

NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS OF THE COLLIER COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

TEMPORARY MODIFICATION TO DISINFECTION PROCESS AND HYDRANT/WATER MAIN FLUSHING

The Collier County Water Department will be temporarily changing the disinfection process for the Collier County Water District potable (drinking) water supply. From **September 7 to October 5**, the Collier County Water Department will disinfect the water with free chlorine rather than combined chlorine/ammonia (chloramines). This conversion to free chlorine (which is a stronger disinfectant) from chloramines (which is a longer lasting disinfectant) allows the Water Department to perform treatment of the water distribution system as recommended by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for water utilities using chloramines as their primary disinfectant.

This temporary change in disinfectant does not cause adverse health effects. However, during this period customers may experience a change in the taste and odor of their water associated with the free chlorine.

Customers on dialysis who use a proportioning machine to prepare dialysate are advised to contact their physician to obtain the appropriate steps to accommodate the change in disinfectants. Customers who have fish tanks or aquatic species are advised to contact a professional aquarist to avoid any problems associated with chlorine.

The Collier County Water Department will also be conducting a flush of the distribution system from **September 8 to October 19**. Water Department staff will be working from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., seven days per week, flushing fire hydrants. The flush of the distribution system will allow the free chlorine to move quickly throughout the distribution system. It will also improve the overall quality of the water by flushing out any sediment that may have collected in the water mains.

Water customers should be aware that they might experience short-term changes to their water quality during flushing, including cloudy or discolored water. While this water is safe to drink, it may stain clothes that are in the laundry. Customers are advised to flush any cloudy or discolored water that may enter their plumbing by running a faucet for several minutes.

Customers are asked to call the Collier County Water Department at (239) 252-6245 with any questions regarding this change in disinfectants or the distribution system flushing.