



Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority  
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## Port Lavaca Water Treatment Plant to Begin Modified Disinfection Process

### For More Information

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SEGUIN- Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA) temporarily will substitute chlorine as the disinfecting agent in the drinking water treatment process in place of its regularly used chlorine/ammonia compound (chloramines) at the GBRA Port Lavaca Water Treatment Plant. According to Herbert R. Wittliff, manager for Port Lavaca Operations, this action was initiated on June 25 and will be used for approximately 14 days, after which the plant will resume the use of chloramines.

"Chlorine and chloramines are both excellent disinfecting agents and are used extensively in the drinking water industry to safeguard finished water against bacteria that cause water-borne illnesses," said Wittliff. "However, the substitution of chlorine alone on a periodic basis is recommended by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) in order to provide more stability to the disinfecting process and to remove any excess ammonia that might accumulate in the distribution systems over time." As part of the process, the three wholesale customers of GBRA the City of Port Lavaca, the Calhoun County Rural Water System of GBRA, and the Port O'Connor Municipal Utility District will monitor the disinfectant residual in water mains and increase flushing activities to provide a more efficient change-out of the water. The water will remain completely safe and available for all domestic purposes throughout this time.

"The timing of this action coincides favorably with the completion of GBRA's new 1-million gallon clearwell, which we hope to bring on line within the next few days," said Stephanie Shelly, GBRA chief operator. "State regulations require that all new storage structures and water mains undergo a disinfection procedure prior to use, and chlorine is almost always the disinfecting agent of choice for this important step," she added.

For more information, please contact your local drinking water provider: City of Port Lavaca 552-9793 X221, GBRA Rural Water 552-9751, or Port O'Connor 983-2652.

The GBRA was established by the Texas Legislature in 1933 as a water conservation and reclamation district. GBRA provides stewardship for the water resources in its 10-county statutory district, which begins near the headwaters of the Guadalupe and Blanco rivers, ends at San Antonio Bay, and includes Kendall, Comal, Hays, Caldwell, Guadalupe, Gonzales, DeWitt, Victoria, Calhoun, and Refugio counties.