



## FACT SHEET Disinfection Byproducts (DBPs)

- **DBPs are chemical compounds that may form in drinking water when chlorine or other disinfectants react with naturally occurring organic matter in the water.** Long-term exposure to high levels of DBPs may pose health risks to the public.
- **According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Stage 2 DBP rule is intended to strengthen public health protection.** Compliance is based on the average at each compliance monitoring location in a system (instead of as a system-wide average as in previous rules) for two groups of DBPs – total trihalomethanes (TTHMs) and five haloacetic acids (HAA5).<sup>1</sup> The average for each monitoring location must be below the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) to be in compliance.
- **Beaver Water District is committed to protecting public health.** Disinfection of drinking water to prevent infectious diseases is one of the greatest health achievements of the past century.<sup>2</sup>
- **Complying with the Stage 2 DBP Rule requires actions on the part of both Beaver Water District and its customer cities – Fayetteville, Springdale, Rogers and Bentonville.**
  - **To reduce DBP formation, Beaver Water District contracted for the design and construction of a chlorine dioxide pre-disinfection facility to replace its pre-chlorination facility.** This project was completed and placed into operation in January 2013.
  - **Beaver Water District’s four customer cities have investigated various options for reducing water age within their respective distribution systems.** These options include distribution system piping modifications, water storage tank mixing, changes to water storage tank management, and distribution system chlorine monitoring.
- **All thirty (30) of the DBP sampling locations for Beaver Water District and the District’s four customer cities are in compliance with the Stage 2 DBP rule.**

<sup>1</sup> [Environmental Protection Agency http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/rulesregs/sdwa/stage2/](http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/rulesregs/sdwa/stage2/)

<sup>2</sup> [Centers for Disease Control www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/00056796.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/00056796.htm)

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### About Beaver Water District

Beaver Water District supplies drinking water to 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 sustainably provide our customers with safe, economical drinking water. For more information, visit [www.bwdh2o.org](http://www.bwdh2o.org).