

## **Harford County Health Department**

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Russell W. Moy, MD, MPH • Health Officer Marcy Austin • Deputy Health Officer

# Jarrettsville Pharmacy PWSID 112-1108 3714 Norrisville Road Jarrettsville, MD 21084

## DRINKING WATER WARNING

FOR PARENTS OF INFANTS 6 MONTHS OLD AND YOUNGER

#### DO NOT USE THE WATER FOR INFANT FORMULA

High nitrate levels were detected in the drinking water at this location. Bottled water should be used for infant formula, juice, and/or food.

Adults and children older than 6 months can drink the water.

A routine sample taken on May 2, 2019 showed a nitrate concentration in the drinking water of 13.5 mg/L. This is above the EPA maximum contaminant level for nitrates, which is 10 mg/L.

#### Possible Health Effects

Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrates in excess of the maximum contaminant level could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Excessive nitrate levels may also affect the fetus of pregnant women. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome. Blue baby syndrome is indicated by blueness of the skin. Nitrates are a concern for infants because they cannot process nitrates in the same way adults can.

Symptoms in infants can develop rapidly, with health deteriorating over a period of days. If symptoms occur in a child less than 6 months old, seek medical attention immediately.

If you are pregnant or have specific health concerns, you may wish to consult your doctor.

### Steps We Are Taking

We anticipate resolving the problem **by posting this Notice and resampling the water.** For more information, please contact Mark Lapouraille at 410-557-7717.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

State Water System ID# 112-1108

Date distributed May 13, 2019