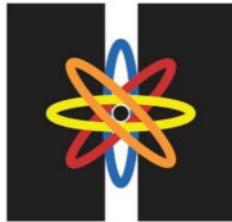


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February 2026

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7:30 AM - Noon Friday

Office Closings:
May 25 | Holiday
July 3 | Holiday
Sept. 7 | Holiday

Discontinuance of Community Water Fluoridation

Harlan Municipal Utilities is responsible for the provision of safe and healthy drinking water for its residents. At the January 22, 2026 Board of Trustees meeting, the Board passed a Resolution to discontinue the use of Flouride in the public water system effective June 1, 2026.

Community water fluoridation is a voluntary public health measure, not mandated by federal law, with decisions resting at the local level. Concerns exist regarding the potential health impacts of fluoride in drinking water, including but not limited to a 2024 National Toxicology Program (NTP) report concluded with "Moderate confidence" that higher levels of fluoride in drinking water are linked to lower IQ in children. In November 2024, a federal judge ruled that potential neurodevelopmental effects from fluoride exposure pose an unreasonable risk and ordered the EPA to review and potentially regulate water fluoride on levels under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA); and the cost-effectiveness and benefits of fluoridation are increasingly debated, with alternatives available for dental health.

Iowa Code Section 135.39E requires public water systems to provide at least ninety (90) days' notice to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and customers before discontinuing fluoridation, to allow for public awareness.

Any written objections can be emailed to hmu@harlan.net or mailed to Harlan Municipal Utilities, c/o Jennifer Kelly at PO Box 71, Harlan, Iowa 51537 prior to March 26, 2026. Oral objections can also be presented at the March 26, 2026 Board of Trustees Meeting.

(full resolution can be found at www.harlannt.com)



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