## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.
Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

# Lake of the Woods Mutual Water Company Has Levels of Fluoride Above the Drinking Water Standard

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

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Water sample results received from 3rd quarter of 2016 to 2nd quarter of 2017 from Well 02-Vernon showed the Running Annual Average (RAA) of fluoride as 2.3 mg/L. This is above the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), of 2.0 mg/L.

**What should I do?**

- **Children under the age of nine should use an alternative source of water that is low in fluoride.** You may also want to contact your dentist about proper use by young children of fluoride-containing products.

- This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. Rather, *this is an alert about your drinking water and a cosmetic dental problem that might affect children under nine years of age. At low levels, fluoride can help prevent cavities, but children drinking water containing more than 2 milligrams per liter (mg/L) of fluoride may develop cosmetic discoloration of their permanent teeth (dental fluorosis).*

- *Dental fluorosis may result in a brown staining and/or pitting of the permanent teeth. This problem occurs only in developing teeth, before they erupt from the gums. Children under nine should be provided with alternative sources of drinking water or water that has been treated to remove the fluoride to avoid the possibility of staining and pitting of their permanent teeth. You may also want to contact your dentist about proper use by young children of fluoride-containing products. Older children and adults may safely drink the water.*

- *Drinking water containing more than 4 mg/L of fluoride can increase your risk of developing bone disease.* Although bone disease may develop in anyone exposed to years of drinking water containing more than 4 mg/L of fluoride, dental fluorosis can occur after a relatively short period of exposure (i.e., months) in children under the age of nine.

- For other health issues concerning the consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your doctor.

- *Some home water treatment units are also available to remove fluoride from drinking water. To learn more about available home water treatment units, you may call the State Water Resources Control Board, Residential Water Treatment Device Registration Unit at (916) 449-5600* or visit the State Board's website athttp://www.swrcb.ca.gov/.

**What happened? What is being done?**

Fluoride contamination is rarely due to human activity. Fluoride occurs naturally in some areas and is found in high concentrations in our source water.

Long term solution to our water supply shortage and high nitrate problem is physical consolidation with the neighboring Frazier Park Public Utilities District (FPPUD). We are working closely with the FPPUD to accomplish that.

For more information, please contact Pam Jarecki, Office Manager, Lake of the Woods Mutual Water Company at (661) 245-1448 or the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water at (661) 335-7315.

*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 public notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.*

**Secondary Notification Requirements**

Upon receipt of notification from a person operating a public water system, the following notification must be given within 10 days [Health and Safety Code Section 116450(g)]:

- SCHOOLS: Must notify school employees, students, and parents (if the students are minors).

- RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTY OWNERS OR MANAGERS (including nursing homes and care facilities): Must notify tenants.

- BUSINESS PROPERTY OWNERS, MANAGERS, OR OPERATORS: Must notify employees of businesses located on the property.

This notice is being sent to you by Lake of the Woods Mutual Water Company.

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