

Harris County Municipal Utility District 249
P.O. Box 690928
Houston Texas 77269-0928

March 12, 2012

Dear Customers:

On or about April 12, 2012, the District will be changing the disinfectant used for its water supply from chlorine to chloramines. This change is intended to benefit our customers by reducing the levels of disinfection by-products (DBPs) in the system, while still providing protection from waterborne diseases.

The change to chloramine can cause problems to persons dependent on dialysis machines. A condition known as hemolytic anemia can occur if the disinfectant is not completely removed from water used for the dialysate. Consequently, the pretreatment scheme used for the dialysis units must include some means, such as a charcoal filter, for removing the chloramines prior to this date. Medical facilities should also determine if additional precautions are required for other medical equipment.

In addition chloraminated water may be toxic to fish. If you have a fish tank, please make sure that the chemicals or filters that you are using are designed for use in water that has been treated with chloramines. You may also need to change the type of filter that you use for the fish tank.

The above language is required by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). Your MUD249 Board would also like to inform you that the conversion to chloramines is occurring at this time because our only emergency interconnect water supplier (WCID110) has already been converted from chlorine to chloramines treatment. In the event of an emergency water supply failure, there are both practical and legal reasons for maintaining the same treatment method between the two systems. This change of treatment type is related to the building of a regional water supply system (by the NHCRWA) and the mixing of surface water (from lakes and rivers) into the water supply.

If you should have any questions regarding the change in disinfection please feel free to contact our office at 832-467-1599.