

F.A.Q's

WATER QUALITY PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM



TEMPORARY
DISINFECTANT
CHANGES TO YOUR
WATER YOU NEED TO
KNOW ABOUT

WHAT IS THIS...

In a continuing effort to distribute high quality potable water, the City of Odessa will conduct a routine water quality preventative maintenance program. The process will involve temporarily switching disinfectants from the current chloramines to free chlorine in order to optimize water quality within the distribution system. The process will also include flushing of the distribution system to clean the water mains.

WHEN WILL THIS OCCUR...

Free chlorine generally is used for approximately one month, or until the distribution system has been completely flushed. The switch to free chlorine will begin on October 15, 2018, and the process should be finished approximately on November 19, 2018, when the system is switched back to chloramines.

WHO DOES THIS AFFECT...

If you receive your water bill from the City of Odessa, this change will occur in your water.

WHAT ELSE SHOULD I KNOW...

During the preventative maintenance program, some customers may notice temporary taste, color or odor differences in their water. This is a normal component of the process and customers should be reassured that water quality remains safe for drinking, bathing, cooking and other uses. Most customers will not notice any change. There are three groups of water users that should take special precautions during this process:

- Hospitals, medical providers, kidney dialysis providers and patients

- Fish pond, pool and aquarium owners/operators

- Some businesses that use water in their production process

Those who fall into any of the above categories are encouraged to seek professional advice concerning this change and removal methods for chlorine from their water supply and then the chloramines when we return to our normal disinfectant process in November.

WHY NOW...

This maintenance program is being performed at this time of year when water usage is low, as to not stress the water distribution system during times of higher demands, such as summer. You may see crews performing flushing operations at hydrants to insure chlorinated water is dispersed through the entire water system.

The temporary switching to free chlorine and flushing of water mains helps optimize water quality by:

- Removing and reducing biofilm and bacteria from the water distribution system pipes
- Reducing the long-term potential for forming disinfection byproducts (TTHM's and HAA5)
- Removing sediments and other material that has accumulated in lines
- Reducing the formation of nitrates and nitrites (nitrification)
- Reducing taste and odor complaints
- Decreasing corrosion potential in lines
- Improving overall drinking water quality

WHAT ELSE IS INVOLVED...

During the switch to free chlorine there may be a temporary change in water characteristics. Customers may see some of the following during this maintenance process:

- A slight discoloration or cloudiness in the water
- A slight chlorine odor or taste
- Minor fluctuations in water pressure while flushing is occurring
- Minor discolorations in the water due to flushing the system
- Utility crews operating fire hydrants to flush the system

Once the distribution system has been completely and adequately treated and flushed, the disinfection process will be switched back to chloramines and reintroduced into the distribution system. The City of Odessa will post a notice in the Odessan, on our website (www.cityofodessamo.com) and on our Facebook page. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we are committed to maintaining the highest water quality delivered to our customers.

WHAT SHOULD I DO...

You do not need to do anything different. However, if you have specific health concerns or conditions, consult your physician.

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION...

Additional information can be obtained from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources in the Publications section of their website under Public Drinking water. A publication entitled *Nitrification and Temporary Conversion from Chloramine to Free Chlorine* can be found at <http://dnr.mo.gov/pubs/pub2646.htm>.

Additionally you may contact the MODNR's Kansas City office at 816-251-0700 or the Public Drinking water Branch at 573-751-5331.

For further information with specific questions, residents and customers can contact the City of Odessa.

City Hall - 816.230.5577

Water Plant - 816.633.4662