



FACT SHEET
Chromium 6
October 28, 2016

- Beaver Water District is committed to protecting public health. **The District is in full compliance with the current Safe Drinking Water Act regulations with respect to total chromium.**
- The drinking water standard for total chromium, which includes chromium 6, is 100 parts per billion. A part per billion is equal to roughly one second in 32 years. Chromium 6 is not currently regulated separately from total chromium.
- Chromium 6 is one of the chemical forms of chromium, which can be present in different forms in the environment, changing from one form to another in water and soil. Other common forms of chromium are trivalent chromium, also known as chromium 3, and the metal form, chromium 0. Chromium can convert between chromium-3 and chromium-6 in different environments.
- Chromium 6 exposure can occur by breathing it in, ingesting it in food or water, or through direct contact with the skin. Chromium 6 can be found in low levels in water supplies either as the result of industrial activities or from naturally occurring sources.
- Recent laboratory analysis performed by the Arkansas Department of Health over a one year period on the drinking water leaving the BWD treatment facilities indicated a range of chromium 6 in the water of 0.085 to 0.212 parts per billion.
- The Environmental Protection Agency is currently evaluating chromium 6 health effects studies, along with water sampling conducted throughout the country, to determine if a drinking water standard for chromium 6 should be implemented. Chromium 6 is known to be carcinogenic when inhaled; however, the health effects, if any, from ingestion in water or food are still being investigated by EPA.

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About Beaver Water District

Beaver Water District supplies drinking water to more than 300,000 people and industries in Fayetteville, Springdale, Rogers, Bentonville and surrounding areas. These cities then resell the water to surrounding towns and communities. The District's mission is to serve our customers by providing high quality drinking water that meets or exceeds all federal and state regulatory requirements and is economically priced consistent with our quality standards. For more information, visit www.bwdh2o.org.