

Stockton Water

CONTACT US:

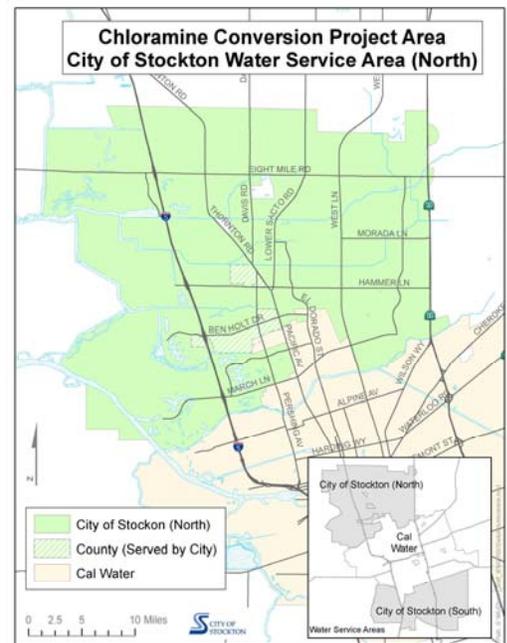
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www.stocktonca.gov/mud

CHLORAMINE CONVERSION PROJECT

CHANGING THE WAY WE DISINFECT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Pets, Aquatic Life and Environmental Questions

Over the winter season, the City of Stockton Water Utility begin using chloramines in its North Stockton Water Service Area; this will change the way our drinking water is disinfected. Customers affected by the change include those located in the City of Stockton North Water Service Area and County Areas served by the City. City of Stockton water customers located in the South Water Service Area and Cal Water customers are not affected. This information is provided to help you understand if and how your drinking water is affected, including information about pets, other aquatic life and the environment.



Are Chloramines Safe for My Salt and Freshwater Fish? Both chlorine and chloramines are toxic to fish and aquatic life. Chloramines are harmful to fish and amphibians when they enter the bloodstream from water that passes through their gills. Therefore, like chlorine, *chloramines must be removed from water used for keeping fish, amphibians and other aquatic animals. This includes: fish, lobster, shrimp, frogs, turtles,*

snails, clams, and live coral. To protect fish and amphibians, use treatment products to remove chloramines from tap water. These products are readily available at most pet supply stores and aquarium dealers.

Why Can't I Let My Tap Water Sit for a Few Days to Remove Chloramines? Chloramines last longer than chlorine and will not dissipate from tap water like chlorine. You must remove chloramines from your water prior to use for fish, amphibians and other aquatic animals.

How Can I Remove Chloramines From My Water?

Commercially available water-conditioning agents or activated carbon filters specifically designed to remove chloramines must be used according to product instructions. These products are readily available at most pet supply stores and aquarium dealers. Chlorine removal agents that are not specifically designed to also remove chloramines could leave excess ammonia in the water which could harm aquatic life.

How Will Chloramines Affect Ponds? Chloramines should be removed from water before adding it to a pond. If you keep aquatic life in your pond, you must remove chloramines before adding water to your pond.

What About My Other Pets? Chloramine treated water is safe for dogs, cats, ferrets, monkeys, parrots, parakeets, etc. but toxic to aquatic life.

If I Water the Lawn, Will the Runoff Harm the Environment? No. Plants, vegetables, fruit, and nut trees are not affected by chloramine treated water.

Other Questions?

The City of Stockton has developed three separate FAQ (Frequently Asked Question) documents specific to the following areas:

- **General Questions and Answers** (Including General Information About Chloramines)
- **Health Related Questions** (Including Information for Kidney Dialysis Patients)
- **General Household Questions** (Including Information About Swimming Pools and Home Filtration Systems)

These documents may be obtained by visiting the City of Stockton's website at www.stocktonca.gov/mud.