



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF EMMETT

621 Cliff Street
Battle Creek, MI 49014
Phone: 269-968-0241
Fax: 269-968-0108
www.emmett.org

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Emmett Township Does Not Meet Treatment Requirements

We have identified a drinking water standard violation in our system that we are actively addressing. While this is not an emergency, we believe it's important to inform you about what happened and the steps we are taking to resolve the issue.

The City of Battle Creek conducts quarterly sampling to ensure the safety of our drinking water. In 2024, we conducted these sampling activities in February, May, August, and November. Following the latest round of sampling in November, we received test results indicating that our system exceeds the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM). The standard for TTHM is 80 parts per billion (ppb), and our system's average level of TTHM rose to 88 ppb in November. This figure represents the average level of TTHM from the past four sampling activities.

What should I do?

The recent rise in TTHM levels is not an emergency. Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

No action is required unless you have a severely compromised immune system, an infant, or are elderly. As a precaution, individuals in these groups should seek advice from their healthcare providers about drinking water.

You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency, we would notify you within 24 hours if the situation changes and the water is no longer safe to drink.

What is being done?

The City of Battle Creek Water Division is taking the following actions on behalf of Emmett Township to identify the probable causes and remedy the issue.

1. We are evaluating Well replacement activities at the Verona Well Field

When we drill wells we must pump millions of gallons of water onto the ground, which can increase the number of natural materials in the water. Because the old well casings weren't in great shape, we had to use more disinfectant over the past year to keep the water safe from bacteria. TTHMs are formed when chlorine (used for disinfection) reacts with these natural materials, and both may have increased over the past year. We will assess additional sampling for Total Organic Compounds at the well field and use 2022 sampling data as a baseline for comparison.

The increase in TTHMs is present at all sampling points in our municipal water system. We are looking into possible causes in both the raw water and the water treatment process.

2. Additional sampling

In addition to more sampling at the Verona Well Field, we will conduct additional sampling in Emmett Township and the areas of the Battle Creek system that supply Emmett Township's system. We will



further conduct more sampling for TTHM at the water treatment plant and the sampling site in the City of Springfield.

3. Review the pressure reducing valves (PRV) in service

We are examining the PRVs that serve the area of concern in Emmet Township. This includes identifying any new infrastructure that has been added, assessing whether new developments have necessitated changes to the PRV pressure settings, and ensuring both PRVs are properly calibrated and fully operational. This work has already been completed.

We are confident that we will identify the cause(s) of the elevated TTHMs and take corrective action by March 2025. Achieving compliance will take time because monitoring and reporting are done quarterly, as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act. The results are averaged over four quarterly samples. Additionally, we expect TTHM levels to drop below historical levels once we complete the improvements to the Verona Well Field.

For more information, please contact Perry Hart, Battle Creek's Utility Administrator, at 269-966-3481 or plhart@battlecreekmi.gov or Battle Creek Department of Public Works, 150 South Kendall Street, Battle Creek, MI 49037.

The City of Battle Creek operates, maintains and supplies the Emmett Township water system by contract with Emmett Township. This notice is being sent to you on behalf of Emmett Township by the City of Battle Creek Water Division.

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.