

Drinking Water Warning

Babies and adults over the age of 50 should not drink Bruce Waterworks water

Water at this establishment contains manganese exceeding U.S Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) health advisory level of 300 micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$). Manganese levels in well water vary throughout Wisconsin and are typically below 50 $\mu\text{g/L}$. However, some Wisconsin wells have levels that are above the health advisory level of 300 $\mu\text{g/L}$. A sample collected on 11/10/2020 had a concentration of 520 $\mu\text{g/L}$ and a sample collected on 11/25/2020 had a concentration of 500 $\mu\text{g/L}$ resulting in an average concentration of 510 $\mu\text{g/L}$. **We continue to monitor for manganese and a recent sample collected on 02/14/2022 showed manganese concentrations of 533 $\mu\text{g/L}$ and a sample collected on 05/09/2022 showed a manganese concentration of 553 $\mu\text{g/L}$.**

What precautions should be taken at this time?

- **DO NOT GIVE TAP WATER TO INFANTS or USE TO PREPARE BABY FORMULA, JUICE or DRINKS.** In infants, exposure to high levels of manganese may affect brain development and impact learning and behavior. Certain baby formulas contain manganese as a nutrient, and if prepared with water that also contains manganese, the infant may get a higher dose than the rest of the family.
- **DO NOT DRINK THE WATER IF YOU ARE OVER THE AGE OF 50.** In older adults, high levels of manganese may cause a disorder similar to Parkinson's disease. People over the age of 50 should stop using the water for drinking and preparing foods and beverages that use a lot of water.
- **PEOPLE WITH CERTAIN MEDICAL CONDITIONS SHOULD CHECK WITH THEIR MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL** before using the water. Some studies among people indicate that people with certain medical conditions (iron-deficiency anemia, liver disease) may also be more sensitive to the effects of manganese. People with these conditions should speak with their medical professional about the health risks associated with drinking the water.
- **EVERYONE SHOULD AVOID LONG TERM CONSUMPTION.** High levels may affect the nervous system and kidneys and impact reproduction. The US EPA health advisory for manganese is intended to protect against these effects. Everyone should avoid long-term use of the water for drinking and preparing foods and beverages that use a lot of water.

What does this mean?

According to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, manganese above the US EPA health advisory level is an acute hazard for infants younger than 6 months and adults over the age of 50. People of all ages are urged to avoid long-term consumption of high manganese water because it is linked to some chronic diseases, according to Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Manganese is a common element found in minerals, rocks, and soil. It is also a normal part of a healthy diet but can be harmful if consumed in excess. Manganese is found naturally in groundwater, but levels can be increased by underground pollution sources. Manganese may become noticeable in water at levels greater than 50 $\mu\text{g/L}$. At this level, the water will have a brown color and leave black deposits on bathroom fixtures.

What is being done to correct the problem?

We are evaluating the following options to meet the US EPA Health Advisory Level by:

The Village Board is currently working on a filtration system to fix the problem with anticipated completion date in Spring 2023.

If you have questions regarding the safety of our drinking water, please contact:

Casey Gudis
Name of Responsible Person
715-860-2188
Area Code-Telephone Number
228 E. River Ave.
Street Address
Bruce
City
WI
State
54819
Zip

I certify that the information and statements contained in this public notice are true and correct and have been provided to consumers in accordance with the delivery, content, format, and deadline requirements in Subchapter V of ch. NR 809, Wis. Adm. Code.

Casey Gudis
Signature
6/21/22
Date