



## **Water system maintenance begins Oct. 1**

The method of water treatment for Pinellas County and its wholesale customers will be temporarily modified between Monday, Oct. 1, and Friday, Oct. 26. The second of two short-term changes from chloramine to chlorine disinfection in 2018 is a routine maintenance measure designed to optimize water quality.

Those that will benefit from this program include Pinellas County Utilities water customers, as well as customers in the cities of Clearwater, Pinellas Park and Safety Harbor.

The disinfection program is designed to maintain distribution system water quality and minimize the potential for any future problems. There have been no indications of significant bacteriological contamination problems in the system. The water will continue to meet all federal and state standards for safe drinking water.

Kidney dialysis patients should not be impacted, but should contact their dialysis care provider for more information about chlorine treatment. Fish owners should not be affected if they already have a system in place to remove chloramines, but should contact local pet suppliers with any questions.

Customers may notice a slight difference in the taste and/or odor of the water during this temporary change in treatment.

Chlorine was used as the primary disinfectant in the water for more than 50 years prior to 2002. Pinellas County switched to chloramine in 2002 to ensure compliance with Environmental Protection Agency standards. Many communities using chloramine convert back to chlorine for short periods of time to maintain system water quality.

For more information, please visit [www.pinellascounty.org/utilities](http://www.pinellascounty.org/utilities) or contact Pinellas County Utilities Customer Service at (727) 464-4000.

The chlorine maintenance program underscores the county's strategic goal of protecting and improving the quality of our water.