



## **Village of Kewaskum Water Utility: Chlorination Notice**

Effective March 1, 2025, the Village of Kewaskum Water Utility will begin implementing continuous disinfection of the water system. This action has been approved and recommended by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

### **Key Information**

- Disinfectants, such as chlorine, are added to drinking water to eliminate harmful microorganisms and ensure water safety.
- Low levels of disinfectants are maintained throughout the water system to eliminate germs as the water travels through the pipes to your tap.
- The low levels of disinfectants used in the water system are safe and will not cause harm to residents.

Water utilities add disinfectants to the water supply to address potential contaminants originating from the water source, such as a reservoir or well. This process helps eliminate harmful pathogens and reduces the risk of illness.

### **Impacts**

#### **Taste and Odor**

Water treated with chlorine may have a noticeable taste or odor compared to untreated water. This can be more noticeable when chlorine levels are higher or when the water contains higher concentrations of particles and sediment.

Rest assured, the water utility will continuously monitor water quality in compliance with the guidelines and regulations established by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to ensure safe drinking water.

#### **Considerations for Pets**

It is important to note that chlorine or chloramine-treated water may be harmful to certain pets. Specifically, the following animals should not be exposed to water containing chlorine or chloramine:

- Fish or other aquatic animals
- Reptiles (e.g., turtles)
- Amphibians (e.g., frogs)

These animals absorb water directly through their skin or gills, and even low levels of disinfectants can pose a health risk. Pet owners can purchase water treatments from pet stores to remove chlorine. Alternatively, allowing water to sit for a few days will naturally dissipate the chlorine.

For other pets, such as dogs, cats, or birds, the small amount of chlorine in the water will not pose any health risks. There is no need to remove chlorine from water before giving these pets water or washing them.

## **What You Can Do**

If you are served by a public water system, you can learn more about the disinfectants used in your water by reviewing your [annual water quality report](#). The report will provide information on:

- The presence of disinfectants in your water
- The specific type of disinfectant used
- The levels of disinfectants and disinfection byproducts

For more information on water quality, please visit: [Wisconsin DNR Drinking Water Quality Data](#)

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Kewaskum Water Utility at:

- Email: [daupperle@village.kewaskum.wi.us](mailto:daupperle@village.kewaskum.wi.us)
- Phone: 262-626-4310