

# CHLORAMINE



In December of 2018 the water supplied by the City of Bardstovwn will be treated with monochloramine. With this change, our customers will receive drinking water with improved taste and odor that meets or surpasses stringent standards set by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA).

CHLORAMINE CONVERSION

## QUESTIONS

If you have any questions or concerns about this process, please contact the City of Bardstovwn Engineering Department.

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## CHLORAMINE CONVERSION

SPECIAL INFORMATION FOR  
AQUATIC PET OWNERS  
AND KIDNEY DIALYSIS PATIENTS



The City of Bardstovwn  
220 N. Fifth Street  
Bardstovwn KY 40004  
(502) 348-5947



## PROTECT YOUR PETS

We know your pets' safety is always a top priority, so it's important that fish owners are knowledgeable about this upcoming change to Bardstown's water. While the conversion will further protect Bardstown's health, it will also change the way you care for your fish, amphibians and reptiles. Get prepared by:

- Reading this brochure.
- Purchasing a water-conditioning agent or monochloramine-removing filter.
- Carefully reading product instructions to ensure removal of monochloramine and ammonia.

### Types of aquatic life affected

Monochloramine, like chlorine, is harmful to fish and other aquatic life—including Koi fish, lobster, shrimp, frogs, turtles, snails, clams and live coral—when it directly enters the blood stream from water that passes through the gills.

### What does this mean for aquarium and pond owners?

Monochloramine must be removed from tap water before it can be used in your fresh or saltwater aquarium or pond.

## FAQ'S

### How can I remove monochloramine from my water?

Commercially available water-conditioning agents or activated carbon filters specifically designed to remove monochloramine 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 monochloramine could leave excess ammonia in the water. Too much ammonia could harm aquatic life. Carefully read product instructions to ensure removal of monochloramine and ammonia.

### Can I leave water sitting out for a few days to remove monochloramine from tap water?

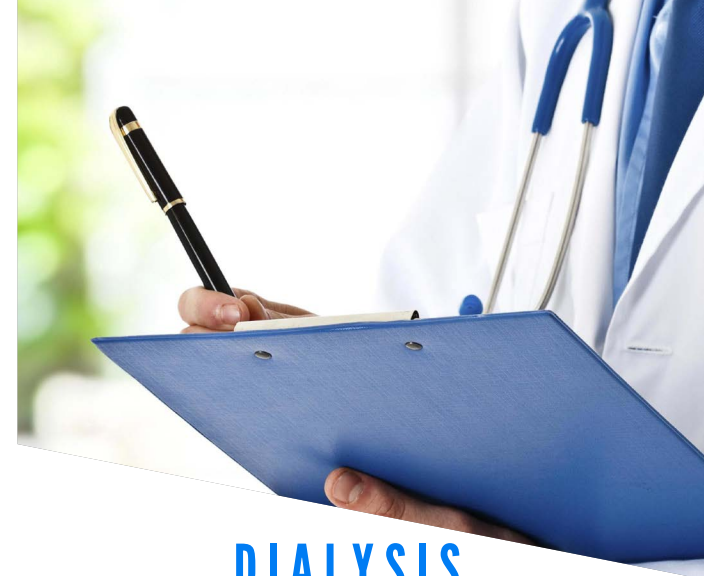
No. Unlike chlorine, monochloramine does not dissipate when it sits for a few days. Monochloramine is longer lasting and may actually take weeks to dissipate. Therefore, this is not an effective method for removing monochloramine.

### Will boiling remove monochloramine?

No. Monochloramine cannot be removed by boiling water or adding salt.

### What about other pets?

**Dogs, cats, birds and other animals can safely drink water treated with monochloramine**, because the digestive process neutralizes monochloramine before it enters the bloodstream.



## DIALYSIS

Kidney dialysis patients can safely drink, cook, and bathe in water disinfected with monochloramine because the digestive process neutralizes monochloramine before it enters the bloodstream. However, monochloramine is harmful if it directly enters the bloodstream. Therefore, like chlorine, monochloramine must be removed from water to be used in kidney dialysis machines. If not removed, monochloramine can cause life-threatening hemolytic anemia in kidney dialysis patients.

Water purification standards addressing chlorine and monochloramine are already in place the kidney dialysis industry. These standards, set forth by the Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation, require tests for both chlorine and monochloramine to ensure these chemicals have been removed from the water before it is used in the dialysis machine.

All kidney dialysis patients, even those who receive their treatments from a trained relative or caregiver at home, must be under the care of a kidney dialysis center. All centers in Bardstown, as well as hospitals with acute dialysis facilities, have been informed about the addition of monochloramine.