PUBLIC HEALTH NOTICE

August 28, 2020

Dear City of Loves Park Water Utility Customer:

I am sending you this notice to advise you that, in an abundance of caution, the City of Loves Park Water Department has voluntarily suspended water production at Well No. 1 located at 5440 Walker Avenue, Loves Park, Illinois. The purpose of this notice is to make certain that you are receiving accurate information about why we have taken this action. The area Well No. 1 served is currently being serviced by the City’s four remaining wells.

On August 20, 2020, the City of Loves Park Water Department and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA), were notified by our testing laboratory that a water sample taken at Well No. 1 during routine testing, had noted the presence of a chemical called 1,4 Dioxane. The level of 1,4 Dioxane detected in the sample collected from this well was 5.5 parts per billion (0.0055 mg/L), which is below the Class I Groundwater Quality Standard of 7.7 parts per billion (0.0077 mg/L). Even though it is below the Groundwater Quality Standard, we are required to notify you of these test results and so, working in cooperation with IEPA, we are sending you this information. There has been no detection of 1,4 Dioxane in the four remaining wells which are now supplying you with water and so the issue relating to your water source has been resolved. The City of Loves Park Water Department follows all IEPA regulations regarding sample requirements for all of its wells which is how this issue was discovered.

1,4 Dioxane is a clear liquid used primarily as a solvent and laboratory reagent. Traces can be found in such common household items as cosmetics, detergents and shampoos. We are not taking this lightly, which is why we have taken this well off-line and we are reviewing our options for providing water service to you. Additionally, the City of Loves Park Water Department will investigate and take steps to try and determine the source of the 1,4 Dioxane.

To provide you with further information, we have enclosed with this letter, a copy of an IEPA Notification Letter dated August 20, 2020, which we received regarding the test results, and a map of the affected area of the City of Loves Park. Should you wish to read further about 1,4
Dioxane, a ToxFAQs Fact Sheet containing frequently asked questions can be found at: https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/tfacts187.pdf.

A U.S. EPA Technical Fact Sheet for 1,4-Dioxane, can be found at: https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2014-03/documents/ffrro_factsheet_contaminant_14-dioxane_january2014_final.pdf

We have been planning for some time to put a new well into service in your area that will replace Well No. 1 and that well is under construction. We expect that new well, Well No. 7, will come on-line in about 11 months. In the interim, you should not experience any issues with the availability of water to your home or business which, as I have stated, is being provided by our other existing wells so this issue that we are informing you of should no longer be of concern.

Should any information change, we will contact you again to keep you informed. Should you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact the Loves Park Water Department at 815-877-1421.

Sincerely,

Craig McDonald
Water Department Manager
August 20, 2020

Craig McDonald
City of Loves Park
5440 Walker Avenue
Loves Park, Illinois 61111

Dear Mr. McDonald,

This letter is notice to you by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (“Illinois EPA”) under Section 25d-3(a) of the Environmental Protection Act (“Act” - 415 ILCS 5) that there has been a confirmed detection of groundwater contamination that poses a threat of exposure to the public: 1,4-Dioxane (aka P-Dioxane) was detected and confirmed in your finished water at a concentration of 0.0055 mg/L, which exceeds 50 percent of the Class I Groundwater Quality Standard [35 IAC 620.410(b)] of 0.0077 mg/L.

Section 25d-3(a) of the Act requires you to give notice to your customers of this contamination. **Within 5 business days** of receipt of this notice, you must notify all residents and owners of premises connected to your community water system as required in Section 25d-3(a) of the Act. **Within 7 calendar days** after you send these notifications, you must provide the Illinois EPA with written proof that you have sent the notifications. All notifications must contain the information required under Section 25d-3(a) of the Act, as further discussed below.

Within 5 business days after receiving this notification, you must send to all residents and owners of premises connected to your community water:

1. A copy of this notice by first-class mail or by e-mail; or
2. Notification, in a form approved by the Illinois EPA, via:
   - First-class postcard;
   - Text message; or
   - Telephone: Except that notices to institutional residents (including, but not limited to, residents of school dormitories, nursing homes, and assisted care facilities) may be made to the owners and operators of those institutions, and the owners and operators of those institutions shall send to all residents notification in a form approved by the Illinois EPA.

If you choose to notify according to Option No. 2 above, please contact Jeff Guy at the number provided below to discuss the minimum contents for such notification and to obtain approval. If the manner for the notification that you select does not include a written copy of this notice, the owner or operator shall include a written copy of this notice in the next water bill that is sent to the residents and owners of the premises. However, if the water bill is sent on a
postcard, no written copy of this notice is required if the postcard includes the following internet address for the notice posted on the Illinois EPA website:

https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/drinking-water/public-water-users/Pages/notices.aspx

The front of the envelope or postcard that is sent to residents and owners of premises connected to your community water system shall provide the following text in at least 18-point font: PUBLIC HEALTH NOTICE - READ IMMEDIATELY.

Within 7 days after the owner or operator of the community water system sends the notifications to all residents and owners of premises connected to the affected community water system, the owner or operator shall provide the Illinois EPA with proof that the notices have been sent.

The possible human health effects associated with 1,4-Dioxane are summarized in the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Technical Fact Sheet for 1,4-Dioxane, which can be found at the following internet address:


A factsheet containing frequently asked questions for 1,4-Dioxane can be found on the Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry at:


Failure to provide the notification required under Section 25d-3(a) of the Act to all residents and owners of premises connected to your community water system may result in a civil penalty of up to $5.00 for each premise connected to the community water system for each day of violation [415 ILCS 5/42(b)(6)].

In addition, any person who knowingly makes a false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement, orally or in writing, to the Illinois EPA commits a Class 4 felony. A second or subsequent offense after conviction is a Class 3 felony [415 ILCS 5/44(h)].

Should you have further questions or concerns, please contact Jeff Guy, Right-to-Know Coordinator, at (217) 785-8724 or Rick Cobb, Acting Division Manager, Division of Public Water Supplies at (217) 524-5377.

Sincerely,

John J. Kim
Director

cc: Rick Cobb, Illinois EPA BOW
Bureau of Land Records File (Right-to-Know/Code 02A)