



February 21, 2022

Dear Galena Territory Customers,

As part of our commitment to supply all our customers with safe and reliable water service, we are constantly monitoring the quality of our water supply. Our water system has exceeded a drinking water standard that we routinely assess. **This is not an immediate risk.** If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However, we feel strongly that you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we have done to correct this situation.

One of the six wells that supply the water for Galena Territories had an elevated level of radium after a mechanical failure that required extensive repairs and additional flushing. **Once operations returned to normal all radium testing has been below the required levels.** This has not been an issue in past testing, and we expect future results to continue to be below the acceptable threshold.

Radium is a naturally occurring radioactive element present in varying amounts in rocks and soil within the earth's crust. Groundwater can contain radium depending on the geology. In Illinois, elevated radium levels occur primarily in the northern third of the state due to the presence of radium in the granite bedrock that surrounds aquifers from which water supplies are drawn.

Radium at the levels found in your drinking water does not represent an acute or immediate health risk, and for that reason, you do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

Additional technical information can be found in the attachment and at the Illinois Department of Public Health's website at <http://www.idph.state.il.us/envhealth/factsheets/radium.htm>. Also, a United States Environmental Protection Agency quick reference guide regarding radionuclides can be seen at <https://nepis.epa.gov/Exe/ZyPDF.cgi?Dockey=30006644.txt>. If you have any questions regarding this information, don't hesitate to get in touch with our Customer Service Representatives at 800-831-2359 or by mail at 500 W. Monroe Ave., Suite 3600, Chicago, IL 60661-3779.

Thank you and best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steve Lubertozi".

Steve Lubertozi, President
Prairie Path Water Company

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Elevated Combined Radium

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Galena Territory has Levels of Combined Radium Above Drinking Water Standards

Our water system has violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Testing results we received on January 4, 2022, show that our system exceeds the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for combined radium. The standard for combined radium is 5 pico curies per liter (pCi/L). The average level of combined radium over the last year was 5.5 pCi/L.

What should I do?

- **You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply.** However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

What does this mean?

This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. *However, some people who drink water containing radium-226 or radium-228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.*

What happened? What is being done?

One of six wells that supply the water for Galena Territories had an elevated radium result after a mechanical failure required extensive repairs and additional flushing. Once operations returned to normal all radium testing has been below the drinking water standard and we expect future results to continue to lower the annual running average.

For more information, please contact Prairie Path Water Company's customer service at 800-831-2359 or by mail at 500 W. Monroe Ave. Suite 3600, Chicago, IL 60661-3779

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by Prairie Path Water Company – Galena Territory

Water System ID#

IL0855050

Date distributed

02/17/2022