

WATER DEPARTMENT

NEWS AND UPDATES

WHAT IS A SANITARY SURVEY?



A sanitary survey is an inspection by the Department of Health of the water system facilities, operations, and records, to assess and identify conditions that may present a sanitary or public health risk. Public water systems must have routine sanitary surveys every 3 – 5 years. After a sanitary survey if anything needs attention the Department of Health provides a list of “deficiencies” that need to be corrected.

Surfside’s last sanitary survey was July 2013. After our 2013 survey, Surfside received a report to correct “deficiencies” including verifying backwash rates, making sure chlorine containers are properly labeled with NSF stickers, recommendation to flush the water system multiple times annually, requirement to pass and implement a cross connection control program, directions to notify DOH by email of main breaks of more than 10 homes out of water, and instructions to record free chlorine readings on the monthly chlorine report.

Surfside’s next scheduled sanitary survey is September 2018.

WHAT MAKES DAY OLD WATER TASTE FUNNY?



According to Smithsonian.com, when you drink from a glass you introduce microbes from your mouth into the water. These microbes are joined by other things that may be floating in the air and dust.

Your tap water contains low levels of chlorine which can control microorganisms, but not indefinitely. As chlorine dissipates, biological activity can increase.

Additionally, carbon dioxide dissolves into water changing the water’s taste. Day old water is almost certainly safe to drink, but it may not be very tasty.

Do you have other taste, color, and odor issues in your water? Please visit our webpage for a Department of Health fact sheet on “Color, taste and odor problems in drinking water”.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT US: water@surfsideonline.org
VISIT OUR WEBPAGE: surfsideonline.org/surfside-water-department/