



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY
MARQUETTE DISTRICT OFFICE



LIESL EICHLER CLARK
DIRECTOR

November 18, 2021

Ms. Debbie Brown
Ford River Township
3845 K Road
Bark River, Michigan 49807

WSSN: 02350
County: Delta
System: Ford River Township

Dear Ms. Brown:

SUBJECT: VIOLATION NOTICE – Monitoring and Reporting for Nitrate and Per- and Polyfluoralkyl Substances (PFAS)

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), Drinking Water and Environmental Health Division (DWEHD), records show that Ford River Township is in violation of the Safe Drinking Water Act 1976 PA 399, as amended (Act 399); R 325.10710, *Collection and analysis of samples for inorganic chemicals*; R 325.10717d *Collection and analysis of samples for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances*; and R 325.10734, *Required reporting to the department of the 1979 Administrative Code*.

In accordance with the rules cited above, a supplier of water shall collect samples every year and have them analyzed for nitrate and PFAS and report the results to this office unless EGLE laboratory performs the analysis and reports the results. Your specific monitoring requirements were outlined in your Monitoring Schedule, sent to Ford River Township in early 2021. EGLE records show that nitrate and PFAS monitoring required during the monitoring period ending September 30, 2021 was not conducted. EGLE's investigation consisted of a review of DWEHD files for laboratory reports received for compliance monitoring. Additionally, operator in charge, Mark Rose, indicated that he had missed sampling due to ill health.

EGLE's investigation is considered complete. Ford River Township was out of compliance October 1, 2021. **To return to compliance, Ford River Township must collect samples from the entry point by December 31, 2021 and have them analyzed for nitrate and PFAS** and submit the report of analysis to this office unless the EGLE laboratory is used.

Administrative rule R 325.10404, *Tier 3 public notice; form, manner, and frequency of notice*, of Act 399, requires that suppliers provide public notice not later than one year after learning of the violation by mail or direct delivery and by any other means reasonably calculated to reach other persons regularly served by the system. Enclosed is a sample public notice.

Please notify your consumers by November 18, 2022 and send us a signed and dated copy of the notice that was issued within 10 days of distributing the public notice.

Since this violation must be included in your Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) due by July 1, 2022, you may want to use your CCR as the vehicle to post the public notice, if the CCR will be delivered to each of your customers within 12 months of learning of this violation.

DWEHD has imposed a fines policy for public water system monitoring and reporting violations. There is no fine for this violation. However, failure to issue a public notice for this violation, or failure to monitor for nitrate or other chemical monitoring a second time within 12 months, will result in a fine of at least \$200 per event. Additional violations are subject to fines of increasing amounts. If you would like more information on the DWEHD's administrative fines policy, please contact us.

If you have any factual information you would like the EGLE to consider regarding the violation identified in this notice please provide it in a written response by December 18, 2021.

We anticipate and appreciate your cooperation in resolving this matter. If you have any questions regarding this Violation Notice, please contact us by phone at the number below, e-mail at SchultzL4@michigan.gov; or regular mail at the address at the bottom of page one of this letter.

Sincerely,



Lori Schultz, Environmental Quality Analyst
Marquette District Office
Drinking Water and Environmental Health Division
906-869-6624

LS:cw

Enclosure

cc/enc: Mr. Mark Rose, Ford River Township

File: Ford River Township Water Supply Correspondence

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Monitoring Requirements Not Met for Ford River Township

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During 2021 we did not properly monitor or test for nitrate and Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

What should I do? There is nothing you need to do at this time. This is not an emergency. You do not need to boil water or use an alternative source of water at this time. Even though this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct the situation.

The table below lists the contaminant we did not properly test for, how often we are supposed to sample for this contaminant, how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date we will collect follow-up samples.

Contaminant	Required sampling frequency	Number of samples taken	When all samples should have been taken	Date additional samples were (or will be) taken
Nitrate	One Sample Every Year	0	1/1/2021 to 9/30/2021	Before 12/31/2021
PFAS	One Sample Every Year	0	1/1/2021 to 9/30/2021	Before 12/31/2021

What happened? What is being done? We inadvertently failed to collect samples. We are working to ensure it does not happen again.

For more information, please contact Mr. Mark Rose, Water Operator, 3845 K Road, Escanaba, Michigan 49829 at 906-630-1864 or the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy.

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 the Ford River Township.

CERTIFICATION:

WSSN: 02350

I certify that this water supply has fully complied with the public notification regulations in the Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act, 1976 PA 399, as amended, and the administrative rules.

Signature: _____ Title: _____ Date Distributed: _____