

## **Customer and Public Notice of Annual Change in Water Quality Disinfection**

### **Annual Notification of reversion to free chlorine.**

Gulf Coast Water Authority will be conducting its annual reversion from chloramine to free chlorine April 15, 2016 through April 29, 2016. Often referred to as a "burn-out", this practice is conducted periodically to control the levels of nitrifying bacteria in its distribution system. Water pipes can develop a thin layer of bacteria and while harmless, they need to occasionally be flushed from the system as they will cause an increase in taste and odor problems. Normally the switch will last for 30 days to allow each community adequate time to flush their water system. .

GCWA will notify the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's Drinking Water Quality Team in advance of this change. The notice will state the date that the system will begin distributing water with a free chlorine residual as well as the anticipated duration of the event.

GCWA is a public water system that wholesales chlorinated water to all communities in Galveston County, and as such is giving at least 21 days advance notice of this temporary switch.

Gulf Coast Water Authority advises its customers to follow the TCEQ approved guidance for public notification at least 14 days in advance of the changeover. TCEQ recommends our customers give advance notification to any facility or individuals with dialysis machines in use. Additionally, notification to the public should include precautions that should be taken by owners of aquatic life in fish tanks and koi ponds.

**TCEQ response to GCWA's Notice.**

Thank you for informing TCEQ concerning PWS 0840153 GULF COAST WATER AUTHORITY temporary switch to free chlorine between 04/15/2016 and 04/29/2016. We will request our samplers delay the collection of quarterly Disinfection Byproduct (DBP) samples until the burn out has been completed on 04/29/2015.

Please keep in mind that TCEQ considers a switch to free chlorine for longer than 30 days in one calendar year as normal operating conditions. After the 30 days has been reached, we will not delay scheduled DBP samples.

According to our records, GULF COAST WATER AUTHORITY sells to the following systems:

- 0840011 Bacliff MUD
- 0840010 Bayview MUD
- 0840006 City of La Marque
- 0840008 City of Texas City
  - 0840042 TEXAS CITY TERMINAL RAILWAY CO
  - 0840264 STYROLUTION
  - 0840043 UNION CARBIDE TEXAS CITY
  - 0840141 OIL TANKING TEXAS CITY TERMINAL
  - 0840019 EASTMAN CHEMICAL TEXAS CITY OPERATIONS
- 0840001 Galveston Co. WCID 1
- 0840031 Galveston Co. WCID 12
- 0840009 Galveston Co. WCID 8
- 0840063 San Leon MUD
- 0840004 City of Hitchcock
- 0840036 Galveston Co. FWD 6
- 0840021 Galveston Co. MUD 12
- 0840003 City of Galveston
  - 0840193 COLONEL MUSEUM INC
  - 0840249 SILVERLEAF SEASIDE RESORT
  - 0840057 TIFFANY WATER
  - 0840272 UT MEDICAL BRANCH GALVESTON
- 0840007 City of League City
- 0840214 Galveston Co. MUD 29
- 0200038 Treasure Island MUD
- 0840030 City of Jamaica Beach

Due to a change in TCEQ procedure, we will also delay the collection of samples for customer systems of your wholesale customers. We will request our samplers delay collection of DBP samples for all the systems listed.


Although it is not required, it is recommended that you inform your retail customers of the change in treatment so they can expect taste and odor changes that can result from disinfectant changes.

Additionally, please contact us again when the system switches back to using monochloramine.

Thank you and Good Luck,

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Texas Drinking Water Watch: <http://dww.tceq.texas.gov/DWWW/>

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