

Nitrate MCL Template

DRINKING WATER ALERT

Village of Erie water has high levels of nitrate

DO NOT GIVE THE WATER TO INFANTS UNDER 6 MONTHS OLD OR USE IT TO MAKE INFANT FORMULA

Water sample results received 12-1-2015 showed nitrate levels of 11 Mg/L. This is above the nitrate standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), of 10 milligrams per liter (mg/L). Nitrate in drinking water is a serious health concern for infants less than six months old.

What should I do?

- **DO NOT GIVE THE WATER TO INFANTS.** *Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome. Blue baby syndrome is indicated by blueness of the skin. Symptoms in infants can develop rapidly, with health deteriorating over a period of days. If symptoms occur, seek medical attention immediately.*
- Water, juice, and formula for children under six months of age should not be prepared with tap water. Bottled water or other water low in nitrates should be used for infants until further notice.
- **DO NOT BOIL THE WATER.** Boiling, freezing, filtering, or letting water stand does not reduce the nitrate level. Excessive boiling can make the nitrates more concentrated, because nitrates remain behind when the water evaporates.
- Adults and children older than six months can drink the tap water (nitrate is a concern for infants because they can't process nitrates in the same way adults can). However, if you are pregnant or have specific health concerns, you may wish to consult your doctor.

What happened? What is being done?

Nitrate in drinking water can come from natural, industrial, or agricultural sources (including septic systems and run-off). Levels of nitrate in drinking water can vary throughout the year. [We'll let you know when the amount of nitrate is again below the limit].

There is little The Village can do as this is caused from the conditions described above or investigating different filtration. This has been a seasonal cause for concern especially in winter months due to high volumes of runoff. A 3rd sample is being sent to confirm MCL concerns. The 2nd sample was tested at 7.9Mg/L and the 1st at 14 Mg/L for the average of 11 Mg/L.

For more information, please contact Doug Farran at 309-314-5831

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 Village of Erie.	Water System ID#	1950200	Date distributed	12-2-2015

Bottled water will be provided by The Village to women that are pregnant and for children under 6 months of age upon request.