

64482 Required Additional Health Information

(a)

A system that detects arsenic at levels above 0.005 mg/L, but below or equal to the MCL, shall include the following in its Consumer Confidence Report: "While your drinking water meets the federal and state standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The arsenic standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems."

(b)

A system that detects nitrate at levels above 5 mg/L (as nitrogen), but below the MCL, shall include the following in its Consumer Confidence Report: "Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 mg/L is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. Such nitrate levels in drinking water can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen, resulting in a serious illness; symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. Nitrate levels above 10 mg/L may also affect the ability of the blood to carry oxygen in other individuals, such as pregnant women and those with certain specific enzyme deficiencies. If you are caring for an infant, or you are pregnant, you should ask

advice from your health care provider." If a system cannot demonstrate to the State Board with at least five years of the most current monitoring data that its nitrate levels are stable, it shall also add the following language to the preceding statement on nitrate: "Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity."

(c)

A system that detects lead above the action level in more than 5%, and up to and including 10%, of sites sampled, shall include the following in its Consumer Confidence Report: "Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and/or flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)."