

Town notified of violation on water system

From staff reports

The Town of Edenton recently received a violation notice from state public water supply officials for exceeding the total trihalomethanes maximum contaminant levels in the drinking water system. Trihalomethanes or TTHMs are formed when chlorine is added to the water for disinfection, and reacts with natural organic matter present in the well water.

The maximum contaminant level is .80mg/l. The Town's MCL average at a sample location was 0.161 mg/l.

The town received the first violation notice for exceeding TTHMs in February 2015 and immediately hired a consultant to evalu-

ate ways to reduce levels of TTHMs. The consultant's recommendation is to change from free chlorine treatment to chloramine treatment.

"Chloramine treatment involves adding ammonia treatment in addition to chlorine," Town Manager Anne-Marie Knighton said.

She explained the addition of this treatment process is expected to reduce the level of TTHMs formed in the water system and the improvements needed to add chloramine treatment to the water treatment process should be done by the end of the calendar year. A presentation describing the chloramine treatment process is available for viewing on the Town's web page at www.townofedenton.com.

Each calendar year, water samples are collected from various locations in the distribution system, including sites that represent the system's maximum time (end of the line). The running annual average is calculated by combining the latest four calendar quarters together in an average.

"Our most recent sampling results are still elevated, but the July 2015 samples were as a total less than the results from July 2014," Knighton said. "This is a good indication that the short-term steps the Town has taken to reduce TTHMs is helping — the Town has reduced chlorine levels, increased flushing and modified the sampling locations as part of our Compliance Monitoring Plan (CMP)."

Knighton said while the changes in the water treatment process should be done by the end of this calendar year the Town will likely continue to be in violation until the second or third quarter of 2016 because of the running annual average calculation.

TTHMs are formed in the water when chlorine is added, Knighton said. She added that the reaction is not immediate and depends on several factors.

"These factors include time, chlorine concentration and water temperature," she said.

An increase in any of these constituents causes an increase in TTHM concentration, she said. Therefore, higher TTHM concentrations generally occur during

warm weather at places in the distribution system that are furthest from the treatment plant.

Knighton said that the State requires the Town to notify water customers via letter that it had TTHM levels above drinking water standards.

"The state has some specific boiler-plate language that is required to be in the notice," she said. "We can add our own information, like what we are doing to prevent future violations."

Knighton added that the Town would tell the public that they do not need to use an alternative water supply (e.g., bottled water), however, if someone has a specific health concern they should consult their doctor.

"We will also tell the pub-

lic that this violation does not constitute any type of immediate risk," she said. "If there had been an acute risk, notification would have been made immediately."

The letter must tell water customers that some people who drink water containing TTHMs in excess of the MCL over many years (the State defines many years as 70 years) may experience problems with their liver, kidneys or central nervous system and may have an increased risk of getting cancer, Knighton said.

She urged citizens with questions or concerns to contact her at anne-marie.knighton@edenton.nc.gov or by calling Town Hall at 482-7352. Customers should receive letters in the mail this week, Knighton said.

Dominion to award \$1M in community grants

From staff reports

Nonprofit organizations in the regions served by Dominion are invited to apply for grants of up to \$50,000 each for programs that provide essential community services in areas of housing, food security, medicine and medical services.

Dominion's philanthropic arm, the Dominion Foundation, has pledged to provide grants totaling \$1 million for eligible programs meeting these critical community needs.

"Dominion's long commitment to charitable initiatives has one

GRANT INFO

- Grants to focus on programs providing shelter, access to health care, food security
- Online applications due by Oct. 12

goal: to serve and strengthen the communities in which we work and live," said Hunter A. Applewhite, president of the Dominion Foundation. "These grants will fund programs that create greater stability and well-being for many people by providing nutritious food, shelter and access to medicine and medical services."

The Dominion Foundation is dedicated to improving the physical, social and economic well-being of the communities served by Dominion companies, including Dominion Virginia/North Carolina Power, Dominion East Ohio, Dominion Transmission, Dominion Hope, Dominion Carolina Gas Transmission and Millstone Power Station in Connecticut. Dominion Foundation grants are funded by shareholder dollars and not borne by customers.

Eligible organizations in targeted areas of Connecticut, Maryland, New York, North

Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia and other areas within Dominion's footprint are encouraged to apply.

On-line applications will be accepted until Oct. 12.

Priority will be given to organizations that demonstrate the ability to serve communities through partnerships and have a proven track record of meeting basic human needs and preventing future need for assistance.

For more complete details or to apply, go to <https://www.dominion.com/communityneedsgrants>.

Dominion (NYSE: D), head-

quartered in Richmond, Va., is one of the nation's largest producers and transporters of energy. The Dominion Foundation is dedicated to improving the physical, social and economic wellbeing of the communities served by Dominion companies.

Dominion and the Dominion Foundation support nonprofit causes that meet basic human needs, protect the environment, promote education and encourage community vitality.

For more information about Dominion and the Dominion Foundation, visit www.dominion.com.

Woman dies in Jet Ski, boat collision in Yeopim Creek

From staff reports

An Albemarle Plantation resident died Monday after the Jet Ski she was operating collided with an 18-foot-long boat in Yeopim Creek southeast of Hertford and not far up the creek from her home, the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission said.

Brenda Hoepfner, 67, of

the 100 block of New River Drive, was pronounced dead at Vidant Chowan Hospital in Edenton, Lt. Mark Rich said. The incident was reported shortly after 11 a.m. in the vicinity of Pine Point Road and Rich said an investigation is continuing.

According to Rich, a person was driving a Power Play XLT 185 boat

while Hoepfner was operating a Bombardier.

The boat driver was heading down Yeopim Creek and was on the right side, having gone around a curve, and the boat driver encountered Hoepfner, who was going up the creek and who was on the left side, Rich said.

Both the boat driver and Hoepfner tried to avoid

a collision, but the boat went right and the Jet Ski went left, Rich said.

As a result of the collision, Hoepfner ended up in the water, Rich said. Both Hoepfner's husband, who was on a separate Jet Ski, and the boat driver went to assist Hoepfner, Rich said.

Hoepfner was pulled out of the water and taken to a

dock, where a Perquimans County Emergency Medical Services team arrived and took over providing her with medical attention before transporting her to the hospital, Rich said.

Citing the ongoing probe, Rich declined to provide the boat driver's name, but he said that both the boat driver and the boat driver's lone pas-

senger were unharmed.

The boat was equipped with flotation devices and both Hoepfner and her husband had been wearing life jackets prior to the collision, Rich said.

The jet ski Hoepfner was operating was totaled, while the boat was found to have sustained approximately \$3,000 worth of damage, Rich said.

CRIMEWATCH

Edenton Police

ARRESTS

- Sept. 2 — Roland Thomas Cooper, 49, of Indian Trail Road, was arrested on one misdemeanor count of simple physical assault.
- Aug. 29 — Michael Allen Felton, 19, of Greenhall

Road, was arrested on one misdemeanor count of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, one misdemeanor count of alcohol consumption by a 1920-year-old, and one misdemeanor count of possession of alcohol by a 1920-year-old.

- Aug. 29 — Ricardo Patino, 40, of Cox Avenue,

was arrested on one misdemeanor count of failure to appear.

• Aug. 26 — Adonis Ray Basnight, 38, of East Peterson Street, was arrested on one misdemeanor count of failure to appear.

• Aug. 26 — Srfrouya Tykesha Baxter, 19, of Tyler Run 1, was charged with one misdemeanor count of

simple physical assault.

• Aug. 26 — Larrisha Nicole Fleming, 21, of Tyler Run 1, was charged with one misdemeanor count of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and one misdemeanor count of assault.

INCIDENTS

• Sept. 1 — Assault by pointing a gun and com-

municating threat on East Gale Street.

• Aug. 31 — Vandalism on Filberts Creek Drive.

• Aug. 29 — Vandalism on Bond Street.

• Aug. 28 — Shoplifting and larceny at Food Lion on North Broad Street.

• Aug. 26 — Larceny on Elliott Street.

Chowan Sheriff

ARRESTS

• Sept. 1 — Santiago Julio Ortiz, 60, of Coree Trail, was arrested on two misdemeanor counts of communicating threats and one misdemeanor count of assault on a female.

INCIDENTS

• None reported

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Input sought on transportation plan

From staff reports

Would you like to express your concerns regarding needed road, bicycle and pedestrian improvements in Chowan County?

The N.C. Department of Transportation, in cooperation with the Albemarle Rural Planning Organization, is working on a Comprehensive Transportation Plan for Chowan County and the steering committee needs

your input on recommendations for future transportation improvements.

The drop-in session will be held Sept. 28 from 4-7 p.m. at the Chowan Public Safety Center located at 305 W. Freemason Street in Edenton.

There will be no formal presentation; however, local, regional and state staff will be on hand to hear your input, answer questions and collect comments from you.

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Suicide prevention dinner tonight in EC

From staff reports

A suicide prevention dinner will be held tonight (Wednesday) from 6-8 at the Hugh Cole Resource Center in Elizabeth City.

The dinner is free but donations are accepted. It will include various speakers such as survivors, clinicians, and individuals who lost someone to suicide.

The purpose of the dinner is to raise awareness of the problem, identify local resources, and gather effective tips to prevent future

cases of suicide.

Suicide is a serious public health problem that causes pain, suffering, and loss to individuals, families, and communities nationwide. On average, someone dies from suicide every 13 minutes.

Suicide is the second leading cause of death for young people ages 15-24. Register online at eventbrite.com.

For more information please contact 252-312-0516 or via email at girlsforempowerment@gmail.com.

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