



## *City of East Providence*

Department of Public Works  
Water Utilities Division  
60 Commercial Way  
East Providence RI 02914-1006

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

#### **City of East Providence has levels of Disinfection Byproducts (DBPs) above drinking water standards**

Our water system recently violated an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

East Providence's drinking water is disinfected with chlorine. We are required to monitor your drinking water for the presence of disinfection byproducts (DBPs) on a quarterly basis. The EPA has set standards for the maximum levels of DBPs in drinking water, including substances known as total trihalomethanes or TTHMS. The EPA standard for TTHMs is 0.080 milligrams per liter (mg/l). The DBP test results from the last four (4) quarters that ended on 03/31/2018 show that our system exceeds the standards, or maximum contaminant level (MCL) for total trihalomethanes (TTHM). The MCL for TTHM is calculated based on a locational running annual averages (LRAA) of samples collected from the last four (4) quarters. The LRAA of TTHM at 1 of our 4 sampling locations is 0.086 mg/L. This value exceeds the respective MCL for TTHM of 0.080 mg/L.

#### **What should I do?**

You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. At this time, **no** alternative source of water is necessary. However, if you have any specific health concerns, you should consult your doctor.

#### **What does this mean?**

This is **not** an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. Some people who drink water containing TTHM in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

#### **What Happened? What is being done?**

When disinfectants are used in the treatment of drinking water, disinfectants react with naturally-occurring organic and inorganic matter present in water to form DBPs. The City is committed to reducing DBPs in the water system. The Water Utilities Division has been working with a consultant and the plan is to install an aeration system in the Kent Heights Tank. This system is designed to significantly reduce DBPs. The RI Department of Health is in agreement with the plan and the actions taken by the City. We anticipate the system to be in operation by October 2018.

#### **Is My Water Safe to Drink? **YES, THE WATER IS SAFE TO DRINK.****

If you have any questions, please contact the East Providence Water Utilities Division at 401-435-7741 or go to [eastprovidenceri.net](http://eastprovidenceri.net).

*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: April 19, 2018**  
**Public Water System ID: #1615610**