



CONCORD PUBLIC WORKS

Water & Sewer Division

135 KEYES ROAD

CONCORD, MASSACHUSETTS 01742

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Concord Water had levels of Bromate above Drinking Water Standards

In the fall of 2022, our water system violated a drinking water standard, of which you received prior notice in October 2022. As a regulatory requirement, you are receiving this notice now because Concord is preparing to distribute water from Nagog Pond for the first time since August 2022. Although this is not an emergency, as our customer, you have a right to know that we are reactivating this seasonal source of supply.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants, including bromate. Currently, drinking water from Nagog Pond is only provided during summer months to help meet seasonal peak demand, and is disinfected with ozone to ensure that it is safe to drink. Nagog Pond water contains a naturally occurring trace element, bromide, which can react with ozone to form the by-product, bromate. The allowable concentration of bromate in drinking water, as a running annual average (RAA), is 0.010 milligrams per liter (mg/L). During Quarter 3, 2022 we had a bromate RAA of 0.011 mg/L. Nagog Pond provided water in July and August of 2022, and has been offline since August 24, 2022.

What should I do?

- There is nothing you need to do. You **do not** need to boil your water or take any other corrective actions.
- 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 doctor or health care providers about drinking this water.

What does this mean?

This **is not** an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours. However, *some people who drink water containing bromate in excess of the Maximum Contaminant Level (or, MCL) over many years have an increased risk of getting cancer.*

What is being done?

The Nagog Pond water supply was shut down for the season on August 24, 2022, and is anticipated to come back online during the summer of 2024. At that time, additional samples for bromate will be collected. Additionally, Concord Water staff continue to work with our consulting engineers and MassDEP to evaluate and optimize existing treatment practices. Notably during 2023-2024, Concord Water cleaned and lined the shallow portion of the Nagog Pond water intake pipe. By improving water flow, this project is anticipated to minimize bromate formation during the treatment process.

Concord Water has been working on the design and permitting of a new water treatment facility for Nagog Pond for several years. May 2024 Concord Town Meeting authorised funding for new treatment plant upgrades. Concord Public Works is continuing to advance the design of the new water treatment plant, along with alternate water supplies so that we can continue to provide high quality drinking water to all our customers.

Where Can I Get Additional Information?

If you have questions about your water system's operation, water quality monitoring, or response to this issue, please contact Concord Water at 978-318-3250. If you have questions about the drinking water regulations or health risks posed by this contaminant you can contact the MassDEP Drinking Water Program at: program.director-dwp@mass.gov, or (617) 292-5770. If you have questions about specific symptoms, you can contact your doctor or other health care provider. If you have general questions about public health, you can contact the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, at 617-624-5757.

For more information, please visit <https://concordma.gov/bromate> or contact Concord Water & Sewer Division, at 978-318-3250; 135 Keyes Rd, Concord, MA 01742.

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.