

**NOTICE TO CONSUMERS
of the TOWN OF BOWLING GREEN WATERWORKS**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

**Exceeding the Primary Maximum Contaminant Level (PMCL) for Gross Alpha
September 15th, 2024**

In March 2024, the Virginia Department of Health notified the Town that our water system was recently found to have violated a drinking water standard. Please be assured that **this is not an emergency**. However, the Town is obligated to inform you, and you have a right to know as a customer, that this has occurred and know what the Town is doing to address the situation. The Town routinely monitors the water supply for the presence of drinking water contaminants. On March 8, 2024, we were advised by State Health Officials that the Town water system has exceeded the primary maximum contaminant level (PMCL), for gross alpha over the most recent four quarters of testing. The standard for gross alpha is 15 pCi/L. The average level of gross alpha over the last year has been 25.8 pCi/L at one of the groundwater wells that supplies the system (entry point 4) and 30.025 pCi/L at one of the other wells (entry point 5). Recent samples, analyzed on August 7th, 2024, indicate levels of 22.7 pCi/L at entry point 4 and 25.8 pCi/L at entry point 5.

What should I do as a water customer?

- **First of all, this is not an emergency.** If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours. There are no immediate health risks or symptoms from drinking water that contains gross alpha radiation.
- **Second, there is nothing you need to do. As confirmed by State Health Officials, there are no recommended precautions necessary.** e.g, you do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions before using or consuming it. However, if you have specific health questions or concerns, you can always consult your doctor.

What does this mean?

Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as “alpha radiation.” Some people who experience long term exposure by drinking water containing alpha emitters in excess of the PMCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

What is the Town doing about it?

The Town is actively taking measures to return to full compliance with gross alpha limits and has already contracted with a professional engineering firm to develop a plan of action. The Town will continue to regularly test the water from entry points 4 & 5 and will remain in constructive discussions with State Health Officials as it considers the most appropriate next steps.

In August, the Town was awarded a \$45,000 grant from the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) to assist with investigating this issue in the short term.

For additional information you may contact the new licensed operator of the Town's water system, Inboden Environmental Services, at (540) 477-3300.

This notice is being sent to you by the Town of Bowling Green (State Water System ID#: 6033550). As a customer of the Town's water system, we encourage you to share this information with others who drink the Town's water, including those who may not have directly received this notice.

The Town will continue to issue notices included with your water bill until full compliance with state regulations is achieved as determined by the Virginia Department of Health. If updated test results are available before the billing cycle and notice issuance, each subsequent notice will contain updated test results.