

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, and what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

**The City of Okmulgee – OK1020708 has levels of Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) above Drinking Water Standards.** Testing results we received for the time period(s) show that our system exceeds the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for total trihalomethanes (TTHM). The standard or MCL for total trihalomethanes is 0.080 mg/L. It is determined by averaging all the samples collected at each sampling location for the past 12 months. The following is the level of TTHM averaged at our system's location(s):

<u>Twelve-month time period</u>	<u>Locational Running Annual Average with Sample Location</u>
July 2020 – June 2021	0.093 MG/L – 3500 S. Mission LN-Mission LN MHP
July 2020 – June 2021	0.104 MG/L – 5005 N. Wood Dr. Okmulgee, OK

**What should I do?** There is nothing you need to do unless you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant or are elderly. These people may be at increased risk and should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

**What does this mean?** This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However, some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience liver, kidney, or central nervous system problems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

**The City of Okmulgee did not meet Treatment Requirements.** We routinely monitor you for Total Organic Carbon Removal. This tells us whether we are effectively removing Organic Carbon from the water supply. Our latest calculations have shown that we didn't remove the average percentage or organic carbon required by EPA standards during the following twelve-month period:

<u>Twelve-month time period</u>
July 2020 – June 2021

**What should I do?** There is nothing you need to do unless you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant or are elderly. These people may be at increased risk and should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

**What does this mean?** Total Organic Carbon has no health effects. However, total organic carbon provides a medium for the formation of disinfection byproducts. These byproducts include Trihalomethanes (THMs) and Haloacetic acids (HAAs). Drinking Water containing these byproducts in excess of the MCL may lead to adverse health effect, liver or kidney problems, or nervous system effects, and may lead to an increased risk of getting cancer.

In January of 2002 the United States Environmental Protection Agency set new drinking water standards for disinfection byproducts. Since this time the city's water treatment facility has been diligently working with the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality to meet these new standards with the existing equipment. However, it has been determined that the existing facility is unable to meet these new standards. The city's water treatment facility has completed an \$8.7 million project to make necessary major capital improvements to the facility. In June, 2016 the City was placed under a Consent Order by ODEQ. Because of this, additional work is needed to meet the required drinking water standards. The City is working with an engineering firm to make changes to the treatment process that will bring the facility into compliance.

*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may 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. For more information, please contact Clint Hudgens at (918) 756-3150 or P.O. Box 250, Okmulgee, OK 74447. This notice is being sent to you by the City of Okmulgee. Consent Order, Case No 16-116. State Water System ID# 1020708. Dated distributed: 9-27-21*