

The Municipal Authority of Westmoreland County (MAWC) will begin to supply drinking water from a new water supply line from the Greater Johnstown Water Authority (GJWA) on December 1, 2012. The drinking water supplied by GJWA is fluoridated. Customers in the following communities who currently receive their water from MAWC will be supplied with this fluoridated water: Ligonier Borough, Laughlintown, Laurel Mountain Borough, and parts of Ligonier Township.

The American Dental Association (ADA) has endorsed fluoridation of community water supplies as safe and effective for preventing tooth decay. Children who drink optimally fluoridated water on a regular basis do not need to take fluoride dietary supplements. Parents of children who regularly drink MAWC's water should contact their physician or pediatric dentist about discontinuing the use of fluoride supplements for their children as of December 1, 2012. Some home water treatments, such as reverse osmosis units, will remove fluoride, so customers should consult the water treatment manufacturer to determine if their water treatment system is removing fluoride. If so, parents should consult their prescribing dentist or physician about whether additional fluoride supplements are necessary.

For more information on drinking water fluoridation please see the ADA website at <http://www.ada.org/fluoride.aspx> or contact your dental professional.

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