The Town of Frankford will add fluoride to its public water system beginning August 15, 2017. Under Senate Bill 173 municipal water supplies must fluoridate their water.

For more than 40 years, the American Dental Association has endorsed fluoridation of community water supplies as safe and effective for preventing tooth decay that leads to cavities. Fluoride occurs naturally in the earth’s crust and small amounts occur naturally in all water sources. The optimal level for fluoride in drinking water is 1.0 part per million.

Children who drink optimally fluoridated water daily do not need to take fluoride dietary supplements. Children in households receiving Frankford’s municipal water should discontinue fluoride supplements for their children as of August 15. However, households with home water treatments should consult the manufacturer to determine if their systems remove fluoride. If so, parents and their children’s pediatricians should discuss whether fluoride supplements are needed. The CDC recommends continuing to brush with toothpaste containing fluoride, even if your water contains it as well, because fluoride in drinking water is usually found at such low levels that fluoride toothpaste is beneficial.

Frankford’s entire municipal water system of approximately 349 connections will receive fluoridated water. The completed project, cost $20,000 and was partially funded by a Drinking Water Matching Grant from Delaware Health and Social Services Division of Public Health’s (DPH) State Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund Program. The Town of Frankford will monitor fluoride levels daily and report results monthly to DPH’s Office of Drinking Water. The Office of Drinking Water will collect and test monthly samples from Frankford’s public water system.

Other municipalities providing fluoridated water include Delmar, Dover, Georgetown, Laurel, Lewes, Middletown, Milton, Milford, New Castle, Newark, Seaford, Selbyville, and Wilmington, Wyoming, Selbyville, and Clayton have naturally occurring fluoride at optimal levels.

For more information, contact Frankford’s public Works director, Mr. Greg Welch at 302-841-9958, or Town Clerk at 302-732-9424.