

Immediate Release
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LIWC: No Fluoride Added to Long Island's Drinking Water Supply

With recent reports released by the Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on lowering recommended fluoride in drinking water, the Long Island Water Conference (LIWC) is seeking to remind residents that no fluoride is added to our drinking water.

“Despite the national scrutiny of fluoride use in drinking water, residents can rest assured that nowhere on Long Island is fluoride added to our drinking water.” said Water Conference Chairman Karl Schweitzer. “Long Island’s drinking water providers take pride in their commitment to offering residents the safest and cleanest water possible.”

Although fluoride is sometimes added to drinking water in some parts of the country to prevent tooth decay, recent studies have shown that a high intake of fluoride may lead to fluorosis, which causes pitting and staining of the teeth. The HHS is proposing to limit the fluoride in water to 0.7 mg/L, while the current recommended amount ranges from 0.7 to 1.2 mg/L. Common sources of fluoride for people include food and drink, toothpaste and fluoride supplements such as tablets. The most widely known and used topical fluorides are incorporated into toothpastes. Fluoride toothpaste is an effective method of reducing dental caries

“Studies have shown that adding fluoride provides limited or no benefit to dental health,” added Schweitzer. “Moreover, over fluoridation of water has been known to lead to adverse health effects.”

There are approximately 1,000 drinking water wells located throughout Long Island. Water providers’ continually test the water quality to ensure that it meets all local, state and federal drinking water standards.

About the Long Island Water Conference

The LIWC has been committed to providing pure and plentiful water for the Long Island community since 1951. The LIWC aims to provide and maintain an adequate and safe water supply today, while anticipating the water concerns of future generations. LIWC members provide more than 375 million gallons of clean water daily. For more information visit www.liwc.org.