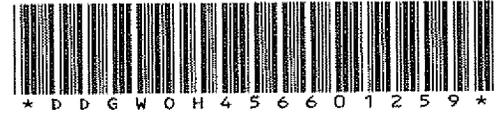




**Environmental
Protection Agency**

John R. Kasich, Governor
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor
Scott J. Nally, Director



August 13, 2012

NOTICE OF VIOLATION – ACTION REQUIRED

CERTIFIED MAIL

Christopher Cook
Gratiot Improvement Association
P.O. Box 362,
Gratiot, OH 43740

Licking County
Gratiot Improvement Association
Community PWS
PWS ID: OH4566012
Facility ID: 4562219

Subject: Violation of Maximum Contaminant Level for ARSENIC

Gratiot Improvement Association is in violation for exceeding the maximum contaminant level (MCL) standard of 0.010 MG/L as established in the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) section 3745-81-11 for ARSENIC. Compliance with the MCL is based on a running annual average. The annual average for ARSENIC during the Second Quarter of 2012 time period is 0.013 MG/L.

To address the MCL violation, Gratiot Improvement Association is required to take the following actions:

1. Notify your customers within 30 days using the enclosed instructions and public notice.
2. Complete and send a verification form with a copy of the public notice to the mailing address below within ten days after issuance.
3. Perform quarterly monitoring for ARSENIC during each calendar quarter (January 1 – March 31; April 1 – June 30; July 1 – September 30; October 1 to December 31).
4. Consult with your Ohio EPA district representative to discuss your options for coming into compliance and establishing a compliance schedule or comply with any previously issued enforcement action.

Your prompt attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. Continued noncompliance may lead to additional enforcement actions. If you have any questions or wish to change the public notice, please call me at (614) 644-2752.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Pinto
Compliance Assurance Section
Division of Drinking and Ground Waters

Enclosure: Public Notice; Public Notice Instructions and Verification Form
cc: Licking County Health Department

DRINKING WATER NOTICE

Gratiot Improvement Association Has Levels of ARSENIC above Drinking Water Standards and Did Not Meet Monitoring and Public Notice Requirements

Our water system violated the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for ARSENIC as listed below. The standard for ARSENIC is 0.010 MG/L.

Arsenic MCL, average	0.013 mg/L, April 1 to June 30, 2012
	0.011 mg/L, July 1 to September 30, 2011
	0.013 mg/L, April 1 to June 30, 2011

We are required to monitor our drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During the January 1 to March 31, 2011 monitoring period, we failed to monitor for Volatile Organic Chemicals (VOCs) and Gross Alpha & Radium-228 (RADs); therefore, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

Additionally, we are required to post public notice when violations have occurred. We did not distribute the required public notices after failing to monitor during the January 1 to March 31, 2011 monitoring period or after exceeding the arsenic MCL during the April 1 to June 30, 2011 or July 1 to September 30, 2011 monitoring periods.

What should I do?

- **You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply.** However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

What does this mean?

The levels detected do not pose an immediate risk to your health. However, some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

What is being done?

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

Additional information may be obtained by contacting:

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.

Date Distributed: _____

PWSID: OH4566012 Facility ID: 4562219

**PUBLIC NOTICE INSTRUCTIONS AND VERIFICATION FORM FOR
Community PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS WITH TIER 2 and TIER 3 VIOLATIONS**

The owner or operator of a Community water system with Tier 2 and Tier 3 violations or situations shall notify the persons served by the public water system as soon as practical but **no later than 30 days** after the system learns of the violation. Public notice shall be repeated every 3 months as long as the violation or situation persists:

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE PUBLIC WAS NOTIFIED BY THE FOLLOWING METHOD(S) INDICATED BELOW, AS DESCRIBED IN THE OHIO ADMINISTRATIVE CODE RULE 3745-81-32:

Required Method of Public Notification	Actual Method of Public Notification
COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEMS – 1. Must issue public notice by mail or other direct delivery to each customer and service connection (where known). 2. May also post in conspicuous locations throughout the distribution system (must remain posted for as long as the violation exists, but at least 7 days).	1. Date of mailing/delivery _____ 2.A. Dates of posting _____ 2.B. Locations of posting _____ _____ _____
NONCOMMUNITY WATER SYSTEMS – Use one or more of the following: 5. Public notice issued by posting in conspicuous locations throughout the distribution system (required to remain posted for as long as the violation exists, but in no case less than 7 days). 6. Public notice issued by mail or other direct delivery to each customer and service connection (where known).	Describe actual methods used: 1.A. Dates of posting _____ 1.B. Locations of posting _____ _____ _____ 2. Date of mailing/delivery _____
Schools and Day-Care Facilities must notify parents or guardians of children being served by methods <u>besides</u> posting, such as a newsletter, e-mail notice, or direct mailing	A. Method(s) _____ _____ B. Date(s) _____
ALL SYSTEMS – If the above methods do not reach all persons served, also use any other method calculated to reach other persons served by the system (e.g. publication in a local newspaper or newsletter, use of e-mail to notify employees or students, or delivery of multiple copies to central locations).	A. Method(s) _____ _____ _____ B. Date(s) _____

Please check which public notice was used:

- A public notice as shown on the other side of this sheet was issued without changes.
 A different public notice was issued. **INCLUDE A COPY OF THE PUBLIC NOTICE.**

Signature of Responsible Person Date

Printed Name and Title of Responsible Person

PWS NAME: Gratiot Improvement Association
 PWSID: OH4566012
 Facility ID: 4562219
 COUNTY: Licking
 ARSENIC MCL, AVERAGE
 2nd Qtr 2012 (Vio Id 59); 2nd & 3rd Qtrs 2011
 VOCs M/R: 1st Qtr 2011
 GROSS ALPHA & RADIUM-228 M/R: 1st Qtr 2011

For Ohio EPA Use Only: Date PN received: _____ PN acceptable: _____ PN not acceptable: _____
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