

Sebring 015001911

Final Report

Sebring Water Plant

I was hired as the Water Consultant for the Village of Sebring from October thru December 2016. Upon my arrival the plant was experiencing issues with TTHM levels in their system. In working with Christopher Maslo, OEPA, we were able to determine what was happening with their plant as well as their system.

The plant had installed a \$3 million dollar GAC system in taking care of the TTHM levels at the plant and the distribution system. My assessment showed poor initial startup procedures due to the lack of training, operations and maintenance of the carbon material itself. Administration nor Operations were not aware of the replacing of the media annually per bank or proper backwashing procedures. Upon reviewing the "specs" for the GAC system, it was noted that the Village be given a TTHM analyzer and a TOC analyzer. The plant has the analyzer for Toc's but not TTHMs. Which I recommend they should have so they can continuously monitor TTHM's.

I started conducting a pilot study for TTHM's in their system with the Operator of Record as well as with Mr. Maslo to determine what the problem was. First, we looked at TTHM results from previous years to see what they were getting out in their system. Then I had the operators run a free chlorine residual on their filter influent to determine if they were generating any THMS at the plant. Upon doing so, I found that the chlorine result at their filter influent was a 1.0 free ppm. And leaving the plant was between a 1.5 - 1.8ppm free cl2 residual. Looking at their bench sheets they were only running these filter influent tests for chlorine periodically. I immediately recommended to the Operator of Record to reduce the chlorine feed to the filter influent and keep in a range of (.2-.4ppm) and reduce the chlorine leaving the plant to 1.0 -1.2ppm free chlorine. We had Distribution start a flushing program to remove the water age out in the system to supply fresh water to these sample locations as well. I also asked the Village Administrator to replace the filter media in one of the bank of tanks (GAC) with new media as well, in which they did. I also contacted the manufacturer of the GAC System and asked him to come out to properly train the operators on what pressures these units should be running at and when to backwash, and most importantly HOW to properly backwash the system. After training was conducted, I recommended to the Operator of Record to have the operators start checking the GAC system more frequently and to start recording the pressure in each tank, including dates, times and their initials that they checked it as well. (Making it a part of daily routines).

Since lowering the chlorine at the filter influent and monitoring it hourly, as well as replacing the filter media in the GAC System, the TTHM levels have been below the MCL leaving the plant. In the third (3rd) quarter sampling, a site specific situation (Beloit dead end) which is believed to have contained old & stagnant water with higher than normal parameters (higher chlorine and ph. per previous plant operations with other factors influencing the distribution system), which as you know are key factors in promoting the formation of TTHM's. This one sample site was so high that it elevated and damaged the running average to exceed the MCL, thus requiring public notification for the third quarter. Again my recommendations were system wide flushing, corrective actions for chlorine and ph. levels at the plant as well as extra monitoring.

During the fourth (4th) quarter utilizing the recommendations mentioned, the water quality improved for the fourth quarter testing cycle, reducing the running average by 0.011mg/l. I believe, if the Village adheres to these recommendations there shouldn't be issues with TTHM's in their system.

I also recommended to the Village Administrator purchasing and installing automatic hydrant flushers to known dead ends, ASAP. This will keep water moving, removing any aged water that may be harboring key factors in promoting TTHM issues. I also recommended that the Village of Beloit repair and install working equipment to monitor their water storage standpipe. That would assure proper turnover rates and should provide good, if not better, water quality to the Beloit system and assist the Village in continuing to lowering the running average to below the MCL.

Respectfully,

Vincent Romeo

RECEIVED
JAN 18 2017
OHIO EPA NEDO



John R. Kasich, Governor
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor
Craig W. Butler, Director

NOTICE OF VIOLATION – ACTION REQUIRED

December 19, 2016

RE: Sebring Village PWS
NOV
Drinking Water Program
Mahoning County
PWS ID: OH5001911

CERTIFIED MAIL

91 7199 9991 7035 4196 8074

RICK GIROUX
SEBRING VILLAGE PWS
135 EAST OHIO AVE
SEBRING, OH 44672

Subject: Violation of Maximum Contaminant Level for TTHM

Sebring Village PWS is in violation for exceeding the maximum contaminant level (MCL) standard of 0.080 mg/L as established in the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) section 3745-81-12 for TTHM. Compliance with the MCL is based on a locational running annual average. The annual average for TTHM during the Fourth Quarter of 2016 time period is 0.082 mg/L at location DS201.

To address the MCL violation, Sebring Village PWS is required to take the following actions:

1. Notify your customers within 30 days using the enclosed instructions and public notice.
2. Complete and send a verification form with a copy of the public notice to the mailing address below within ten days after issuance.
3. Perform quarterly monitoring for TTHM according to your most recent monitoring schedule.
4. Consult with your Ohio EPA district representative to discuss your options for coming into compliance and establishing a compliance schedule or comply with any previously issued enforcement action.
5. For a community water system, include in the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) a clear explanation of the violation including the length of the violation, the potential adverse health effects, and actions taken by the system to address the violation. The mandatory health effects language for the particular contaminant is specified in the appendix to OAC section 3745-96-02.

Your prompt attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. Continued noncompliance may lead to additional enforcement actions. If you have any questions or wish to change the public notice, please call me at (614) 644-2752.

Sincerely,

Sara J. Starr (sara.starr@epa.ohio.gov)

Compliance Assurance Section
Division of Drinking and Ground Waters

Enclosure: Public Notice; Public Notice Instructions and Verification Form
cc: Mahoning County Health Department
ec: DOCC, DDAGW

DRINKING WATER NOTICE

Sebring Village PWS Has Levels of TTHM above Drinking Water Standards

Our water system recently violated the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for TTHM. The average level of TTHM over the last four quarters was 0.082 mg/L. The standard for TTHM is 0.080 mg/L.

What should I do?

- **You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply.** However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

What does this mean?

The levels detected do not pose an immediate risk to your health. However, some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

What is being done?

We are investigating and taking the necessary steps to correct the problem as soon as possible.

Additional information may be obtained by contacting:

Contact Person: _____.

Phone Number: _____.

Mailing Address: _____.

Please share this information with all the 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 can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

Date Distributed: _____

PWSID: OH5001911 Facility ID: DS1

Monitoring Period: Fourth Quarter of 2016

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**PUBLIC NOTICE INSTRUCTIONS AND VERIFICATION FORM FOR
Community PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS WITH TIER 2 VIOLATIONS**

The owner or operator of a Community water system with a Tier 2 violation or situation shall notify the persons served by the public water system as soon as practical but **no later than 30 days** after the system learns of the violation. Public notice shall be repeated every 3 months as long as the violation or situation persists.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE PUBLIC WAS NOTIFIED BY THE FOLLOWING METHOD(S) INDICATED BELOW, AS DESCRIBED IN THE OHIO ADMINISTRATIVE CODE RULE 3745-81-32:

Required Method of Public Notification	Actual Method of Public Notification
<p>COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEMS –</p> <p>1. Must issue public notice by mail or other direct delivery to each customer and service connection (where known).</p> <p>2. May also post in conspicuous locations throughout the distribution system (must remain posted for as long as the violation exists, but at least 7 days).</p>	<p>1. Date of mailing/delivery _____</p> <p>2.A. Dates of posting _____</p> <p>2.B. Locations of posting _____ _____ _____</p>
<p>NONCOMMUNITY WATER SYSTEMS –</p> <p>Use one or more of the following:</p> <p>3. Public notice issued by posting in conspicuous locations throughout the distribution system (required to remain posted for as long as the violation exists, but in no case less than 7 days).</p> <p>4. Public notice issued by mail or other direct delivery to each customer and service connection (where known).</p>	<p>Describe actual methods used:</p> <p>1.A. Dates of posting _____</p> <p>1.B. Locations of posting _____ _____ _____</p> <p>2. Date of mailing/delivery _____</p>
<p>Schools and Day-Care Facilities must notify parents or guardians of children being served by methods <u>besides</u> posting, such as a newsletter, e-mail notice, or direct mailing</p>	<p>A. Method(s) _____ _____</p> <p>B. Date(s) _____</p>
<p>ALL SYSTEMS –</p> <p>If the above methods do not reach all persons served, also use any other method calculated to reach other persons served by the system (e.g. publication in a local newspaper or newsletter, use of e-mail to notify employees or students, or delivery of multiple copies to central locations).</p>	<p>A. Method(s) _____ _____ _____</p> <p>B. Date(s) _____</p>

Please indicate below what public notice was used. INCLUDE A COPY OF THE PUBLIC NOTICE.

___ A public notice as provided was issued without changes.

___ A different public notice was issued **after consulting with Ohio EPA on** _____.

Signature of Responsible Person Date

Printed Name and Title of Responsible Person

PWS NAME: Sebring Village PWS
PWSID: OH5001911
Facility ID: DS1
COUNTY: Mahoning
TTHM MCL, LRAA

Fourth Quarter of 2016; Vio ID 9712455

For Ohio EPA Use Only:

Date PN received: _____



John R. Kasich, Governor
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor
Craig W. Butler, Director

NOTICE OF VIOLATION – ACTION REQUIRED

August 26, 2016

RE: Sebring Village PWS
NOV
Drinking Water Program
Mahoning County
PWS ID: OH5001911

CERTIFIED MAIL

91 7199 9991 7035 4196 4816

RICK GIROUX
SEBRING VILLAGE PWS
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Date Distributed: _____

PWSID: OH5001911 Facility ID: DS1

Monitoring Period: Third Quarter of 2016

DRINKING WATER NOTICE

Sebring Village PWS Has Levels of TTHM above Drinking Water Standards

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 Signature of Responsible Person Date

 Printed Name and Title of Responsible Person

PWS NAME: Sebring Village PWS
 PWSID: OH5001911
 Facility ID: DS1
 COUNTY: Mahoning
 TTHM MCL, LRAA

Third Quarter of 2016; Vio ID 9712454

For Ohio EPA Use Only: Date PN received: _____ PN acceptable: _____ PN not acceptable: _____
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