



# COUNTY OF HOKE

## Public Works

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### Important Notice to Customers of the Hoke County Regional Water System

The Hoke County Regional Water System will modify its disinfection process from chlorine to chloramines for its customers in your area on July 20, 2011. Chloramination involves the addition of ammonia to chlorinated water. Hoke County supplements its ground water system with water purchased from the Public Works Commission (PWC) of the City of Fayetteville. This treatment process is being modified to allow for the safe blending of Hoke County's water with that of PWC. Some of the utilities in our area, besides Fayetteville, that currently use chloramines as their disinfection method include the Cities of Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill as well as Fort Bragg and Harnett County.

While this change in the disinfection process of your drinking water supply is safe, customers should be aware that this modification will require that individuals on kidney dialysis machines implement certain changes to their procedures. Additionally, owners of tropical fish or other aquatic life will need to take certain precautions to ensure the health of their fish.

#### KIDNEY DIALYSIS

- If you are a home user of a kidney dialysis machine, you should contact your dialysis center and complete necessary modifications of your dialysis machine before July 20, 2011, so that it can handle chloramine residuals.
- The Chloramine residual is toxic to the dialysis user if not removed properly.
- Monitoring for chloramine compounds in water that has been pretreated for dialysis should also be performed more frequently, so check with your dialysis center as to how often they will need to see you.

#### TROPICAL FISH

- If you have tropical fish or aquatic animals, you should contact your local tropical fish store and take appropriate actions prior to July 20, 2011, to get information on methods for properly preparing the water for your fish tanks.
- The Chloramines are toxic to fish and aquatic animals if not properly treated
- Test the water for combined chlorine-chloramine and ammonia residuals to insure that you have properly treated the water before adding it to your fish tank.

If you need additional information regarding this disinfection modification please contact Chris Smith of the Public Works Commission at 910-223-4708.