STONEGATE
Village Metropolitan District

October 2015

District Water System Improvements

The Stonegate Village Metropolitan District is one of several organizations throughout the south Denver metropolitan area that partner and actively participates with WISE (Water Infrastructure and Supply Efficiency), for creating and improving sustainable new water supply to help address current and future community water needs. Throughout Colorado there are a number of independent community water resources and infrastructures, and although each community's facilities provide great benefit and features for their customers…it is recognized that by pooling the collective efforts and resources of the entire region, all communities will dramatically benefit by improved operational efficiencies and sustainable water supplies. As part of the regional and operational requirements for the WISE water supply system, which will allow the Stonegate Village Metropolitan District to receive WISE water the District has begun the planning, integration and construction processes on a Chloramines Conversion project for the District's water treatment facility. The Chloramines Conversion project's estimated completion date is scheduled for early spring of 2016, and the actual Chloramine Conversion of the water supply is scheduled to begin in early summer of 2016. To ensure that our residents, businesses and consumers are informed and educated on the Chloramine Conversion project and related processes the District will provide regular monthly updates and information regarding the project, methodology and address our consumer's concerns.

FAQs on Chloramines Conversion

The Stonegate Village Metropolitan District offers the following information on frequently asked questions pertaining to Chloramines Conversion of the District's water supply system:

What is the current drinking water disinfection method?

The current method of disinfection used is chlorination. In this process, chlorine is added to drinking water at a controlled level. Chlorination is an effective way to kill many kinds of bacteria and other germs that may be harmful to your health.

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What is chloramination?

Chloramine is a type of disinfectant used in drinking water to remove bacteria and viruses consisting of both chlorine and ammonia. In the chloramination process, ammonia is added to the water at a carefully controlled level. The chlorine and ammonia react chemically to produce chloramines. Chloramination is as effective as chlorine in killing many kinds of bacteria and other germs that may be harmful to personal health.

Why convert from chlorine to chloramines?

Chloramination reduces the level of certain byproducts of the chlorination process. These byproducts, called Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) and Haloacetic Acids (HAAs), result from the reaction of chlorine with small amounts of naturally occurring organic substances in drinking water.

By converting to chloramines:

- Reduces the levels of TTHMs and HAAs in drinking water.
- Complies with more stringent standards implemented by the Environmental Protection Agency
- Continues to supply water customers with safe and aesthetically pleasing water.
- Should notice an improvement in the taste and odor of their drinking water.
- With chloramination, the chlorine smell and taste in our water will be less apparent.

Is chloramination safe?

Yes. Chloraminated drinking water is perfectly safe for drinking, cooking, bathing, and other daily water uses. There are, however, some identified groups who need to take special precaution with chloraminated water such as those who use drinking water for kidney dialysis machines, specialized industries, and fish owners.

How are kidney dialysis patients affected by chloramines and what precautions should they take?

Chloramines are harmful when they go directly into the bloodstream. In the dialysis process, the water mixes with blood across a permeable membrane. For this reason, both chloramines and chlorine are toxic in dialysis water and must be removed from water used in dialysis machines. Medical centers that perform dialysis are responsible for purifying water used in their dialysis machines. Each municipality will work closely with physicians, clinics, and medical facilities in their communities to ensure they are aware of the need to remove chloramines. Customers with home dialysis equipment should contact their physicians and check with equipment manufacturers for more information.

How are fish affected by chloramines and what precautions should fish owners take?

Fish also take chloramines directly into their bloodstream. Therefore, chloramines should be removed from water used in aquariums, fish tanks, and ponds. Individuals or businesses that keep fish or other animals in tanks, aquariums, or ponds should ask a pet supply company about removing chloramines. Customers who use drinking water for aquaculture purposes (growing plants in water tanks or ponds) should get expert advice regarding the need and procedures to neutralize or remove chloramines. Also, restaurants and grocery stores with lobster tanks must take special precautions to treat the water.

Is it safe to wash open wounds with chloraminated water?

Yes. Chloraminated water is completely safe to use on cuts and wounds. Water cannot enter the bloodstream through an open cut.

Will chloramination affect household water uses?

No. It will not affect routine water uses, including food preparation, household laundering, dishwashing, watering plants, etc. Chloramines are normally

removed by the high chlorine demand in soil, so they have no effect on plants.

Will chloramination affect business water users?
Businesses and other establishments that use municipal drinking water for commercial laundering, laboratory procedures, and other processes that require carefully controlled water characteristics should get advice from equipment manufacturers or other suppliers regarding any changes that may be needed. These types of businesses may include laboratories, microchip manufacturers, biotech companies, soft drink bottlers, photography labs, and restaurants or seafood suppliers with fish tanks.

Will chloramines affect the use of swimming pools?
No. Swimming pool managers and owners will still need a free-chlorine residual to retard algae and bacterial growth. Contact your local pool suppliers for specific details.

The District regularly monitors, conducts inspections and executes testing programs of the District's water supply. If you have any question or concerns about your drinking water and supply, you are encouraged to contact the District Manager at 303-858-9909.

The Stonegate Village Metropolitan District, located in unincorporated Douglas County, Colorado, is an independent entity; a separate organization from the Stonegate Homeowners Association is responsible for four important services for residents and commercial businesses, which include Water and Wastewater, Recreational Facilities, Maintenance of Open Space & Public Landscapes and Drainage-Way Maintenance. Contact the District Manager for more information on Stonegate Village Metropolitan District, and on the many other District projects and programs supporting the community. Please visit the District website at www.svmd.org or call 303-858-9909, or mail us at Stonegate Village Metropolitan District, 7995 E. Prentice Ave, Suite 103E, Greenwood Village, CO 80111.