

CHLORAMINES

A key ingredient in the water treatment process



INDIANA
AMERICAN WATER



The use of chloramines, a combination of chlorine and ammonia in drinking water as a disinfectant plays a critical role in the prevention of waterborne diseases

According to the World Health Organization, the adoption of drinking water chlorination has been one of the most significant advances in public health protection, stating that “disinfection by chlorine is still the best guarantee of microbiologically safe water.”

NEED MORE INFO?

**Indiana American Water
Customer Service Center**

1-800-492-8373

EPA Hotline

1-800-426-4791

Why chloramines are added to drinking water

Chloramines are added to water for the customers' protection. It is used as a disinfectant to ensure that harmful organisms, such as bacteria and viruses, are destroyed in the treatment process.

In addition, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) require Indiana American Water to maintain low levels of this disinfectant to be present in the water at the furthest point of the distribution system. Our company complies with these minimum levels as the water travels from our treatment facility to your home. Consequently, customers who live or work closest to the facility might experience higher levels of chloramines.

We make every attempt to minimize this level, and we frequently perform monitoring at various locations within our system. The results of this monitoring are used to adjust the chloramine concentrations in the water leaving our facilities to make sure that the levels are not excessive, but are adequate for public health protection. Indiana American Water continues to meet the drinking water standards related to chloramine use in your drinking water set by EPA and IDEM in all of its systems.

How do chloramines affect my water?

Chloramines are a very effective disinfection and are widely used in the U.S. and Canada. They also have the added benefit of having significantly less of the characteristic taste and odor associated with chlorinated water.

Two groups of people should take precautions when using chloraminated water

Kidney Dialysis Patients

- Because water comes into contact with the bloodstream during dialysis, chloramines and chlorine are toxic and should be removed by adding ascorbic acid or filtering the water through granular activated carbon.

Fish Owners

- Both chlorine and chloramines are toxic to fish in very low levels and must be removed from the water to be used in an aquarium. Most pet stores sell a disinfectant removal product that can be added to the water prior to introduction of the fish to a tank or pond.

04-2015

WE CARE ABOUT WATER. IT'S WHAT WE DO.®

www.indianaamwater.com

