NOTICE

HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT #102
DRINKING WATER DISINFECTION METHOD

Harris County MUD #102 uses a process of water disinfection called chloramination. This process involves using chlorine and ammonia rather than only chlorine as the disinfectant in the water supply.

Due to legislative mandate, the District is required to convert from use of well water to surface water in order to reduce subsidence. The District receives a portion of its water from the City of Houston through the West Harris County Regional Water Authority, and that requires a disinfection system compatible with the City's system.

The use of chloramines is in widespread use in many cities and other drinking water supplies. The use of chloramines benefits our customers by reducing the levels of disinfection byproducts (DBPs) in the system, while providing protection from waterborne disease. The City of Houston has been treating its water with chloramines for over twenty years. Water containing chloramines is safe for drinking, bathing, cooking, and most other uses.

HOWEVER, there are two categories of people who need to take special care with chloraminated water:

Kidney Dialysis Patents – Chloramines can cause problems to persons dependent on dialysis machines. A condition known as hemolytic anemia can occur if the disinfectant is not completely removed from the water that is used for the dialysate. Consequently, the pretreatment scheme used for the dialysis units must include some means, such as a charcoal filter, for removing the chloramines. Medical facilities should also determine if additional precautions are required for other medical equipment.

Live Fish or Other Aquatic Animal Owners – Chloraminated water may be toxic to fish. If you have a fish tank, please make sure that the chemicals or filters that you are using are designed for use in water that has been treated with chloramines. You may need to change the type of filter that you use for the fish tank.

What is chloramination?

Chloramination is the use of both ammonia and chlorine to disinfect water. Ammonia is added to water at a carefully controlled level. The chlorine and ammonia react chemically to produce a combined chlorine residual or chloramines. Chloramines are safe in drinking water and serve as an effective method of disinfection. In the U.S., many water systems have used chloramination for several decades.

How can I get more information? Feel free to contact the Harris County MUD #102 Operator, Municipal District Services, LLC, at (281) 290-6500 should you have a question or comment.