

UPPER DEERFIELD TOWNSHIP WATER TESTS HIGH FOR NITRATES

The quarterly water testing showed higher than expected nitrate levels have been found in the Municipal water system, originating at the Seabrook water plant, for samples taken on April 1, 2019 prompting the utility to issue a drinking water warning to its customers north of Big Oak Road. The notice directs users of the system **to avoid giving the water to infants under 6 months old and to refrain from using the water to make infant formulas. Adults and children over six months old are not at risk and the water may be used for bathing, cooking and drinking. Pregnant women or those with specific health concerns are urged to consult with their doctor.**

Quarterly test results in April showed that nitrate levels had exceeded the Federal and State drinking water standards.

Warning notices are being delivered to all users of the water system served by the Seabrook facility. The areas affected are those located in Seabrook village and north of Big Oak Road in the eastern portion of the township. Areas south of these locations are supplied by the Love Lane water plant.

Notices will be posted at local restaurants, day care centers, and medical offices. **If your pediatrician is not local and you are a water customer please inform him/her of this notice. They are welcome to call us for more information.**

The Township is providing bottled water to its customers who have or care for infants under 6 months old within the affected area. The water is available at the Upper Deerfield Municipal Building, 1325 Hwy 77 in Seabrook.

Several options are being investigated to correct the problem. The Township is exploring designs for a nitrate removal treatment system. Ongoing testing will determine the duration of this warning and upon approval of the NJDEP, we will issue a “problem corrected” notice.

The Seabrook warning notice and nitrate fact sheet about nitrates are posted on the Upper Deerfield Township Website under the water/sewer link. Go to www.upperdeerfield.com and click on the Website Directory icon on the home page and then click on the Water and Sewer icon for more information.

We apologize for the inconvenience this issue is creating. Nitrates are common in farming areas and levels do fluctuate. In this instance the levels exceeded the MCL drinking water standards and the notice is mandatory.

Please call 856-451-3811 with any questions or concerns you have.

Upper Deerfield Township Water Department
April 8, 2019