



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

OH7200311 FREMONT CITY PWS

1040 02 02/04/10

STREET ADDRESS:

Lazarus Government Center
50 W. Town St., Suite 700
Columbus, Ohio 43215

TELE: (614) 644-2752 FAX:
www.epa.state.oh



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February 4, 2010

Certified Mail

City of Fremont
Safety Service Director
323 South Front Street
Fremont, OH 43420

Re: Sandusky County
City of Fremont
~~Community PWS~~
PWS ID: OH7200311
SMP ID: 7257901

Nitrate Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) Exceedance

Dear Public Water System Owner:

The City of Fremont is in violation for exceeding the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for nitrate in drinking water during February, 2010. The Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) establishes an MCL of 10 milligrams per liter (mg/L) for nitrate. The average nitrate concentration was 11.6 mg/L for the sample(s) collected on February 3 and February 4, 2010.

As a result of receiving a MCL violation, your system is required to take the following actions:

- 1) Issue the enclosed "Drinking Water Warning" notice within 24 hours from notification of the violation as specified by the public notice instructions and verification form.
- 2) Continue monitoring for nitrate at least weekly from the entry point until sample results indicate that the MCL will no longer be exceeded.
- 3) Reissue public notice weekly using the enclosed "Repeat Drinking Water Warning" notice if nitrate sample results continue to exceed the MCL. The public notice should be updated with the most recent sample results.
- 4) Issue the enclosed "Nitrate Advisory Cancelled" notice when sample results are reliably below the MCL (recommend average of 8 mg/L or less).
- 5) Complete and send a verification form with a copy of the public notice to my attention at the above mailing address each time public notice is issued.

Please call me at (614) 644-2752 if you have any questions or wish to revise any of the notices.

Sincerely,

Wendy Sheeran
Wendy Sheeran

Enclosure: Public Notices, Public Notice and Verification Form

cc: Superintendent/Manager; NWDO - DDAGW; CO - DDAGW; Sandusky Health Dept.

Ted Strickland, Governor
Lee Fisher, Lieutenant Governor
Chris Korleski, Director

DRINKING WATER WARNING

The City of Fremont water has high levels of nitrate

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

Results from water samples collected on February 3 and February 4, 2010 showed nitrate levels of 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.

What should I do?

- **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.
- Formula for children under six months of age should not be prepared with tap water. Instead, use bottled water or other water low in nitrates when preparing infant formula 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, nursing or have specific health concerns, you may wish to consult your doctor.

What happened? What is being done?

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. We are investigating and taking the necessary steps to correct the problem as soon as possible.

For more information, please contact:

Contact Person: _____

Phone Number: _____

Mailing Address: _____

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.