

# Chlorobenzene (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>Cl)

## **What is Chlorobenzene?**

Chlorobenzene is an industrial chemical that is not found naturally in the environment. It is a colorless, flammable liquid with an aromatic, almond-like odor. It is used as a solvent, chemical intermediate, and heat transfer medium.

## **Does Chlorobenzene have any additional names?**

Monochlorobenzene, Benzene chloride

## **What are the known health effects?**

Some people who drink water containing chlorobenzene in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver or kidneys.

## **How does exposure occur?**

Exposure to very low levels of chlorobenzene can occur from breathing air, drinking contaminated water, and ingesting some foods. Workers in industries that make or use chlorobenzene may be exposed to chlorobenzene in the air by breathing it in or through their skin.

No specific protection from chlorobenzene is recommended because most people will not be exposed to chlorobenzene at levels likely to cause health problems.

## **Is this contaminant regulated?**

Yes, and water supplied to Mount Laurel MUA customers is in compliance with USEPA requirements. The maximum concentration of Chlorobenzene permitted in drinking water is 50 ppb; water supplied by the MLTMUA system has not reported any detections of Chlorobenzene.

## **How can I reduce exposure?**

Chlorobenzene can be removed from drinking water through reverse osmosis and granulated activated carbon.

**Additional information regarding Chlorobenzene, including the information referenced, can be found at:**

<https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxprofiles/tp131.pdf>

<https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-09/documents/chlorobenzene.pdf>