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605 West Queen Street  
P. O. Box 111  
Southington, CT 06489-0111  
(860) 628-5593 • Fax (860) 621-0491

## Public Notification

### Important Information about Your Drinking Water

#### Customers of the Southington Water Department

- This public notification is **recommended** by the Connecticut Department of Public Health to inform customers of samples collected from two of Southington Water Departments public wells that show elevated levels of manganese concentrations above the recently established State of Connecticut Action Level (AL) for manganese of 0.300 mg/L set on November 7, 2019. If you receive this notice it means you're in an area where the manganese level may exceed the new State Action Level of 0.300 mg/L

#### What does this mean?

- This notice is **not** a public health emergency. Water samples collected from the groundwater sources may not be representative of water samples collected in the distribution system where well water blends with water from sources with no or lower Mn concentrations.
- Manganese is a naturally occurring mineral that is in many common foods that make up a healthy diet. In high concentrations too much manganese **may** be harmful to infants and pregnant women. It is **recommended** by the Connecticut Department of Public Health that these populations do not consume drinking water that have concentration of manganese above the action level of 0.300 mg/l for long periods of time.
- Manganese is **not** currently regulated by federal or state regulations. Your water meets the currently regulated federal and state health standards for drinking water. Southington Water Department has collected all the samples required under the State of Connecticut Public Health Code and continues to supply reliable water service to its customers

#### What is being done?

- Although tests show that the water is in compliance with all **regulated** parameters, Southington Water Department has been testing for Manganese and

is developing an action plan to address the new reduced action level of 0.300 mg/l for manganese.

- Manganese is a well-studied water quality parameter and has always been considered a nuisance due to water discoloration and its effect on water's aesthetic properties. Southington Water Department actively configures its supply operations to minimize the use of wells above the action level so customers get the highest quality water available. The two wells above the Action Level are normally only used during peak months when there is extensive water usage and are shut down from November through March each year.
- Southington Water Department is considering infrastructure upgrades to further improve the water quality and supply reliability system-wide. Finding cost-effective methods to reduce Mn concentrations in the water is part of Southington Water Department's comprehensive capital improvement program.
- The information sheets listed below are on the Manganese Notice Page.

**DPH - Manganese in Drinking Water Fact Sheet**

**EPA - Drinking Water Health Advisory for Manganese**

For more information, please visit the Southington Water Department's website at

[southingtonwater.org](http://southingtonwater.org) or call the Southington Water Department's at **(860) 628-5593**

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