

Department of Public Works Municipal Center
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Press Release

Derry Municipal Water System Fall Water Main Flushing & Chloramine Disinfection Conversion

Derry, NH – September 25, 2023

This past August, Manchester Water Works (MWW), who supplies the Derry Water System's drinking water, temporarily converted its drinking water disinfectant from chloramine to chlorine as a preventative maintenance measure to improve the quality of our drinking water. At the time, they indicated they would convert back to chloramines effective October 2, 2023.

As a reminder, chloramines are a combination of ammonia and chlorine, which have been used to disinfect Derry's drinking water since 2006. Chloramines are, of course, safe for drinking, bathing, cooking, and other daily water uses.

Beginning **Monday October 2nd** Manchester Water Works we will be converting our drinking water supply disinfection back to **chloramines**.

Individuals and business owners who take special precautions to remove chloramine from tap water, such as dialysis centers, medical facilities and aquatic pet owners, should continue to take the same precautions during the switch to back chloramine. As always, individuals with special health concerns should consult a health care provider on the use of tap water.

In conjunction with the change in disinfectant, the Town of Derry will be flushing the water lines throughout the Town's Municipal Water Distribution System between **Sunday evening October 1st Friday evening October 13th 2023, between the hours of 10:00 PM and 6:00 AM.**

Water main flushing is necessary to facilitate the chloramine conversion and to maintain the water quality throughout Town.

The flushing program typically begins along Route 28 at the Derry – Londonderry Line and progresses along Rte. 28 southerly and easterly across the Town. Heavy commercial users and customers identified with certain sensitivities will be notified by the Town prior to work being done in their particular area. Any customers with

special needs such as in-house dialysis equipment should contact our office to make their locations known so they may too be notified in advance.

Please be aware that this work may result in intermittent periods of brown or rusty water. While this is not a health concern, it may temporarily affect the taste and aesthetics of your drinking water as well as possible staining of laundry. While every effort is made to flush the main lines until they run clean, some residual may enter and remain in service lines. Customers should try to limit their water use during the hours of flushing to keep discolored water from entering their service lines. Customers should run their service lines for several minutes until clear before doing laundry.

If you have any specific questions regarding this work or find that your service line does not clear, please contact our office at (603) 432-6147 (Monday-Friday, 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.).