

## **Questions About Chloramines?**

Contact your water provider  
listed below.

City of Archdale  
(336) 434-7338

City of Burlington  
(336) 222-5133

City of Greensboro  
(336) 373-2489

City of High Point  
(336) 883-3111

Town of Jamestown  
(336) 454-1138

Piedmont Triad Regional Water Authority  
(336) 498-5510

Town of Randleman  
(336) 495-7500

City of Reidsville  
(336) 349-1070

# **Enhancing**

## **Your Drinking Water**



**Important Information  
from Your Water Provider  
Concerning Water Treatment**



In early summer of 2011 the following local water utilities: Archdale, Burlington, Greensboro, High Point, Jamestown, Piedmont Triad Regional Water Authority, Randleman, and Reidsville will change their current disinfection product from free chlorine to chloramines to comply with new federal regulatory standards.

## What are chloramines?

Chloramine is a type of disinfectant used by many water utilities across the United States to remove bacteria and other germs that may be harmful to personal health. Chloramines is a combination of both chlorine and ammonia.

## Why change to chloramines?

To comply with regulations, the use of chloramines is one of the more practical disinfectant alternatives to chlorine. Chloramines will provide a higher quality drinking water because it lasts longer in the distribution system and produces less chlorinous taste and odor concerns.

## Are chloramines safe to use?

Chloraminated water is safe for drinking, cooking, bathing, and for all other general uses. However, as with chlorine, precautions must be taken to remove or neutralize chloramines during the kidney dialysis process, for businesses requiring highly processed water, and fish tanks and ponds.

# While Chloraminated Water is Safe, Three Groups Should Take Special Precautions when using Chloraminated Water

1



## Kidney Dialysis Patients

As with chlorine, chloramines must be removed from water used in kidney dialysis machines. During the process, water comes in contact with blood across a permeable membrane.

Your local water provider has notified kidney dialysis centers about the upcoming change to chloramines. If you are a dialysis patient and have questions, contact your physician or the dialysis center where you are treated.

2



## Specialized Businesses

Businesses using water for food or beverage manufacturing, commercial laundering operations, laboratory procedures, seafood handling or any other processes should carefully monitor their current filtration system and treatment process.

For guidance with the conversion, businesses should contact their equipment supplier, manufacturers, or product suppliers.

3



## Fish, Pond, and Amphibian Owners

As chloraminated water passes through gills it directly enters the bloodstream of fish, amphibians, and reptiles. Chloramines are harmful because they bind to iron in red blood cells and reduce their capacity to carry oxygen. Chloramines are toxic to both fresh and salt water fish, reptiles, and amphibians and cannot be removed by boiling water, adding salt or letting water stand in an open container to dissipate. Chloramines can only be neutralized or removed with specific treatment products found in most pet supply stores. Aquarium and pond owners should carefully monitor the ammonia concentration in addition to chlorine.

