

**TOWN OF CHENANGO
MAPLEWOOD WATER DISTRICT
IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER
1,4-Dioxane MCL Exceedance**

THIS NOTICE APPLIES ONLY TO CUSTOMERS OF THE MAPLEWOOD WATER DISTRICT. NO OTHER CUSTOMERS OF THE TOWN OF CHENANGO WATER DEPARTMENT ARE AFFECTED.

Why are you receiving this notice/information?

You are receiving this notice because testing of our public water system found the chemical 1,4-dioxane in the Maplewood Water District drinking water at 3.05 ppb on 2/17/2021 and 2.6 ppb on 4/7/2021. This is above New York State's maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 1 ppb in public drinking water systems. The MCL is set well below levels known to cause health effects in animal studies. Therefore, consuming water with 1,4-dioxane at the level detected does not pose a significant health risk. Your water continues to be acceptable for all uses as the Town of Chenango is working on a strict timetable to reduce levels below the MCL.

What are the health effects of 1,4 dioxane?

Laboratory studies show that 1,4-dioxane caused liver cancer in animals exposed at high levels throughout their lifetime. Other types of cancer have also been reported, although less consistently than liver cancer. There is no evidence of 1,4-dioxane cancer effects in humans. The United States Environmental Protection Agency considers 1,4-dioxane a likely human carcinogen based upon studies of animals exposed to high levels of this chemical over their entire lifetime.

At the level of 1,4-dioxane detected in your water, exposure from drinking water and food preparation is well below 1,4-dioxane exposures associated with health effects.

What is New York State doing about 1,4-dioxane in public drinking water?

The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) has adopted a drinking water regulation that requires all community public water system to test for 1,4-dioxane. Exceedances of the MCL of 1 ppb signal that steps must be taken by the water system to reduce contaminant levels.

What is being done to meet the MCL?

The Town of Chenango is working with Broome County Health Department on a compliance schedule that includes steps to reduce levels of 1,4-dioxane. The Town of Chenango is working on options such as using another existing source of water, installing treatment on the well, or developing a new water source. Additional information will be shared as further testing and progress occurs. This process is similar for any chemical detected in public drinking water that requires mitigation due to exceedance of an MCL. The compliance timetable will ensure that your drinking water will meet the MCL as rapidly as possible.

Where can I get more information?

For more information, please contact the Town of Chenango Water Department at (607) 648-4809 or the Broome County Health Department at (607) 778-2887. If you have additional questions about these contaminants and your health, talk to your health care provider who is most familiar with your health history and can provide advice and assistance about understanding how drinking water may affect your personal health.