



# The York Water Company

Tier 2 Public Notice

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

### CHEMICAL MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL (MCL) EXCEEDANCE

ESTE INFORME CONTIENE INFORMACIÓN IMPORTANTE ACERCA DE SU AGUA POTABLE. HAGA QUE ALGUIEN LO TRADUZCA PARA USTED, O HABLE CON ALGUIEN QUE LO ENTIENDA.

#### The York Water Company's Main System Had a Sample Result Containing Levels of Asbestos Concentrations Above Drinking Water Standards

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have the right to know what happened and what we are doing to address this situation.

We routinely monitor for drinking water contaminants. A single round of testing results we received on 12/8/2022 show that our system exceeded the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for asbestos. The standard for asbestos is 7-MFL and we measured 17-MFL in this sample of your drinking water. Part of our process when we have a sample with an elevated result is to collect another sample - a confirmation sample at the same location. We did that and the confirmation sample yielded a result that was below the level of detection (<0.17-MFL or so close to zero that the lab could not find any) on January 12, 2023. This suggests that the original sample that exceeded the MCL was collected in an improper manner or there may have been a laboratory or analytical problem.

#### What should I do?

- There is nothing you need to do. Do not 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 may wish to seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.

**You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply.** However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

#### What does this mean?

This does not pose an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However, some individuals that drink water containing asbestos in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of developing benign intestinal polyps. The MCL is based on the average individual consuming two liters of water a day for a lifetime. Please note that children and pregnant women may be at higher risk and should seek advice from their health care providers if they have any concerns. Children are at greater risk (to any agent in water) because of their greater water consumption on a per unit body weight basis.

Hand washing, bathing, and showering in water that contains asbestos at these levels does not pose a known risk to human health. Asbestos is not easily absorbed through the skin and does not evaporate into the air. Boiling your water will not reduce asbestos concentrations.



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Further health information is available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 and at the EPA asbestos in drinking water website <https://www.epa.gov/dwreginfo/chemical-contaminant-rules>.

**What happened? What was done?** Asbestos fibers may enter the environment from natural sources such as erosion of asbestos-containing ores, but the primary source of asbestos in the environment is through the wear or breakdown of asbestos-containing materials. Asbestos fibers have been released into water by the dumping of mining tailings into lakes, by the runoff of process and air scrubber water into lakes and streams, and by the use of asbestos cement pipes in water supply systems. Asbestos is not present in our treated water, however sections on main that York Water has acquired over the years utilized asbestos-cement as a material of construction known as transite. Transite was commonly installed in the 1940s, 50s and 60s, though York Water has never installed any transite main/piping. York Water has had a program in place for many years, that we continue presently, removing and replacing large quantities of asbestos-cement (transite) piping each year.

The first sample event was likely an anomaly since the follow-up sample had no detectable fibers present. Regardless, we are considering actions to resolve any potential issue as rapidly as possible. We are consulting with our engineers and our regulators to evaluate the best available options in the shortest timeframe possible.

For more information, please contact: Jedidiah Lieberknecht at (717) 845-3601.

*Please share this information with all the 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.*

This notice is being sent to you by The York Water Company.

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