

City of Hull's Water Disinfection Process to Change



As you may recall, in one of our previous newsletters you were sent information regarding the City's upcoming anticipated change in the disinfectant that we use from chlorine to chloramines in preparation for receiving water from the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System. The City of Hull will be changing its method of water disinfection to chloramination the beginning of March 2023.

Chloramination is a commonly used disinfection process, used by many including the Lewis & Clark system. Chloramination is the process of adding chloramine to drinking water to disinfect it and kill viruses, bacteria, and other organisms that cause illness. The use of chloramines or other disinfectants is required by EPA drinking water standards and by the Iowa Dept. of Natural Resources.

Some customers will need to take action with this change in disinfection. **Those who will need to take action include fish owners and dialysis providers.**

- Fish owners: Chloramination can affect fish, reptiles, and amphibians. Unlike chlorine, chloramines cannot be removed by letting water sit out for a few days because they last longer in the water. Chloramines and chlorine can be toxic to fish and must be removed from water with a filter or agent. Products are available at aquarium supply stores to remove chloramine. Fish owners can ask their pet store about methods of removing disinfectants from water.
- Dialysis facilities must treat water to remove all chemical disinfectants, including chlorine and chloramine, before it can be used for dialysis. A condition known as hemolytic anemia can occur if the disinfectant is not completely removed from the water that is used for the dialysate. Dialysis Home dialysis users should consult the machine manufacturer for instructions to properly treat water and check for proper treatment of chloramine before this change. Medical facilities should also determine if additional precautions are required for other equipment.

There is nothing you need to do (unless the above may affect you.....i.e., dialysis/fish tank). This is merely just a means of communication to keep you informed as to a change that is happening with our residual disinfectant.

As always, should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the City Office at 712-439-1521.