

## DIRECTIONS FOR ISSUING PUBLIC NOTICE - SECONDARY MCL VIOLATION FOR FLUORIDE

Notice shall be provided as soon as possible, but no later than **30 days** after the system learns of the fluoride secondary MCL violation. Proof of public notice, as described below, shall be completed and sent to DES within 10 days of providing public notice. A **community water system** may opt to include the notice of a secondary fluoride MCL violation in their annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), which must be delivered to consumers and DES by July 1 of each year.

Community and non-transient non-community water systems that exceed the secondary maximum contaminant level (SMCL) of 2.0 mg/L for fluoride as determined by the sampling requirements specified in Env-Ws 326 but do not exceed the MCL for fluoride of 4.0 mg/L shall provide notice to all billing units annually, all new billing units at the time service begins, and to the local public health officer.

**A COMMUNITY water system must always notify consumers by mailing or directly delivering the public notice to each customer receiving a bill and to other consumers to whom water is delivered. This can be accomplished by including such notice in the annual CCR.**

**IF** persons regularly served by the system would not normally be reached by the mailing or direct delivery methods described above, the water system shall also use *at least one* of the following notification methods.

1. Publication of the notice for 3 consecutive days in a daily newspaper of general circulation that serves the area of the water system.
2. Posting the notice in public places served by the water system. [Posted notices must remain in place for as long as the violation persists, but in no case for less than 7 days, even if the violation is resolved.]
3. Furnishing a copy of the notice to radio and television stations that broadcast in the area served by the water system.

**A NON-COMMUNITY water system shall notify consumers by posting the notice in conspicuous locations throughout the distribution system frequented by persons served by the system, or by mailing or direct delivery to each customer and consumer.** [Posted notices must remain in place for as long as the violation persists, but in no case for less than 7 days, even if the violation is resolved.] **IF** other persons regularly served by the system would not normally be reached by the posting, mailing, or direct delivery methods described above, the water system shall also publish the notice for 3 consecutive days in a daily newspaper of general circulation that serves the area of the water system.

Additional methods (e.g., electronic mail, delivery of multiple copies to hospitals and schools) may be needed since the notice must be provided in a manner reasonably calculated to reach all persons served.

The language in *italics* on the reverse side must remain unchanged. ***This language is mandatory.***

### Submitting Proof of Public Notice to DES

Within **10 days** after issuing the notice, the owner of the water system shall provide proof of public notice to DES. Proof of public notice shall consist of a copy of the notice that was distributed or posted, or each of the three full pages of newspaper articles, **and** the following completed certification.

#### CERTIFICATION

I hereby affirm public notice has been provided to consumers in accordance with the delivery, content, and deadline requirements in NH Admin. Rule Env-Ws 351 and/or Env-Ws 352, as outlined above.

First Delivery Method Used: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Second Delivery Method Used (IF needed): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

For Community Systems ONLY - Notice to be included in the CCR. Check here:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Water System Owner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Water System Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Proof of public notification should be faxed to (603) 271-5171 OR mailed to:**

Chemical Monitoring Section  
Department of Environmental Services  
Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau  
29 Hazen Drive, PO Box 95  
Concord, NH 03302-0095

# **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER**

## **EMERALD LAKE VILLAGE DISTRICT HAS ELEVATED FLUORIDE LEVELS**

This is an alert about your drinking water and a cosmetic dental problem that might affect children under nine years of age. At low levels, fluoride can help prevent cavities, but children drinking water containing more than 2.0 milligrams per liter (mg/L) of fluoride may develop cosmetic discoloration of their permanent teeth (dental fluorosis). The drinking water provided by your water system, Emerald Lake Village District, has a fluoride concentration of 2.2 mg/L. The water from the combined sources of Well 4 (Meeting House well) and Well 11 (Mary Rowe Rd well) are the only ones that are elevated. The water from the other 6 wells is below this level.

### **What does this mean?**

Dental fluorosis in its moderate or severe forms may result in a brown staining and/or pitting of the permanent teeth. This problem occurs only in developing teeth, before they erupt from the gums. Children under nine should be provided with alternative sources of drinking water or water that has been treated to remove the fluoride to avoid the possibility of staining and pitting of their permanent teeth. You may also want to contact your dentist about the proper use by young children of fluoride-containing products. Older children and adults may safely drink the water.

Drinking water containing more than 4.0 mg/L of fluoride (the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's drinking water standard) can increase your risk of developing bone disease. Your drinking water does not contain more than 4.0 mg/L of fluoride, but we are required to notify you when we discover that the fluoride levels in your drinking water exceed 2.0 mg/L because of this cosmetic dental problem.

### **What happened?**

Fluoride contamination is rarely due to human activity. Fluoride occurs naturally in some areas and is found in elevated concentrations in the aquifer in our source water.

**Steps We Are Taking:** The wells with the high levels of fluoride are treated to reduce the levels of fluoride. We are continuing to monitor fluoride levels. We will inform you if levels exceed the limit of 4.0 mg/L.

For more information, please contact Keith Gilbert of Water System Operators, Inc. at 428-3525 or PO Box 69 Henniker, NH 03242.

Some home water treatment units are available to remove fluoride from drinking water. To learn more about available home water treatment units, you may call NSF International at 1-877-8-NSF-HELP.

Please share this information with all the other people who have children who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, schools, and daycares). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

EPA #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date distributed: \_\_\_\_\_