



Water Department

PUBLIC NOTICE

Park City Water Antimony Levels Exceed Drinking Water Standards

The level of antimony in water originating from the Judge Tunnel was measured at **7 parts per billion** (ppb) during routine tests of that water. The Judge Tunnel is a source of Park City's culinary water supply. The Environmental Protection Agency Maximum Contaminant Level (also known as the Drinking Water Standard) for antimony is **6 parts per billion**. Park City is required by the Utah Division of Drinking Water to inform customers of its water delivery system of this situation.

THIS IS NOT A WATER EMERGENCY. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO USE AN ALTERNATIVE DRINKING WATER SOURCE (e.g. bottled water). If you have specific health concerns, however, you should consult your doctor.

What is Antimony?

Antimony is an inorganic chemical that occurs naturally in soils, ground water and surface waters. Antimony is used in the flame retardant industry and also in the production of ceramics, glass, batteries, fireworks and explosives. Antimony may get into drinking water through natural weathering of rock, as well as through industrial or manufacturing processes and municipal waste disposal. Park City has found **no evidence** that industrial or manufacturing processes, or municipal waste disposal contributed to the presence of antimony in the water.

What are the effects of antimony?

The level of antimony in our drinking water exceeds the maximum Drinking Water Standard by **one part per billion**. The elevated level of antimony does not present an immediate health risk.

In a study of Utah water systems with high antimony levels, Aqua Environmental Sciences found that "*as a practical matter, there are insufficient data to indicate either the acute or chronic toxicity hazard that may result from the assimilation of antimony*". It further stated that "*there is no real data available that proves that antimony is any more toxic than copper, which has a drinking water trigger level of 1,300 ug/L (1,300 parts per billion), or roughly 217 times the level allowed for antimony.*"

EPA research on laboratory rats that were exposed to high levels of this chemical during their lifetime found that this chemical decreases longevity and can alter blood levels of cholesterol and glucose.

What Is Park City doing to reduce the antimony levels?

Park City has identified the area within the Judge Tunnel which contributes the majority of the antimony and is working with the Utah Division of Drinking Water to investigate alternative ways to bring the Judge Tunnel water source within the Drinking Water Standard.

Who do I contact for more information?

For more information, please call the Water Department at 435-615-5301. This notice is being sent to you by Park City Municipal Corporation, Water System ID#: 22011. Additional information can also be found on the EPA website at <http://www.epa.gov/iris/subst/0006.htm>