

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT LEAD IN YOUR DRINKING WATER

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***The Village of Doylestown found elevated levels of lead in drinking water in some homes / buildings. 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.***

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## **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, natural, toxic, and often useful metal that was used for years in products found around the home. It can be found throughout the environment in lead-based paint, air, soil, household dust, food, and certain types of pottery, porcelain, and pewter. It can also be found in water.

Lead is unusual among drinking water contaminants in that it seldom occurs naturally in water supplies like rivers and lakes. Lead enters drinking water primarily as a result of corrosion, or wearing away, of materials containing lead in the water distribution system and household plumbing. These materials include lead-based solder used to join copper pipe, brass and chrome plated brass faucets, and, in some cases, pipes made of lead that connect your house to the water main (service lines). Some common causes of corrosion are dissolved oxygen, acidity (low pH), and low mineral content in the water. In 1986, Congress banned the use of lead solder containing more than 0.2% lead and restricted the lead content of faucets, pipes, and other plumbing materials to not more than 8.0%.

When water stands in lead pipes or plumbing systems containing lead for several hours or more, the lead may dissolve into your drinking water. This means the first draw from the faucet in the morning, or later in the afternoon after returning from work or school, can contain fairly high levels of lead.

Lead in drinking water, although rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning, can significantly increase a person's total lead exposure, particularly the exposure of infants who drink baby formulas and concentrated juices that are mixed with water.

Other important sources of lead exposure are lead-based paint, soil, and household dust. Homes built prior to 1978 may have lead-based paint both inside and outside of the house. Ingestion of lead-based paint chips is frequently a cause of lead exposure in young children. Soil and household dust may also contain deteriorating lead-based paint.

## **STEPS THE CONSUMER CAN TAKE TO REDUCE THEIR EXPOSURE TO LEAD IN DRINKING WATER**

To reduce your exposure to lead in drinking water, the following precautions should be considered and taken.

Let the water run from the faucet before using it for drinking or cooking any time the water in a faucet has gone unused for more than six hours. The longer water resides in your home or building's plumbing, the more lead it may contain. Flushing the faucet means running the cold water faucet until the water gets noticeably colder, usually about 30 seconds to 2 minutes. If your house or building has a lead service line to the water main, you may have to flush the water for a longer time. Although toilet flushing or showering flushes water through a portion of your home or building's plumbing system, you still need to flush water in each faucet before using it for drinking or cooking. Flushing faucet water is a simple and inexpensive measure you can take to reduce lead exposure. To conserve water, fill a couple of bottles for drinking water after flushing the faucet, and wherever possible use the first flush to wash dishes or water the plants.

Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap. Hot water can dissolve more lead in less time than cold water. If you need hot water, draw water from the cold tap and heat it on the stove or microwave. Do not prepare baby formula with water from the hot water tap.

Do not boil water to remove lead. Boiling water will not reduce lead levels.

Periodically remove the strainers from faucets and flush by running water for 3 to 5 minutes to remove any loose lead solder or debris that has accumulated over time.

Determine whether or not the service line that connects your home or building to the water main is made of lead. The best way to determine if your service line is made of lead is by hiring a licensed plumber to inspect the line. A licensed plumber can at the same time check to see if your home or building's plumbing contains lead solder, lead pipes, or pipe fittings that contain lead. The public water system that delivers water to your home should maintain records of the materials located in the distribution system. If the service line that connects your house to the water main contributes more than 15 micrograms per liter lead to drinking water, after our comprehensive treatment program is in place, we are required to replace the portion of the line we own. If the line is only partially owned by the public water system, we are required to provide the owner of the privately-owned portion of the line with information on how to replace the privately-owned portion of the service line, and offer to replace that portion of the line at the owner's expense. If we replace that portion of the line that we own, we also are required to notify you in advance and provide you with information on the steps you can take to minimize exposure to any temporary increase in lead levels that may result from the partial replacement, to take a follow-up sample at our expense from the line within 72 hours after partial replacement, and to mail or otherwise provide you the results of that sample within three business days of receiving the results. Acceptable replacement alternatives include copper, steel, iron, and plastic pipes.

Have an electrician check your wiring. If grounding wires from the electrical system are attached to your pipes, corrosion may be greater. Check with a licensed electrician or your local electrical code to determine if your wiring can be grounded elsewhere. DO NOT attempt to change the wiring yourself because improper grounding can cause electrical shock and fire hazards.

Parents may want to have your child's blood tested for lead by your family doctor or pediatrician and they can provide you information about the health effects of lead.

Despite our best efforts to control water corrosivity and remove lead from the water supply, lead levels in some homes or buildings can be high. To find out whether you need to take action in your home, have your drinking water tested to determine if it contains excessive concentrations of lead. Testing is essential because you cannot see, taste, or smell lead in drinking water. The following is a list of some Ohio EPA approved laboratories in your area that you can call to have your water tested for lead.

Ream & Haager 330-343-3711  
Alloway 419-524-5575

The steps described above will reduce the lead concentrations in your drinking water. However, if a water test indicates that the drinking water coming from your faucet contains lead concentrations in excess of 15 micrograms per liter after flushing, or after we have completed our actions to minimize levels, then you may want to take any of the following additional measures.

Purchase or lease a home treatment device. Home treatment devices are limited in that each unit treats only water that flows from the faucet(s) to which it is connected, and all of the devices require periodic maintenance and replacement. Counter top devices such as reverse osmosis systems installed on the faucet or distillers can effectively remove lead from your drinking water. Some activated carbon filters may reduce lead levels at the faucet; however, all lead reduction claims should be investigated. Be sure to check the actual performance of a specific home treatment device before and after installing the unit.

Purchase bottled water for drinking and cooking.

## **WHAT IS THE PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM DOING TO REDUCE THE LEAD LEVELS IN HOMES AND BUILDINGS IN THIS AREA**

Conducting corrosivity studies

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

For more information call Randy Danford at 330-658-2181 ext. 1141 or 330-690-3036. For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home or building and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/lead> or contact your health care provider.

Lead Public Education for Community Public Water Systems

This notice is brought to you by The Village of Doylestown PWS ID #OH8500612

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# DOYLESTOWN WATER SUPPLY

## Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report

### 2012

The **Doylestown** Water supply has prepared the following report to provide information to you, the consumer, on the quality of our drinking water. Included within this report is general health information, water quality test results, how to participate in decisions concerning your drinking water and water system contacts.

The **Doylestown** Water Supply receives its drinking water from a ground water source. We have 4 deep rockwells on our North well field, two wells on our south well field on Galehouse Rd and we treat the water through an iron and manganese removal treatment plant. The plant and North wells are located at 144 Clinton Rd. at the intersection of State Rt. 585 and Clinton Rd.

#### **What are sources of contamination in drinking water?**

The sources of drinking water both tap water and bottled water can be from rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include: (A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife; (B) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; (C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses; (D) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban Storm water runoff, and septic systems; (E) radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

#### **Who needs to take special precautions?**

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infection. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

#### **About your drinking water**

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The **Doylestown** Water Supply has conducted sampling for **{bacteria; nitrate; lead; copper}** in 2012 as required by Ohio EPA. Most contaminants were not detected. However, elevated lead and copper in some samples were detected in the **Doylestown** water supply. The Ohio EPA requires us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though accurate, are more than one year old.

## **Wellhead Protection Plan**

Ohio EPA recently completed a study of the Village of Doylestown's source drinking water, to identify potential contamination sources and provide guidance on protecting the drinking water source. According to this study, the aquifer (water rich zone) that supplies water to the Village of Doylestown has a moderate susceptibility to contamination.

This is determination is based on the following:

- Presence of a moderately thick protective layer of shale overlying the aquifer, no evidence to suggest that ground water has been impacted by any significant levels of chemical contaminants from human activities.
- Presence of significant potential contaminant sources in the protection area.

This susceptibility means that under currently existing conditions, the likelihood of the aquifer becoming contaminated is moderate. The likelihood can be minimized by implementing appropriate protective measures. More information about the source water assessment or what consumers can do to help protect the aquifer is available by calling Randy Danford 330-690-3036.

## **How do I participate in decisions concerning my drinking water?**

Public participation and comment are encouraged at regular meetings of the **Doylestown Board of Public Affairs. The Board of Public Affairs meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays on each month at 7:00 PM at the Village Hall located at 24 South Portage St. Doylestown.**

**The Village of Doylestown has a current, unconditioned license to operate our water system.**

**For more information** on your drinking water contact **Randy Danford Public Utilities Manager at 330-690-3036 Monday thru Friday 7:00AM to 3:30PM**

## **Definitions of some terms contained within this report for the following page.**

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

**Maximum Contaminant level (MCL):** The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**Parts per Million (ppm) or Milligrams per Liter (mg/L)** are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per million corresponds to one second in a little over 11.5 days.

**Parts per Billion (ppb) or Micrograms per Liter (µg/L)** are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years.

**The "<" symbol:** A symbol which means less than. A result of <5 means that the lowest level that could be detected was 5 and the contaminant in that sample was not detected.

**Action Levels (AL)** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Village of Doylestown is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

**LISTED BELOW IS INFORMATION ON THOSE CONTAMINATES THAT WERE FOUND IN THE  
VILLAGE OF DOYLESTOWN DRINKING WATER**

<b>CONTAMINANTS (UNITS)</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>MCL</b>	<b>LEVEL FOUND</b>	<b>RANGE OF DETECTION</b>	<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>SAMPLE YEAR</b>	<b>TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANTS</b>
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Barium (mg/l)	2	2	0.028	N/A	No	2010	Discharge of drilling wastes; Natural erosion; Discharge from metal refineries.
*Copper (ug/l)	1300	AL=1300	90% = 1176	<10-3510	No	2011	Discharge of drilling wastes; Natural erosion; Discharge from metal refineries.
*Lead (ug/l)	0	AL=15	90% = 27.6	<5-144	Yes	2011	Discharge of drilling wastes; Natural erosion; Discharge from metal refineries.
<b>Additional Contaminants</b>							
Total Trihalomethanes (ug/l)	N/A	80	2.77	N/A	No	2010	Disinfection Bi-product

\*Denotes Two Lead samples were over AL (Action Level), and one Copper sample was over AL (Action Level).

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at you home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)