ERIC E. JACKSON MAYOR



# Trenton Water Works Department of Public Works Division of Water P.O. Box 528, Trenton, NJ 08604-0528 609-989-3208 FAX: 609-989-3943

MERKLE CHERRY, Jr. DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

December 26, 2017

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Trenton Water Works has levels of Haloacetic Acid 5 (HAA5) Above Drinking Water Standards

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard.

**Although this incident was not an emergency**, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Testing results from November 14, 2017, show that our system exceeds the standard or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for HAA5. The standard for HAA5 is  $60~\mu g/L$ . It is determined by averaging all the samples collected at each sampling location for the past 12 months. The levels of HAA5 averaged at two of our system's locations for November 14, 2017 were 62 and 62 ug/L.

#### What should I do?

- There is nothing you need to do. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. If a situation arises where the water is no longer safe to drink, you will be notified within 24 hours.
- 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 health care providers about drinking this water.

### What does this mean?

This is **not an emergency**. If it had been an emergency, you would have been notified within 24 hours. HAA5 are five haloacetic acid compounds which form when disinfectants react with natural organic matter in the water.

Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

# What is being done?

We are conducting a more thorough and systematic flushing of the distribution system and evaluating the operation of treatment components at the Water Filtration Plant to try to reduce natural organic matter prior to disinfection. We are also evaluating the potential impact that the early November low water pressure event may have had on the HAA5 formation. Based on actions taken by Trenton Water Works to address the problem, it is anticipated that it should be resolved shortly.

For more information, please contact the Water Filtration Plant Laboratory at 609-989- 3379 or Trenton Water Works, 333 Cortland Street, PO Box 528, Trenton, NJ 08604-0528.

\*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 Trenton Water Works. State Water System ID#: NJ1111001. Date distributed: January 5, 2018.