

## DRINKING WATER WARNING

### City of Genoa HAS HIGH LEVELS OF NITRATE

#### DO NOT GIVE THE WATER TO INFANTS UNDER 6 MONTHS OLD OR USE IT TO MAKE INFANT FORMULA

In accordance with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) [Regulations Governing Public Water Supply Systems](#), the consumers of the City Of Genoa public water supply system are hereby notified that the system is in violation of the established nitrate drinking water standard of 10 milligrams per liter. Nitrate has been measured at an average concentration of 12 mg/L milligrams per liter in two samples collected from this system on 08/31/2020.

- **DO NOT allow infants, pregnant women, or nursing mothers to drink the water.** Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL may experience shortness of breath and have a blue tint to their lips and skin due to a lack of oxygen. This is referred to as, “blue baby syndrome.” Symptoms in infants can develop rapidly. If symptoms occur, seek medical attention immediately.
- Water, juice, and formula for children under six months of age should not be prepared with tap water. Alternative water, such as bottled water or water filtered to remove nitrate, should be used for infants until further notice.
- **Do not boil the water.** Boiling, freezing, or letting water stand does not reduce the nitrate level. Excessive boiling can make the nitrates more concentrated, because nitrates remain behind when the water evaporates.
- Adults and children older than six months can drink the tap water (nitrate is a concern for infants because they cannot process nitrates in the same way adults can). However, if you have specific health concerns, you may wish to consult your doctor.

Nitrate in drinking water can come from natural, industrial, or agricultural sources (including septic systems and run-off). Levels of nitrate in drinking water can vary throughout the year. We'll let you know when the amount of nitrate is again below the limit.

Corrective actions taken: [Increased monitoring.](#)

Expected resolution date: [TBD based on information collected.](#)

For additional information regarding this notice, please contact [Kayla Connelly at 402-993-2330.](#)

This notice is being sent to you by the **City of Genoa**. Date distributed: [September 3, 2020.](#)

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, mail, and email.