



NEWS FROM CRESCENTA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

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Crescenta Valley Water District Announces Changes in Drinking Water Treatment

The Crescenta Valley Water District (CVWD) will begin using chloramine instead of chlorine to disinfect drinking water supplies beginning on or after October 1, 2018.

CVWD's Board of Directors voted to switch to this popular disinfection method because of a buildup of byproducts from the chlorine treatment process. Persistent drought and diminishing groundwater supplies have forced the District to rely more heavily on imported water, which is prone to increased formation of the byproducts.

Chloramine has been used as a disinfectant since the 1930s. It is formed by combining chlorine with low levels of ammonia and does not form the byproducts, which are regulated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the State of California.

"Most residents of Southern California already drink water treated with chloramine," CVWD General Manager Nem Ochoa said. "This disinfectant is used by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, which has been serving water containing chloramine to more than 15 million people across the region since the 1980s."

Tap water treated with chloramine is safe for everyone, including children and pregnant women. However, people who use dialysis machines must check with their dialysis service provider to ensure the machines they are using contain the proper filtration system capable of removing chloramine and ammonia from the water.

The owners of aquariums and ponds must also take special care because chloramine can harm fish, turtles, frogs and other aquatic animals. Products and filters used to remove chloramine and ammonia are available from pet stores and internet suppliers.

Questions about this change in treatment should be directed to the District at (818) 248-3925. More information is available on the District's website www.cvwd.com

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The Crescenta Valley Water District is a public water agency that serves about 32,000 people in the unincorporated communities of La Crescenta, Montrose, and Verdugo City, and a small portion of the City of La Canada-Flintridge.