

# **PUBLIC NOTICE IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER**

**Tri Town Water District, VT0005001  
Levels of Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5s)  
Above Drinking Water Standardss**

Our water system recently exceeded drinking water standards. Although this is not an emergency, customers have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Test results from the four quarters ending with the Second Quarter 2025 show that our system exceeded the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5).

The standard for TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5) is 60 UG/L. The running annual average from the last four quarters of results for TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5) was 62 UG/L.

## **What should I do?**

The drinking water standard (MCL) is based on lifetime exposure to TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5) which may increase your risk of getting cancer. Continuing to drink the water is a personal decision that you must make for yourself by considering the health risk, cost, and convenience. You may choose to use bottled water or water from an alternate source.

You do not need to boil your water. You can continue to use the water for showering, bathing, washing your food and dishes, brushing your teeth, and other household uses.

If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.

## **What does this mean?**

This is not an emergency. Drinking water containing TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5) at this concentration will not lead to any short-term effects such as vomiting, diarrhea, and stomach pains.

**Haloacetic acids are organic chemicals that form when chlorine disinfectant reacts with natural organic matter in the water.**

Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer. In animal studies, some haloacetic acids have been associated with reproductive or developmental effects.

## **What happened? What is being done?**

See attached letter for further explanation.

For more information, please contact Darwin Pratt at 802-758-2202 or Chairman, PO Box 85, Bridport, VT 05734

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.

**TRI-TOWN WATER DISTRICT No. 1 ~ PO BOX 85, BRIDPORT, VT 05734**

Dear Customer,

We are writing to inform you that our recent monitoring of the drinking water system has detected levels of Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) that exceed the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). While this is not an emergency, it is important that you understand what this means, what you should do, and what actions we are taking to correct the issue.

## **What Happened?**

During routine quarterly sampling, the running annual average for HAA5 exceeded the MCL of 60 parts per billion (ppb). The level detected was 62 ppb. HAA5s are a group of disinfection byproducts formed when disinfectants like chlorine, used to treat drinking water, react with natural organic matter in the water.

## **What Does This Mean?**

The State requires us to send notification to our customers and to make a plan for improvement. We wanted to explain the situation to our customers and the reasons why it happened. We also wanted to let you know what we plan to do about it to correct the problem.

## **What Is Being Done?**

We are taking immediate steps to reduce the levels of HAA5 in the system. These include:

- Adjusting our disinfection process to reduce byproduct formation
- Flushing parts of the distribution system
- Evaluating and implementing long-term treatment or operational changes

The District has received funding and is prioritizing improvements to the Water Filtration Plant. We are working closely with our state drinking water regulators to resolve the issue and bring our system back into compliance as quickly as possible. During a review of our system with the Environmental Scientist who specializes in water treatment plant reviews, we were informed that our system is not the only system in Vermont, or on Lake Champlain who experienced elevated levels during the recent sampling events.

## **For More Information:**

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Dwayne Roberts at 802-759-2115 or the office at 802-758-2202 or email at: [tritownwater@gmavt.net](mailto:tritownwater@gmavt.net)

We take the quality of your drinking water very seriously and are committed to ensuring your water meets all health and safety standards. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we work to resolve this issue.