (ppb) calculated as a 12-month locational running annual average (LRAA) of quarterly samples. The averages at the sampling location are as follows.

Locations	Parameter	Results	LRAA	Units	Date Analyzed	MCL/AL
Twin Hills C.C	Total Trihalomethanes	96.8	87.2	Ug/L	5/2/2022	80
Longmeadow Police Dept.	Total Trihalomethanes	87.7	83.0	Ug/L	5/2/2022	80
Berkshire Bank	Total Trihalomethanes	86.6	87.4	Ug/L	5/2/2022	80
Council Of Age (Greenwood Center)	Total Trihalomethanes	95.1	88.5	Ug/L	5/2/2022	80

What does this mean?

This was not an emergency. If it had been an emergency, you would have been notified within 24 hours. TTHMs are volatile organic compounds which form when disinfectants (chlorine) react with natural organic matter in the water. *Some people who drink water containing TTHM 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..*

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 not 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.

- Please see <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/tthm-in-drinking-water-information-for-consumers> for fact on sheets TTHMs.

What is being done?

Longmeadow Water Department recently completed a Tracer Study and Hydraulic Model of its system and is currently working with MassDEP and the engineers for the following up actions. Longmeadow Water Department is also in ongoing communication with Springfield Water and sewer Commissions (SWSC or Commission), which treats the drinking water. The Commission has modified its existing treatment process and system operations to reduce the levels of HAA5s and TTHMs in the distribution system as much as possible while maintaining safe chlorine levels and determining long-term solutions. A pilot study was completed between the fall of 2019 and the fall of 2020 to determine the most effective treatment process to remove more dissolved NOM and reduce HAA5s and TTHMs. Results from the pilot study will inform the design of permanent treatment plant upgrades necessary to reduce disinfectant by-products, including HAA5s and TTHMs.

The design of the permanent treatment plant upgrades is scheduled to begin later this year. After the design is approved by MassDEP, construction will begin in FY24 or earlier, if possible, at an estimated cost of \$168 million. A \$250 million low interest loan from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) Program is allowing the Commission to advance all plant upgrades on an accelerated schedule.

The Commission is accelerating this work as quickly as possible while committing significant resources to the process. The pilot study and half-plant trail built upon an already ongoing comprehensive evaluation of water quality and the water treatment process that began four years prior. A panel of national experts convened by the Commission is guiding these activities. The Commission also regularly implements land management tools according to its source Water Protection Plan to optimize raw water quality.

For more information, please contact the Longmeadow DPW at (413) 567-3400 or 170 Dwight 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:

PWS ID#:

Date distributed:

Longmeadow Water Department

1159000

6/14/2022