

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Health Advisory

City of Havre Public Water Supply System (MT0000524) Potential Acute Health Effects Due to Unknown Condition of the Drinking Water

On 2/2/2024 and 3/1/2024 the Havre Water Treatment Plant failed to maintain the minimum required amount of disinfection. We failed to notify the state as required after our disinfection failures.

On 2/29/2024 the Havre Water Treatment Plant experienced a failure in its filtration treatment. Because of the filtration failure, there is an increased chance that the water may contain disease-causing organisms. Treatment failure may have also led to the introduction of various chemicals into the distribution system above allowable concentrations. Due to the inability of the Havre Water Treatment plant to meet treatment requirements and provide consistent treatment, a HEALTH ADVISORY is being issued.

What does this mean? What should I do?

- *During the month of February and March, treatment techniques were not met. We experienced a failure in filtration, disinfection, and our data collection and control system. Our source water quality changed significantly during these months as well.*
- *Using water produced from the Havre Water Treatment Plant for drinking, making ice, brushing teeth, washing dishes, making baby formula or food preparation may cause exposure to disease causing organisms along with chemicals above allowable concentrations.*
- *People with severely compromised immune systems, infants, and some elderly may be at increased risk. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.*
- *General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1 (800) 426-4791.*

This is not an emergency at this time. Public notice should have been provided within 24 hours after these events.

Inadequately treated surface water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.

These symptoms, however, are not caused only by organisms in drinking water, but also by other factors. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice.

What is being done?

Havre water treatment staff are monitoring the source water conditions, treatment processes and the distribution system. Improvements to treatment capabilities, equipment, and operator training are being pursued.

We will notify you when the Montana Department of Environmental Quality determines that the Havre Water Treatment Plant has demonstrated consistent treatment that is meeting all water treatment requirements and has rescinded this health advisory.

For more information, please contact Trevor Mork, Public Works Director, at 406-265-4941.

**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: **The City of Havre**
State Water System ID#: **MT0000524**

Date and Method Distributed: 18 March 2024 – Havre Daily News