

DRINKING WATER WARNING

Tooley Water District's water potentially has high levels of nitrate -

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

Tooley Water District is turning on a well that has previously tested for nitrate above the nitrate standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), of 10 mg/L. Past history reflects that this water source is highly susceptible to broad changes in nitrate contaminant levels at a very quick pace of change. It is reasonable to expect that Tooley Water District's water will be above the MCL at times while this water source is in use. The last 4 tests of this well reflected nitrate levels of: 6.87 on 4/17, 16.4 on 5/1, 9.98 on 5/16, and 9.54 on 5/30.

Tooley Water District plans to keep this water source (aka the lower well) on through summer months as our only other water source (aka the upper well) cannot sustain water demand during the summer.

On June 12th 2024 Tooley Water District will be turning on this well. Nitrate in drinking water is a serious health concern for infants less than six months old.

Please refer to our website www.tooleywater.org for more information or updates.

What should I do? What does this mean?

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.

Water, juice, and formula for children under six months of age should not be prepared with tap water. Bottled water or other water low in nitrates should be used for infants 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 cannot process nitrates in the same way adults can). However, if you are pregnant or have specific health concerns, you may wish to consult your doctor.

What is being done?

Tooley Water District is currently seeking grants for development of a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) for development of a new well site. The goal is to acquire a PER next fiscal year (7/1/24 – 6/30/25) with the possibility of seeking construction grants starting as early as the following fiscal year (7/1/25 – 6/30/26).

For more information regarding Tooley's future plans, please contact John Amery at 541-340-0032 or johnamery@tooleywater.org. For more information regarding whether the lower well is in operation please contact Hiland Water (now NW Natural Water Services Inc) at 503-554-8333.

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.

This notice is being sent to you by Tooley Water District. State Water System ID#: 41-00911.
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