

Temporary Change in Water Treatment Complete

We're switching back to chloramine at our Raritan-Millstone and Canal Road Surface Water Treatment Plants

New Jersey American Water has resumed the use of chloramine (a combination of chlorine and ammonia) to treat water at its Raritan-Millstone and Canal Road surface water treatment plants, which serve customers in parts of Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Morris, Somerset, and Union Counties.

In January, New Jersey American Water temporarily changed its water treatment process at the Raritan-Millstone and Canal Road surface water treatment plants from a chloramine residual (combination of ammonia and chlorine) residual to a free chlorine residual. The two-month changeover to free chlorine is part of the company's annual pipeline and chemical feed system maintenance program.

During the water treatment transition, some customers noticed changes to the taste and odor of their water. When we transition the disinfection process back to chloramines from chlorine, some customers may notice a decrease in the taste and smell of chlorine in the water.

This notification applies to New Jersey American Water customers in the following communities: Bedminster, Belle Meade, Bound Brook, Branchburg, Bridgewater, Chester, Clark, Cranbury, Cranford, Dunellen, Elizabeth, Edison, Fanwood, Flemington, Franklin, Garwood, Green Brook, Hillside, Hillsborough, Jamesburg, Kenilworth, Kingston, Lawrence, Linden, Manville, Martinsville, Middlesex, Millstone, Montgomery, Mountainside, North Plainfield, Peapack/Gladstone, Piscataway, Plainfield, Plainsboro, Pottersville, Princeton, Raritan, Roselle, Roselle Park, Readington, Scotch Plains, Somerville, South Bound Brook, South Brunswick, South Plainfield, Tewksbury, Union and Westfield.

When will the change take place?

The transition back to chloramine will take place the week of April 1, 2013.

How often do you perform this system maintenance program?

This program is performed annually.

Is this an approved method of treatment?

Yes. Both are approved methods of disinfection by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection.

Will I notice a change in my water service?

When we transition the disinfection process back to chloramines from chlorine, some customers may notice a decrease in the taste and smell of chlorine in the water.

Is the water safe to drink?

Yes. We perform this distribution system maintenance program every year as an added measure to further disinfect the pipelines in our distribution system. As always, we will continue to monitor the water quality to ensure that we meet all federal and state drinking water standards.

Why was the treatment change needed?

This periodic, scheduled change in disinfectant is a standard water treatment practice. We perform this distribution system maintenance program every year as an added measure to further disinfect the pipelines in our distribution system. It also allows us to perform necessary maintenance on our chemical feed systems.

What communities do these plants serve?

The Raritan-Millstone and Canal Road Surface Water Treatment plants serve our customers in the following counties: Mercer, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Morris, Somerset and Union.