

# DRINKING WATER WARNING

Elsinboro School water has high levels of nitrate -

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

A sample collected on December 26, 2019 showed nitrate levels of 12.63 mg/L. A confirmation sample collected on December 27, 2019 showed nitrate levels of 10.5 mg/L. The average of these two samples is 11.6 mg/L. This is above the nitrate standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), of 10 mg/L. Nitrate in drinking water is a serious health concern for infants less than six months old.

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.

## 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?

We are investigating remedial options, including installation of a nitrate removal treatment unit, drilling a new well, and connecting to a nearby public community water system. We anticipate returning to compliance within 60 days.

For more information, please contact and Shannon Dubois at (856) 935-3817 or Steven J. Ecret at (856) 540-2901

*\*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 Elsinboro School. State Water System ID#: 1703306  
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