

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER  
ELEVATED CHLORIDE LEVELS DETECTED  
NORTH SALEM MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL WATER SYSTEM**

**What happened?**

On April 19, 2023 routine sampling for chloride was performed at North Salem Middle/High School. The test results of 265 mg/L exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 250mg/L. A confirmation sample was collected on May 10, 2023 and chloride was detected at 299 mg/L. The average of both values is 282 mg/L, which exceeds the MCL and constitutes a violation.

**What should I do?**

There is nothing you need to do at this time. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor. If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant or are elderly you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.

**What does this mean?**

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. Chloride is commonly found in the environment, most often in the form of rock salt (sodium chloride) or other salts. It can also be present in the environment as a result of human activity. For example, chloride can become elevated in drinking water from releases to the environment of road de-icing salts, inorganic fertilizers, landfill leachates, and industrial wastewater. Treatment of drinking water with chlorine or chloride can also increase the concentration of chloride in water. Chloride is essential for good health. While exposure to high levels of certain chloride salts is associated with adverse health effects in humans, research has not conclusively demonstrated adverse effects in humans from exposure to chloride itself. For example, high dietary intake of sodium chloride can be a contributing factor to high blood pressure, but this has been mainly attributed to the presence of sodium. The New York State standard for chloride is 250 milligrams per liter, and is based on the effects of chloride on the taste, odor, and appearance of the water. Your water is safe for consumption.

**What is being done?**

As per the Westchester County Health department we are taking the following steps to address this issue:

1. We are currently sampling the drinking water for chloride once per quarter and keeping posted the most current chloride results.
2. Our system is categorized as a Non-Transient Non-Community Public Water Supply and is served by a subsurface sewage treatment system. We are working on plans for treatment to be submitted to the Department of Health. We will continue to monitor chloride levels quarterly and continuously post and update this public notification. For more information, please contact Cemco Water and Wastewater Specials Inc. at 845-878-9711 or the Westchester County Department of Health at 914-813-5000.

\*Please share this information with all other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You may do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by North Salem Middle/High School  
State Water System ID#: NY5907715  
Date distributed: Upon Approval