

DRINKING WATER WARNING

Tooley Water District water has high levels of nitrate

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

Results of a water sample collected 10/16 showed nitrate levels of 18.6 milligrams per liter. This is above the nitrate standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), of 10 milligrams per liter. Nitrate in drinking water is a serious health concern for infants less than six months old.

What should I do? What does this mean?

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 nitrates more concentrated, because nitrates remain behind when the water evaporates.

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

What is being done?

Tooley Water District shut off the offending well as soon as we became aware of the issue (10/20/20). The system is now operating under a single well which is well below the MCL of 10 milligrams per liter. Long term, we are evaluating our options.

For more information, please contact Devin Geiger at 503-554-8333 x104 or PO Box 699, Newburg Oregon 97132.

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 provided by mailing address Tooley Water District – C/O Highland Water, PO Box 699, Newburg Oregon, 97132. State Water System ID#: 41- _____ 00911 _____

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