



# **BEREA**

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## **MUNICIPAL UTILITIES**

### PUBLIC NOTICE

## CHLORINE TO CHLORAMINES

### To Continue to Improve the Quality of Water for Our Customers

The Berea Municipal Utilities will change disinfectants that are used in the potable water on June 7, 2009. At present chlorine is used. The new disinfectant will be chloramines. Chloramines are formed by mixing chlorine and ammonia. Disinfection of potable water with chloramines is one of the alternate treatment techniques recommended by the Environmental Protection Agency for controlling formation of trihalomethanes (THM's) and haloacetic acids (HAA's). The Kentucky Division of Water has reviewed and approved Berea's plans for the disinfection change. Berea's staff is making appropriate efforts to insure the quality of the potable water.

Potential benefits are: (1) reduction of THM's and HAA's, (2) easier maintenance of disinfectant residual in the distribution system, and (3) improved taste and odor.

A major problem with chloramine disinfection is using chloramine treated water in kidney dialysis units. Chloramines will pass through the dialysis membrane and can cause severe hemolytic anemia in dialysis patients. Please consult your doctor for more information.

Aquarium owners should take appropriate precautions when dechlorinating potable water for use in the aquarium. Both chlorine and ammonia are toxic to fish. Please consult your pet store for products to remove both chlorine and chloramines from the water.

If you have any questions, please call the Berea Municipal Utilities Water Treatment Plant at (859) 986-7846.