

# Did You Know?

10 Important facts about municipal water treatment, disinfection, and lead



Municipal



Granular  
Activated  
Carbon

For more information, please refer to our website [calgoncarbon.com](http://calgoncarbon.com).

1. ...Municipal water treatment plants must disinfect the water delivered to homes and businesses
2. ...The primary disinfectant chemical used, chlorine, is highly effective in controlling harmful bacteria in water. However, chlorine forms compounds called disinfection byproducts (DBPs), which can be harmful to human health
3. ...The US EPA regulates the amount of DBPs that can be present in our water
4. ...Some water utilities have chosen to switch to a different disinfectant, chloramines, in order to comply with the EPA regulations, as chloramines form lower levels of the regulated DBPs
5. ...Chloramines, while not forming as many DBPs as chlorine, can form DBPs that are more toxic than the currently regulated DBPs
6. ...Chloramines can change the water chemistry in the distribution pipes that bring water from the treatment plant to homes; a change in water chemistry can result in elevated lead levels in drinking water if not properly controlled by adding anti-corrosivity agents
7. ...Chloramines can promote biological growth inside distribution pipes
8. ...There is another way! Use of granular activated carbon (GAC) at the water plant removes organic matter from water, preventing the formation of DBPs and avoiding the need for excessive chemical addition. The US EPA recognizes GAC as one of the best available control technology for DBPs!
9. ...Using GAC allows water treatment plants to use chlorine safely, which can also alleviate lead releases, biological growth, and emerging DBPs
10. ...Calgon Carbon provides financing options in affordable monthly installments through its "Potable Water Service" program to help utilities pay for GAC use

# Municipal Water Treatment Solutions

