

# PUBLIC NOTICE

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

### Lexington Water System Has Levels of Gross Alpha Above Drinking Water Standards

Our water system is in violation of a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. We are currently in violation for exceeding the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), of 15.4 picoCuries per liter (pCi/L) for gross alpha. The sample collected in October 2020 had a gross alpha level of 28.0 pCi/L, and the running annual average was 15.3 pCi/L at the Well #1 Entry Point.

Gross Alpha occurs naturally within the groundwater. Some people who drink water containing gross alpha in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

#### What should I do?

- There is nothing you need to do. **You do not need to** boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
- If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.

***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 and radium 226 and radium 228, which include water softening, reverse osmosis, and distillation. It is recommended that these home water treatment units be certified to ensure gross alpha and radium removal. The use of carbon filters is not recommended for removal of radionuclides, as they may accumulate in the filter over time.

Lexington water system is exploring methods to reduce the levels of gross alpha, which may include an alternative water source or water treatment. You will be informed when our public water system has reduced the levels of gross alpha and meets the standard.

***Please share this information with all 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.***

For more information, please contact:

Travis Schmid  
City of Lexington Public Works

Phone: 763-784-6849

This notice is being sent to you by Lexington Water System

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