



PUBLIC NOTICE IMPORTANT ALERT FOR ALL WATER USERS

August 1, 2022

Because residents of the City of Columbia receive their water from Illinois American Water, we were recently notified that on Monday, August 8, 2022, Illinois American Water will be temporarily changing the type of disinfectant used in the water. Instead of combining the chlorine in the water with ammonia, they will be adding chlorine only. They will go back to the normal type of disinfectant in approximately four to six weeks. During this time they will also be conducting their annual distribution system flushing program.

The safety of the water will not be affected by this temporary change. Many water plants use chlorine in the free uncombined form on a regular basis.

There is no need to boil the water. If an objectionable difference in odor is noticed, then allow water drawn from the tap to sit in the refrigerator for a few hours. *Dialysis patients and renal care facilities should be aware of these changes and adjust their health care practices accordingly.*

The temporary change is needed to remove residues that have been collected due to their normal disinfection practices. The use of ammonia with chlorine can result in a buildup of small amounts of certain chemicals and these chemicals can be removed or prevented from forming by using free chlorine rather than the combined chlorine for a short time each year.

If you have any questions concerning this notice, please call (800) 422-2782.

We apologize for any inconvenience and appreciate your patience and understanding.



City of Columbia, 208 South Rapp Avenue, Columbia, IL 62236