

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

# Temporary Free Chlorine Conversion



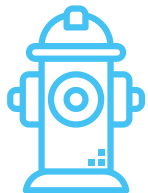
### Why is drinking water disinfected?

Disinfection is critical to protecting consumers from disease causing microorganisms, called pathogens, including bacteria or viruses. Disinfectants are very effective at inactivating pathogens.



### Why use Chloramine?

Chloramine is an effective disinfectant and persists over a long period of time particularly in areas with high temperatures.



### Why are fire hydrants flushed during this process?

Flushing hydrants helps to move the chlorine-disinfected water through the system faster. Flushing will also help to reduce the chlorine odor and taste.



### What are the drinking water disinfection requirements in Texas?

Public water systems are required to disinfect water prior to its entering the distribution system, maintain a minimum amount of residual disinfectant through out the distribution system and use either chlorine or chloramine in the distribution system.



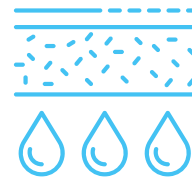
### Is chloramine safe?

Yes, water disinfected with chloramine is safe for drinking, cooking, bathing, & everyday use. Chloramine, like chlorine, must be removed from the water prior to use in dialysis machines and can be harmful to fish & amphibians. Proper filters and dechloramination products will address these concerns.



### What is chloramine?

Chloramine is a long lasting disinfectant added to public drinking water for disinfection. It is formed by combining chlorinated water with small amounts of ammonia. It is commonly used for disinfection in many public water systems.



### What is free chlorine conversion?

A free chlorine conversion occurs when a water system that typically uses chloramine removes ammonia from their treatment process and disinfects the water with only chlorine.



### Is the chlorine level tested during this period?

Yes, the water is continuously monitored for chlorine levels along with other compounds.

For more information on Free Chlorine Conversion visit,  
[www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/disinfection/temporary-free-chlorine-conversion](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/disinfection/temporary-free-chlorine-conversion)