



May 1, 2023

Dear Turlock Business Owner / Tenant:

This is a notice that, as a City of Turlock (City) water customer, there will be upcoming changes to the water system. **Beginning May 17, 2023, the City will begin dosing the water with chlorine on an on-going basis to provide disinfection and protection from harmful bacteria, viruses, and microorganisms.** Initially, the City will begin with a low dose of chlorine and gradually increase the dosage over a few months until the system reaches the desired chlorine dosage. There will be safeguards in place to ensure that the levels of chlorine in the water remain within the acceptable limits.

Previously the City water system relied entirely on untreated groundwater which did not require chlorination. However, additional treatment, specifically activated carbon filtration, is being added to the City's water system and when activated carbon filtration is used in a system, disinfection is required by the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (DDW) to kill any microorganisms that may be introduced during the filtration process.

While there are no health risks associated with drinking chlorinated water, chlorinated water can pose risks for individuals on dialysis and aquatic animals. Fish, shellfish, amphibians, and some reptiles can be affected since these animals can absorb chlorine directly into their bloodstream through their skin or gills. If you have any aquatic animals, it is recommended that you install a water conditioner or filter to remove the chlorine and protect the animals. Additionally, chlorine must also be removed from the water when used for dialysis machines since this water can come in contact with the blood. It is recommended that dialysis patients consult with their physician if they have concerns about using water treated with chlorine. However, dialysis patients can safely drink chlorinated water.

If you have additional questions, please refer to the attached frequently asked questions (FAQ) for answers to common questions related to chlorination, or visit the City's website at <https://www.cityofturlock.org/watersewergarbage/service/chlorinationofdrinkingwater/> (use the QR code below), or contact the Municipal Services Department at 209-668-5590.

Respectfully,

Municipal Services Department

