



## **ANNUAL WATER SYSTEM DISINFECTANT CONVERSION – 2022**

The City of Athens public water system, (PWS) ID 1070005, will temporarily convert the disinfectant used in the distribution system from chloramine to free chlorine. The conversion will begin on April 4, 2022 and will continue until April 29, 2022. During this period, you may experience taste and odor changes associated with this type of disinfectant conversion. The use of chloramine as a disinfectant will resume at the end of the temporary conversion.

Public water systems are required to disinfect their water and maintain an adequate disinfectant residual in the distribution system. Chloramine, free chlorine combined with ammonia, is widely used as a disinfectant because it persists for long periods while also limiting the formation of disinfection by-product contaminants. Prolonged use of chloramine coupled with other factors, such as warm temperatures and low water use in larger pipelines, can result in the growth and/or persistence of organic matter within the distribution system. Those conditions can hinder the ability to maintain an adequate disinfectant in the water system. A temporary conversion to free chlorine, partnered with flushing activities, helps to rid distribution pipes of this organic matter and improves the overall quality of your water.

A frequently-asked-questions document is included with this notice to provide additional information about disinfectant types and the purpose for temporary conversions. The conversion will help conserve water by limiting the amount of flushing needed to ensure all parts of the system have an adequate disinfectant residual throughout the year.

Please contact Michael Finney or Randy Williams with the City of Athens if you have questions regarding this matter. Contact information for both are as follows:

Randy Williams, Utility Director  
rwilliams@athenstx.gov  
(903) 675-8035

Michael Finney, Production Superintendent  
mfinney@athenstx.gov  
(903) 677-6666