

Chlorine Water Maintenance 2020

City of Excellence



What is Chlorine Maintenance?

- Our usual disinfectant is chloramines which is a combination of chlorine and ammonia.
- During the 28 day period (March 2, 2020 to March 30, 2020) no ammonia will be used, only chlorine.
- Those more sensitive may notice a stronger smell or taste of chlorine during this time.
- While chlorine levels are consistent with the rest of the year, the temporary suspension of ammonia can make the smell or taste more noticeable.
- The water remains safe to drink and use

Why do we do Chlorine Maintenance?

- Proactive approach to manage water quality throughout the year
- Normally, NTMWD uses Chloramines as a disinfectant
- Chloramines contain ammonia which is a food source for some bacteria which can degrade disinfectant levels, especially during the summer
- The Chlorine Maintenance will kill bacteria that feeds on the ammonia
- The Chlorine Maintenance will reduce the amount of flushing we need to do during the summer/fall
- Process recognized by TCEQ as a method to address water quality challenges associated with the use of Chloramines.

What are potential adverse affects of Chlorine Maintenance?

- Taste and odor complaints
- Skin irritation
- Increased levels of Trihalomethanes, Haloacetic Acids

(Disinfection By-Products)

What is the City doing during the Chlorine Maintenance Period?

- More water quality testing, including for THMs and HAAs (Twice in March)
- Increased flushing
- Reduce storage tank levels
- Reduce time for Chlorinated water to mix with Chloraminated water
- Notify customers with special medical needs and The Colony (February 11, 2020)

Water Quality Goals

- Maintain best water quality possible
- Maintain disinfectant residual
- Identify problems as soon as possible
- Reduce flushing

Questions