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October 1, 2016

Public Notice

Dear Customer/User,

The Sussex Water Utility system has exceeded the standard levels of radium as set by the EPA of 5 picocuries per liter (pCi/L) in your drinking water. **This is not an immediate risk.** If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. **You do not need to use an alternative (i.e. bottled) water supply;** however, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor. Sussex has agreed to come into compliance by meeting this standard by June 30, 2019. Until that date, the DNR requires we send you this notice.

Recent water samples collected indicated radium amounts of: 5.31 pCi/L, 6.05 pCi/L, 4.98 pCi/L and 4.44 pCi/L. While one of these levels are under the 5pCi/L maximum contaminant level (MCL) set by the EPA and DNR, the EPA and DNR requires that the Village install radium treatment at this time. Please share this information with 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 or web address.

Sources and potential health effects: Radium is one of several common natural radioactive elements in the earth's crust and in the aquifers. The EPA sets drinking water standards and has determined that alpha emitting radionuclides may be of health concern at certain levels of exposure. Some people who drink water containing radium 226 or 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer. This is not an immediate risk and **if your home has softened water, the water softener removes approximately 90% of radium in water, bringing radium levels well below the standard.**

The water is safe to drink and you do not need to seek an alternative source of water to drink.

HMO radium treatment will be installed by June 30, 2019.

If you have any questions regarding your drinking water, please call Village Hall at 262-246-5200.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Smith
Village Administrator