



September 1, 2023

Climax Scotts Schools
Attn: Scott Simmons
372 South Main Street
Climax, MI 49034

RE: Nitrate Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) Violation at **Climax Scotts Elementary**
WSSN: **2013539** Source ID: **002**

Dear Mr. Scott Simmons:

Under the provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act, Act 399 of Public Acts of 1976, the EPA has set the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for Nitrate at 10.0 milligrams per liter (mg/L). A water sample from Climax Scotts Elementary, well 002 was collected on August 23, 2023 and elevated levels of nitrate were detected at 11.3 mg/L. As required a confirmation sample was collected on August 31, 2023 again finding elevated levels of nitrate at 10.5 mg/L.

Water sampling at this facility indicates this drinking water standard has been exceeded and as the owner/operator of this water system, the follow is required:

- Water must not be made available for infants.
- Provide a safe alternative (bottled water) for those requesting it.
- Providing public notice is required. Please find attached a public notice provided for your use. Public posting must remain at all drinking water taps until further notice. A copy of the signed posting is to be returned back to the Kalamazoo County Environmental Health Unit within 14 days of receipt.
- Investigate, in conjunction with the local health department, to find a permanent source that meets the drinking water standard. Replacing the source is the primary action in addressing the public health risk.

If you have questions concerning this correspondence, please contact my office at (269) 373-5355 or hestan@kalcounty.com. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Hope Stanley
Noncommunity Water Supply Coordinator

Enclosure

Cc. Carolyn Kreiger (EGLE)

WATER UNSUITABLE FOR INFANTS

NITRATE STANDARD EXCEEDED

Water samples from this facility show that the nitrate drinking water standard has been exceeded with a result of 10.9 mg/l as determined on August 31, 2023. Under the provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 1976 PA 399 and Rules as amended, the EPA has set the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for Nitrate at 10.0 mg/l (milligrams per liter).

BE ADVISED

Possible Health Effects

Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the maximum contaminant level could become seriously ill and, if untreated may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome.

Nitrates can often be associated with surface or near surface water contaminants such as fertilizers, septic systems and animal waste. Thus the presence of nitrate in significant concentrations in a drinking water well is a concern whether or not infants use the water. If you are pregnant or have specific health concerns, you may wish to consult your doctor.

Steps Being Taken

Do not give this water to infants. A supply of bottled water that meets drinking water standards is available for infants and those who request it. (Boiling the water only serves to concentrate nitrate, thereby increasing the hazard.)

The availability of a nitrate safe source of water is being evaluated by the management in cooperation with the Health Department. We anticipate resolving the problem by September 15, 2023. For more information, please contact Scott Simmons at (269) 746-2210 or the Kalamazoo County Environmental Health Unit at (269) 373-5355. Please share this information with all other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly.

PROOF OF DELIVERY

I certify that this water supply has fully complied with the public notification requirements in the Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act, 1976 PA 399, as amended, and the administrative rules.

Signature

Title

Date Distributed

WSSN/PWSID: 2013539

Reminder to water supplier: A signed & dated copy of this notice must be sent to the Local Health Department