



IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT LEAD IN YOUR DRINKING WATER

Lehman-Jackson Elementary School found elevated levels of lead in drinking water tap samples. Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children.

**Please read this information closely
to see what you can do to reduce lead in your drinking water.**

ESTE INFORME CONTIENE INFORMACIÓN IMPORTANTE ACERCA DE SU AGUA POTABLE. HAGA QUE ALGUIEN LO TRADUZCA PARA USTED, O HABLE CON ALGUIEN QUE LO ENTIENDA.

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.

Sources of Lead

Lead is a common metal found in the environment. The main sources of lead exposure are lead-based paint and lead-contaminated dust or soil. Drinking water is also a possible source of lead exposure. Most sources of drinking water have no lead or very low levels of lead. Most lead gets into drinking water after the water leaves the local well or treatment plants and comes into contact with plumbing materials containing lead. These include lead pipes, lead solder (commonly used until 1986), as well as faucets, valves, and other components made of brass.

Steps You Can Take to Reduce Exposure to Lead in Water

1. **Run your water to flush out lead.** Run water for 15-30 seconds or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking, if it hasn't been used for several hours. This flushes lead-containing water from the pipes.
2. **Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula.** Lead dissolves more easily into hot water.
3. **Do not boil water to remove lead.** Boiling water will not reduce lead.
4. **Look for alternative sources or treatment of water.** You may want to consider purchasing bottled water or a water filter.
5. **Test your water for lead.** If you think you may have elevated lead levels in your home drinking water, have it tested. Call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) for more information.

What Happened? What is being done?

10 Lead samples were collected from Lehman-Jackson Elementary on September 29, 2021. The analysis was completed in October. All 10 samples had detections of Lead. However, two of the ten samples exceeded the Action Level with levels of 0.0196 mg/l or ppm (19.6 ppb) and 0.0699 mg/l or ppm (69.9 ppb). The Action Level for Lead is 0.015 mg/l (ppm) or 15 ppb. The 90th% exceeded the Action Level by 0.0046 mg/l (ppm) or 4.6 ppb.

In response to the elevated levels detected, follow up testing was conducted in December 2021. The level of lead detected in the 10 samples from December 13, 2021 were all under the Action Level for Lead of 0.015 mg/l (ppm) or 15 ppb. Water supplies continue to be flushed daily through routine usage as the school is occupied and at fully operational.

The following sampling and testing plan will be enacted in two consecutive monitoring periods. The first monitoring period is January- June 2022, the second July-December 2022. If results from two consecutive 6-month monitoring periods at the initial locations and number of sample sites (20 sites) do not exceed the action levels for both lead and copper, the system will be deemed to have optimized corrosion control through sampling. Results from this monitoring are reported as routine distribution samples. As per DEP, special monitoring may not begin until January or July following the end of the monitoring period in which the action level was exceeded. The first twenty (20) samples will be collected no later than April 1, 2022. Results will be reported to the Lehman-Jackson school community once received.

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Form



For More Information

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
BUREAU OF SAFE DRINKING WATER

Call us at 570-255-2705 or (if applicable) visit our website at bsd.org. Click: [Lehman-Jackson, Helpful Links, WATER TEST INFO](#) For more 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.

PWS ID#: 2400370

Date 3/30/2022



CONSUMER NOTICE OF TAP WATER RESULTS

Dear Consumer,

Lehman Jackson _____ is a public water system, because we are responsible for providing you with water at this location and ensuring that the drinking water we provide to you meets state and federal standards. The following table provides information on the tap location, date, and water sample result.

Drinking Water Sample for Lead		
Location	Date	Result (ppb)
Cafeteria Sink 001	09/29/21	69.9
Gym 002	09/29/21	3.51
Staff 003	09/29/21	2.46
Nurse 004	09/29/21	5.70
A Hall 005	09/29/21	.487
A Hall 006	09/29/21	9.09
Library 007	09/29/21	19.6
C Hall 008	09/29/21	1.40
D Hall 009	09/29/21	7.53
Daycare 010	09/29/21	7.27

The 90th percentile value for our water system is **greater than the lead action level of 15 parts per billion.**

What Does This Mean?

Under the authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act, EPA set the action level for lead in drinking water at 15 ppb. This means utilities must ensure the water from the taps used for human consumption do not exceed this level in at least 90 percent of the sites samples (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 exceeds this limit, then the utility must take certain steps to correct the problem. Because lead may pose serious health risks, the EPA set a Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) of zero for lead. The MCLG is *the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is a no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.*

We are taking a number of steps to correct the problem. We will begin sampling for lead every 6 months so we can closely monitor the lead levels in our water system. In addition, we will initiate a public education campaign to ensure that people who drink water in our facility know about the action level exceedance, understand the health effects of lead, the sources of lead and actions they can take to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water. We will also take actions to reduce the corrosivity of our water because corrosive water can cause lead to leach from plumbing materials that contain lead. We strongly urge you to take the steps below to reduce your exposure to lead in drinking water.

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. If you are concerned about lead exposure at this facility or in your home, you may want to ask your health care providers about testing your children to determine levels of lead in their blood.

What are The Sources of Lead?

Although most lead exposure occurs when people eat paint chips and inhale dust, or from contaminated soil, EPA estimates that 10 to 20 percent of human exposure to lead may come from lead in drinking water. Lead is rarely found in source water, but enters tap water through corrosion of plumbing materials. Buildings built before 1986 are more likely to have lead pipes, fixtures and solder.

What Can I do to Reduce Exposure to Lead in Drinking Water?

- **Run your water to flush out lead.** If water hasn't been used for several hours, run water for 15-30 seconds to flush out interior plumbing 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.**
- **Do not boil water to remove lead.**

For More Information

Call us at 570-255-2798_____. For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's website at: www.epa.gov/lead, call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider.

Lead in Drinking Water

[Testimony before the Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee Public Hearing on Lead Exposure and Mitigation October 30, 2017 \(PDF\)](http://files.dep.state.pa.us/Water/DrinkingWater/Lead/DEP%20Daniels%20Testimony%20Lead%20Exposure%20and%20Mitigation.pdf)

(<http://files.dep.state.pa.us/Water/DrinkingWater/Lead/DEP%20Daniels%20Testimony%20Lead%20Exposure%20and%20Mitigation.pdf>)

National events about lead exposure have generated new concerns for Pennsylvanians related to the safety of their homes and water. The Wolf Administration takes the issue of lead exposure very seriously and state agencies will continue to work together on their coordinated response to address lead exposure in communities across the commonwealth. The Departments of Health (DOH) and Environmental Protection (DEP) both work diligently to protect children from lead exposure and have many resources available for residents to learn more and take action on lead.

Lead in Drinking Water

(<https://www.dep.pa.gov/Citizens/My-Water/PublicDrinkingWater/Pages/Lead-in-Drinking-Water.aspx>)

Public Notification

(<https://www.dep.pa.gov/Citizens/My-Water/PublicDrinkingWater/Pages/Public-Notification.aspx>)

Electronic Reporting System

(<https://www.dep.pa.gov/Citizens/My-Water/PublicDrinkingWater/Pages/Electronic-Reporting-System.aspx>)

Monitoring Waivers

(<https://www.dep.pa.gov/Citizens/My-Water/PublicDrinkingWater/Pages/Monitoring-Waivers.aspx>)

Lead Information for Schools and Day...

(<https://www.dep.pa.gov/Citizens/My-Water/PublicDrinkingWater/Pages/Lead-and-Drinking-Water.aspx>)

Consumer Confidence Reports

(<https://www.dep.pa.gov/Citizens/My-Water/PublicDrinkingWater/Pages/Consumer-Confidence-Reports.aspx>)

Emerging Contaminants

(<https://www.dep.pa.gov/Citizens/My-Water/PublicDrinkingWater/Pages/Emerging-Contaminants.aspx>)

Chloramine in Drinking Water

(<https://www.dep.pa.gov/Citizens/My-Water/PublicDrinkingWater/Pages/Chloramine-in-Drinking-Water.aspx>)

According to Department of Health, the primary source of childhood lead poisoning in Pennsylvania continues to be exposure to aging, deteriorating lead-based paint (chips and dust), and not drinking water. The age of Pennsylvania's housing stock contributes to this problem. While lead was banned from paint in 1978, many older dwellings still contain layers of pre-1978 paint.

Keeping Lead Out of Drinking Water - Pennsylvania's Lead and Copper Rule

Federal and state regulations require that public drinking water suppliers regularly test for contaminants such as lead. DEP monitors water suppliers to ensure that they are complying with testing requirements to safeguard our public drinking water supplies. DEP also provides information to private well water users on how to properly maintain their systems to reduce their exposure to lead.

Arsenic in Drinking Water

(<https://www.dep.pa.gov/Citizens/My-Water/PublicDrinkingWater/Pages/Arsenic-in-Drinking-Water.aspx>)

Laboratory Accreditation Program

(<https://www.dep.pa.gov/Business/OtherPrograms/Labs/Pages/Laboratory-Accreditation-Program.aspx>)

Fluoride

(<https://www.dep.pa.gov/Citizens/My-Water/PublicDrinkingWater/Pages/Fluoride.aspx>)

CCR Violations Report Field Descriptions

(<https://www.dep.pa.gov/Citizens/My-Water/PublicDrinkingWater/Pages/CCR-Violations-Report-Field-Descriptions.aspx>)

Surface Water Filtration

(<https://www.dep.pa.gov/Citizens/My-Water/PublicDrinkingWater/Pages/Surface-Water-Filtration.aspx>)

The purpose of the Lead and Copper Rule is to protect public health by minimizing lead and copper levels in drinking water, primarily by making water less corrosive. When water is corrosive, the lead and copper found in plumbing materials can leach into your drinking water. Pennsylvania's Lead and Copper Rule establishes an action level of 0.015 mg/L for lead and 1.3 mg/L for copper. Water systems are required to sample the water from consumer's homes on a specific frequency, which is either every 6-months, annually or triennially (once every 3 years). An action level exceedance occurs if the results from more than 10% of the homes tested are above the action level. An action level exceedance is not a violation but can trigger other requirements that include water quality parameter monitoring, corrosion control treatment, source water monitoring/treatment, public education and lead service line replacement. All community water systems (defined as those serving year-round residents) and nontransient noncommunity water systems (defined as those regularly serving the same people at least 6 months per year, such as schools and daycares) are subject to the Lead and Copper Rule requirements.

Lead and Copper Rule Routine Compliance Determination

The results of routine compliance monitoring are regularly reported to the Department. These results are evaluated and the 90th percentile compliance value is calculated. For the 2016 annual and triennial monitoring period, 2,859 water systems were required to monitor during the period from June-September. Of these 2,859 systems, 11 exceeded both the lead and copper action levels, 79 exceeded only the lead action level, and 42 exceeded only the copper action level.

Both the individual results and the compliance values are available on the Drinking Water Reporting System website (with instructions for how to search this data) at:
[the Safe Drinking Water webpage.](http://www.drinkingwater.state.pa.us/)

(<http://www.drinkingwater.state.pa.us/>)

What are the health effects of lead and copper?

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 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. If you are concerned about lead exposure, you may want to ask your health care provider about testing children to determine levels of lead in their blood.

Copper can cause adverse health effects, including vomiting, diarrhea, stomach cramps, and nausea.

What are the sources of lead and copper?

Although most lead exposure occurs when people eat paint chips and inhale lead-contaminated dust, or ingest lead-contaminated residential soil, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that 10 to 20 percent of human exposure to lead may come from drinking water. Lead and copper are rarely found in the source of a public water supply such as a river or creek. Rather, they enter tap water through the corrosion of a home's plumbing materials. Homes built before 1986 are more likely to have lead pipes, fixtures and solder. However, newer homes may also be at risk. Even legally "lead-free" plumbing may contain up to 8 percent lead. The most common problem is with brass or chrome-plated brass faucets and fixtures that can leach significant amounts of lead into the water, especially hot water. Corrosion of copper pipes in homes is the leading source of copper in drinking water.

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

Since lead exposure in drinking water typically comes from your plumbing fixtures and not the source of your water supply, it's important for both public drinking water customers as well as private well water users to follow these tips to reduce your exposure to lead.

Run your water to flush out lead and copper.

If water hasn't been used for several hours, run water for 15-30 seconds or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking. This flushes out any stagnant water in your home plumbing and replaces it with fresh water from the water main in your street. For homes with lead service lines, customers may have to flush the line for a longer period, perhaps one minute, before drinking.

Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula.

Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap; lead dissolves more easily into hot water. Do not use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula.

Do not boil water to remove lead or copper.

Boiling water will not reduce lead or copper. In fact, lead or copper concentrations will be higher in water that is boiled since some of the water is removed as steam.

Test your water for lead or copper. Contact your water system for more information about getting your water tested. Some water systems may offer to test your water free of charge. Your water system can also provide information about local laboratories that conduct lead testing. If you're a private well water user, you should contact a DEP-accredited lab for information about water testing. Here is the link to a listing of

DEP-accredited labsbs.xls)

(Excel).

Identify if your plumbing fixtures contain lead.

There are lead check swabs that can detect lead on plumbing surfaces such as solder and pipes. These swabs can be purchased at plumbing and home improvement stores.

Where can I get more information about lead and copper levels in my water system?

Community water systems are required to deliver an annual water quality report (also called a

Consumer Confidence Report

(<http://www.drinkingwater.state.pa.us/ccr/index.html>)

) to all customers. The report contains test results for samples collected during the year.

Sample results are also available on the DEP's website through the

Drinking Water Reporting System

(<http://www.drinkingwater.state.pa.us/dwrs/HTM/Welcome.html>)

. Select your county and water supplier to see the most recent lead and copper test results (on the results page, contaminant 1022 is copper, 1030 is lead).

What is the PA Lead Ban Act?

Pennsylvania's Plumbing System Lead Ban and Notification Act (PA Lead Ban) became effective on January 6, 1991, and applies to all plumbing construction or repairs done after that date.

Pennsylvania's law is similar to the 1986 amendments to the federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) and requires the use of lead-free materials in construction or repair of any public water system (PWS), any facility connected to a PWS, or any plumbing that provides water for human consumption.

For more information, read the annual

Lead Ban Surveillance Report

(http://files.dep.state.pa.us/Water/DrinkingWater/Lead/2019_Lead_Ban_Report.pdf)

(PDF).

Where can I find more information about lead?

(<http://www.ahs.dep.pa.gov/NewsRoomPublic/articleviewer.aspx?id=20925&typeid=1>)

Information for schools and daycare centers

([/Citizens/My-Water/PublicDrinkingWater/Pages/Lead-and-Drinking-Water.aspx](#))

Pennsylvania lead ban fact sheet

(<http://www.depgreenport.state.pa.us/elibrary/GetDocument?docId=12302&DocName=PENNSYLVANIA%20LEAD%20BAN.PDF%20>)

(PDF)

Lead and copper rule reference guide

(<http://www.dep.state.pa.us/elibrary/GetDocument?docId=5039&DocName=LEAD%20AND%20COPPER%20RULE:%20A%20QUICK%20REFERENCE%20GUIDE.PDF%20>)

List of Pennsylvania Accredited Drinking Water Test

(http://files.dep.state.pa.us/AboutDEP/Labs/LabsPortalFiles/2015-0923_Accredited_Labs_ing_Labs_All.xls)

(Excel)

Pa. Department of Health Lead Poisoning Informati

(<http://www.health.pa.gov/My%20Health/Infant%20and%20Childrens%20Health/Lead%20Poisoning%20Prevention%20and%20Control/Pages/default.aspx#.VrN77Rwo6TO>)

EPA's website

(<http://www.epa.gov/lead>)

National Lead Information Center Hotline: 800-424-

LEAD

Penn State Extension Website

(<http://extension.psu.edu/natural-resources/water/drinking-water/water-testing/pollutants/lead-in-drinking-water>)

NSF Water Fact Kit for consumers

(<http://www.nsf.org/consumer-resources>)

NSF Water Treatment Device Information

(<http://www.nsf.org/consumer-resources/health-and-safety-tips/water-quality-treatment-tips>)