



TOWN OF SOUTH PRAIRIE

121 NW WASHINGTON STREET - PO BOX F - SOUTH PRAIRIE, WA 98385

NOTICE TO WATER SYSTEM USERS

ARSENIC MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL VIOLATION

The Town of South Prairie Water System, I.D. #82300, located in Pierce County recently violated the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for arsenic in drinking water at the School Yard Well (Source S01). Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

The running annual average of samples taken at the School Yard Well over the past twelve-month period exceeded the arsenic MCL of 0.010 milligrams per liter (mg/L or parts per million, ppm). The running annual average concentration for our system was 0.013 mg/L.

Arsenic occurs naturally in rocks and soil, water, air, and plants and animals. It can be further released into the environment through natural activities such as volcanic activity, erosion of rocks, and forest fires, or through human actions. Approximately 90 percent of industrial arsenic in the U.S. is currently used as a wood preservative, but arsenic is also used in paints, dyes, metals, drugs, soaps, and semi-conductors. Agricultural applications, mining, and smelting also contribute to arsenic releases in the environment.

Higher levels of arsenic tend to be found in groundwater sources than in surface water sources (such as lakes, streams, and rivers).

Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

At this time:

- No action is required by the water users.
- Our routine arsenic sample required for this (quarter OR calendar year) has been collected and did not exceed acceptable levels.
- Samples will be collected in the future as required.
- Other information for customers.

The Town of South Prairie removed the School Yard Well from the water system on May 18, 2007. This well will be used only for emergency purposes until a reliable solution to elevated arsenic concentrations can be implemented.

For more information, please contact Larry Harter at (360) 897-8969 or at
(Owner or Operator) (Phone Number)

121 NW Washington Street, PO Box F, South Prairie, WA 98385
(Address)

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 sent to you by the Town of South Prairie Water System on 2/11/08.

Office: (360) 897.8878 Fax: (360) 897.8717 E-Mail: south_prairie@yahoo.com
www.townofsouthprairie.com