

Drinking Water Warning

City of Fairview has high levels of Nitrate in its water.

**DO NOT GIVE THE WATER TO INFANTS UNDER 6 MONTHS OLD
OR USE IT TO MAKE INFANT FORMULA**

A water sample collected on September 30, 2022 contained a nitrate level of 11.5 mg/L. This is above the nitrate standard or maximum contaminant level (MCL), of 10 mg/L. Nitrate in drinking water above the MCL is a serious health concern for infants less than six months old.

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 nitrate more concentrated because nitrate remains behind when the water evaporates.
- Adults and children older than six months can drink tap water (nitrate is a concern for infants because they can't process nitrate in the same way adults can). However, if you are pregnant or have specific health concerns, you may wish to consult your doctor.

At this point we are evaluating the situation and planning for corrective action. We will be updating the City Council and the public in the near future.

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.

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.

For more information, please contact: City Manager Robert Laverty

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