



# KNOW THE FACTS

## CHLORAMINES CONVERSION FOR SPECIALIZED INDUSTRIES

### PREPARING FOR CHLORAMINES

In April 2013, the following local water utilities: City of Bismarck, City of Lincoln, and South Central Regional Water District will embark on a modification of their current water treatment process. The new process will involve switching the disinfectant chemical from free chlorine to chloramines to comply with new federal regulatory standards. Chloraminated water is safe for drinking, bathing, cooking, and all other uses we have for water every day. However, there are three groups that need to take special precautions when using chloraminated water: kidney dialysis patients, fish, pond, and aquarium owners, and specialized businesses using high quality treated water.

### WHAT ARE CHLORAMINES?

Chloramines are disinfectants used to treat drinking water. They are formed by mixing chlorine with ammonia at carefully controlled levels. Similar to chlorine, chloramines are effective at killing harmful bacteria and other germs.

### ARE CHLORAMINES SAFE?

Chloramines have been used safely in the United States for many years. The addition of chloramine to the disinfection process will decrease the amount of disinfectant by-product levels produced while improving water quality.

### HOW DO I PREPARE FOR CHLORAMINES?

The participating water providers recommend reviewing your current chlorine removal approach to assess any needed changes to remove chloramines before the conversion in April 2013.

### WILL CHLORAMINES AFFECT ROUTINE BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY WATER USE?

Businesses and industries that use water in any manufacturing process for food or beverage preparation, commercial laundering operations, laboratory procedures, seafood handling, or any other processes in which water characteristics must be carefully controlled need to be aware of the change in water disinfection. The conversion to chloramines may require companies to adjust or upgrade their current filtration and treatment system.. Businesses should contact their equipment supplier, equipment manufacturers, or other suppliers to determine needs.





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### HOW CAN CHLORAMINES BE REMOVED?

Chloramines can be removed by one of two methods; a carbon filter that contains a high quality granular activated carbon, or water treatment products designed to remove chloramines.

### WILL REVERSE OSMOSIS REMOVE CHLORAMINES?

**No.** Only salts that are caught by the permeable membranes, allowing chloramines to easily pass through.

### WILL BOILING WATER REMOVE CHLORAMINES?

**No.** Chloramine cannot be removed by boiling water, adding salt, or letting water stand in an open container to dissipate.

### WILL CHLORAMINES HARM PLANTS?

**No.** Chloramines are safe to use on plants of any type, including ornamental, vegetables, fruit, and nut trees.

## RESOURCES

### Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Safe Drinking Water Hotline: 1-800-426-4791

[www.epa.gov/safewater/disinfection/chloramine/pdfs/chloramine2.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/disinfection/chloramine/pdfs/chloramine2.pdf)

[www.epa.gov/ogwdw000/didinfection/chloramine/index.html](http://www.epa.gov/ogwdw000/didinfection/chloramine/index.html)

[www.epa.gov/safewater/mdbp/pdf/alter/chapt\\_2.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/mdbp/pdf/alter/chapt_2.pdf)

Water Resource Center: [www.epa.gov/safewater/resource/](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/resource/)

### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) 1-800-232-4636

### National Kidney Foundation

[www.kidney.org](http://www.kidney.org)

## QUESTIONS ABOUT CHLORAMINES?

Contact Your Water Provider Listed Below:

### City of Bismarck

PO Box 5503

Bismarck, ND 58506-5503

(701) 355-1700

### City of Lincoln

74 Santee Rd

Lincoln, ND 58504

(701) 258-7969

### South Central Regional Water District Office

PO Box 4182

Bismarck, ND 58502-4182

(701) 258-8710