

# PUBLIC NOTICE

## Important information about your drinking water

*Pervious tests show levels of gross alpha above drinking water standards*

Lexington public water system routinely monitors for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Previous testing results show that the average level of gross alpha was above the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 15.4 pCi/L. An MCL violation was issued for this system on 10/24/2019. Testing will continue until the violation is resolved. The most recent results were 7.6 pCi/L that is well under the MCL, but the water system is required to post the notice due to MDH rules.

Gross alpha occurs naturally within the ground water. Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

**This is not an emergency.** You do not need an alternative source of water such as bottled water. However, if you have specific health concerns consult your doctor. Home water treatment units are available to reduce gross alpha, which include water softening, reverse osmosis, and distillation. It is recommended that these home water treatment units be certified to ensure gross alpha removal. The use of carbon filters is not recommended for removal of gross alpha, as gross alpha may accumulate in the filter over time.

Your public water supply is exploring methods to reduce the level of gross alpha, which includes an alternative water source and water treatment. You will be informed when the public water supply meets the gross alpha standard.

*Please share this information with all other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (i.e., 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 Lexington

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