



## NEWS RELEASE

FEBRUARY 26, 2025

Contact: Richard Anderson, Executive Director  
Katie Gilmore, Director of Operations  
Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority  
[PeaceRiver@regionalwater.org](mailto:PeaceRiver@regionalwater.org)  
941-316-1776

## TEMPORARY CHANGE TO WATER DISINFECTION PROCESS

DESOTO COUNTY, Fla. (FEBRUARY 28, 2025) – From April 22 through May 6, 2025, the Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority will temporarily change its potable (drinking) water disinfection process, including for customers of Charlotte County Utilities, DeSoto County Utilities, Sarasota County Utilities, and City of North Port Utilities. During this period, the water will be disinfected with free chlorine rather than chlorine combined with ammonia (chloramines). This routine process, known as a free chlorine conversion, helps maintain water quality in distribution systems, as recommended by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. The last regional free chlorine conversion took place in 2023.

### What Customers Should Know:

- County and City Utilities' water **will remain safe to drink** throughout this process and boiling water is not necessary.
- Customers may notice a change in the taste and smell of the water.
- The water may discolor laundered clothes. Homeowners should flush any cloudy or discolored water that may enter the plumbing by running a faucet for several minutes or until the water runs clear.
- For information on preventing waterborne germs, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/drinking-water/prevention/preventing-waterborne-germs-at-home.html>.

Customers on kidney dialysis, who use a proportioning machine to prepare dialysate at home, should contact their physician or equipment supplier to obtain the appropriate steps to accommodate the change in water disinfection and to install the proper filtering devices.

Customers using the water for aquariums should monitor the chlorine levels and take necessary precautions as recommended by a professional aquarist to ensure proper pretreatment of the water before adding or changing the water in the tank to avoid any problems associated with chlorine.

Local utilities will flush the water distribution system to help the free chlorine circulate efficiently.

For more information, contact: Richard Anderson, Executive Director or Katie Gilmore, Director of Operations at (941) 316-1776 or email [PeaceRiver@regionalwater.org](mailto:PeaceRiver@regionalwater.org).

###