

DRINKING WATER WARNING

Upper Deerfield Township's water has high levels of nitrate

Nitrate contaminated water affects customers south of Big Oak Road and south of Finley Road.

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

Bottled water will be provided to families with infants less than six months old at 1325 Highway 77, Upper Deerfield Township NJ.

On 1/8/2019, we received notice that a sample collected on 1/8/2019 showed a nitrate concentration in the drinking water of 11.1 milligrams per liter (mg/L). On 1/9/2019 we received notice that a confirmation sample collected on 1/9/2019 showed a nitrate concentration in the drinking water of 13.1 mg/L. The 12.1 mg/L average of these two samples is above the nitrate standard, or maximum contaminant level of 10 mg/L. 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 have determined that it will be necessary to install nitrate removal equipment at the Love Lane water plant to remove the contaminant and are currently reviewing designs and costs. For more information, please contact John Hoogendorn at the Upper Deerfield Township Water Department (856-451-3811).

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 Upper Deerfield Township. State Water System ID#: NJ0613004
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