



Important Notice: Lead Water Sample Results

Public Water System Name: _____

PWSID#: _____

On _____, water samples were collected from _____ located at _____ and analyzed for lead. The Safe Drinking Water Act requires us to provide each customer served by the facility on a regular basis (e.g., employees, students, etc.) the results of those water samples. The lead results from the samples collected at the above address were as follows:

<u>Sample Location</u>	<u>Lead Result (mg/L)</u>

The 90th percentile value for our water system is **below** the lead action level of 15 parts per billion (ppb) or 0.015 mg/L.

The 90th percentile value for our water system is **above** the lead action level of 15 ppb or 0.015 mg/L.

What does this mean?

Under the authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) set the action level for lead in drinking water at 15 ppb. This means utilities must ensure that water from taps that can be used for human consumption do not exceed this level in at least 90 percent of the sites sampled (90th percentile value). The action level is the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. If water from the tap does exceed this limit, then the utility must take certain steps to correct the problem.



What are the health effects of lead?

Lead can cause serious health problems if too much enters your body from drinking water or other sources. It can cause damage to the brain and kidneys, and can interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to all parts of your body. The greatest risk of lead exposure is to infants, young children, and pregnant women. Scientists have linked the effects of lead on the brain with lowered IQ in children. Adults with kidney problems and high blood pressure can be affected by low levels of lead more than healthy adults. Lead is stored in the bones and it can be released later in life. During pregnancy, the child receives lead from the mother's bones, which may affect brain development.

What can I do to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water?

If the 90th percentile lead level for this public water system was greater than the EPA's action level, we strongly urge you to take the measures listed below.

- **Run your water to flush out lead.** If water hasn't been used for several hours, run water for 15 to 30 seconds or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking.
- **Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula.** Lead from the plumbing dissolves more easily into hot water.
- **Do not boil water to remove lead.** Boiling water will not reduce lead.
- **Look for alternative sources or treatment of water.** You may want to consider purchasing bottled water or a water filter to bring with you to this facility. Read the package to be sure the filter is approved to reduce lead or contact NSF International at 800-NSF-8010 or www.nsf.org for information on performance standards for water filters.
- **Get your child tested.** (If applicable, i.e., facilities that are schools or child care centers.) Contact your local health department or healthcare provider to find out how you can get your child tested for lead, if you are concerned about exposure.

Additional Information:

For additional information, call _____ at _____ or the Office of Drinking Water, Lead and Copper Rule Manager at 302-741-8630. For additional information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's website at www.epa.gov/lead or contact your health care provider.