

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER
TOWN OF CAPON BRIDGE INC, WV3301402

TOWN OF CAPON BRIDGE INC 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.

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, and some plumbing materials. In addition, lead can be found in certain types of pottery, pewter, brass fixtures, food, and cosmetics. Other sources include exposure in the work place and exposure from certain hobbies (lead can be carried on clothing or shoes). Brass faucets, fittings, and valves, including those advertised as "lead-free," may contribute lead to drinking water.

Steps to reduce their exposure to lead in drinking water:

- **Run your water to flush out lead.** Flush for 15-30 seconds, if your water has been sitting for several hours
- **Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula.** Lead 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.**
- **Test your water for lead.** Call us to find out how to get your water tested for lead.
- **Get your child's blood tested.** 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.
- **Identify and replace plumbing fixtures containing lead.** Brass faucets, fittings, and valves, including those advertised as "lead-free," may contribute lead to drinking water. Visit the NSF Web site at www.nsf.org to learn more about lead-containing plumbing fixtures.

What happened? What is being done?

(Describe corrective action)

Proper Sampling Protocol was not followed for the
collecting of all Lead & Copper samples which indicated
several elevated readings. Consumer Education information
about proper sampling as well as the effects of lead
& Copper were sent to all water customers.

For more information, please contact Chris Turner at 304-856-3625. For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/lead> or contact your health care provider.

This notice is being sent to you by: **TOWN OF CAPON BRIDGE INC**State Water System ID #: **WV3301402**Date Distributed: 10/3/22

Suggested Directions for Homeowner Tap Sample Collection Procedures

Revised Version: February 2016

These samples are being collected to determine the lead and copper levels in your tap water. This sampling effort is required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and your State under the Lead and Copper Rule, and is being accomplished through a collaboration between the public water system and their consumers (e.g. residents).

Collect samples from a tap that has not been used for at least 6 hours. To ensure the water has not been used for at least 6 hours, the best time to collect samples is either early in the morning or in the evening upon returning from work. Be sure to use a kitchen or bathroom cold water tap that has been used for drinking water consumption in the past few weeks. The collection procedure is described below.

1. Prior arrangements will be made with you, the customer, to coordinate the sample collection. Dates will be set for sample kit delivery and pick-up by water system staff.
2. There must be a minimum of 6 hours during which there is no water used from the tap where the sample will be collected and any taps adjacent or close to that tap. Either early mornings or evenings upon returning home are the best sampling times to ensure that the necessary stagnant water conditions exist. Do not intentionally flush the water line before the start of the 6 hour period.
3. Use a kitchen or bathroom cold-water faucet for sampling. If you have water softeners on your kitchen taps, collect your sample from the bathroom tap that is not attached to a water softener, or a point of use filter, if possible. Do not remove the aerator prior to sampling. Place the opened sample bottle below the faucet and open the cold water tap as you would do to fill a glass of water. Fill the sample bottle to the line marked "1000-mL" and turn off the water.
4. Tightly cap the sample bottle and place in the sample kit provided. Please review the sample kit label at this time to ensure that all information contained on the label is correct.
5. If any plumbing repairs or replacement has been done in the home since the previous sampling event, note this information on the label as provided. Also if your sample was collected from a tap with a water softener, note this as well.
6. Place the sample kit in the same location the kit was delivered to so that water system staff may pick up the sample kit.
7. Results from this monitoring effort and information about lead will be provided to you as soon as practical but no later than 30 days after the system learns of the tap monitoring results. However, if excessive lead and/or copper levels are found, immediate notification will be provided (usually 1-2 working days after the system learns of the tap monitoring results).

Call Chris Turner at 304-856-3625 if you have any questions regarding these instructions.

Fill out only when supplied with sample bottles for return.

TO BE COMPLETED BY RESIDENT	
Water was last used: Time _____	Date _____
Sample was collected: Time _____	Date _____
Sample Location & faucet (e.g. Bathroom sink): _____	
I have read the above directions and have taken a tap sample in accordance with these directions.	
Signature _____	Date _____

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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. Homes built before 1986 are more likely to have lead pipes, fixtures and solder. However, new homes are also 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 which can leach significant amounts of lead into the water, especially hot water. 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.

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

- **Run your water to flush out lead.** If water has not been used for several hours, run water for 15 – 30 seconds for insert a different flushing time if your system has representative data indicating a different flushing time would better reduce lead exposure in your community and if the State approves the wording or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking. This flushes lead-containing water from the pipes.
- **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.** 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. 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.
- **Test your water for lead.** Call us at insert phone number for your water system to find out how to get your water tested for lead. Include information on your water system's testing program. For example, do you provide free testing? Are there labs in your area that are certified to do lead in water testing?
- **Identify if your plumbing fixtures contain lead.** New brass faucets, fittings, and valves, including those advertised as "lead-free," may contribute lead to drinking water. The law currently allows end-use brass fixtures, such as faucets, with up to 8 percent lead to be labeled as "lead-free." Consumers should be aware of this when choosing fixtures and take appropriate precautions.

For More Information

Call us at insert your water system's phone number. For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's Web site at www.epa.gov/lead, call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider.

that rarely affect an adult. It is important to wash children's hands and toys often, and to try to make sure they only put food in their mouths.

3. Lead In Drinking Water

- (i) 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. The EPA estimates that drinking water can make up 20 percent or more of a person's total exposure to lead.
- (ii) 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 the 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). In 1986, Congress banned the use of lead solder containing greater than 0.2 percent lead, and restricted the lead content of faucets, pipes and other plumbing materials to 8.0 percent.
- (iii) 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 water drawn from the tap in the morning, or later in the afternoon after returning from work or school, can contain fairly high levels of lead.

4. Steps You Can Take in the Home to Reduce Exposure to Lead in Drinking Water

- (i) Despite our best efforts mentioned earlier 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 own home, have your drinking water tested to determine if it contains excessive concentrations of lead. Testing the water is essential because you cannot see, taste, or smell lead in drinking water. Some local laboratories that can provide this information are listed at the end of this booklet. For more information on having your water tested, please call [insert phone number of water system].
- (ii) If a water test indicates that the drinking water drawn from a tap in your home contains lead above 15 ppb, then you should take the following precautions:
 - (A) Let the water run from the tap 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's plumbing the more lead it may contain. Flushing the tap means running the cold water faucet until the water gets noticeably colder, usually about 15–30 seconds. If your house has a lead service line to the water main, you may have to flush the water for a longer time, perhaps one minute, before drinking. Although toilet flushing or showering flushes water through a portion of your home's plumbing system, you still need to flush the water in each faucet before using it for

drinking or cooking. Flushing tap water is a simple and inexpensive measure you can take to protect your family's health. It usually uses less than one or two gallons of water and costs less than [insert a cost estimate based on flushing two times a day for 30 days] per month. To conserve water, fill a couple of bottles for drinking water after flushing the tap, and whenever possible use the first flush water to wash the dishes or water the plants. If you live in a high-rise building, letting the water flow before using it may not work to lessen your risk from lead. The plumbing systems have more, and sometimes larger pipes than smaller buildings. Ask your landlord for help in locating the source of the lead and for advice on reducing the lead level.

- (B) Try not to cook with, or drink water from the hot water tap. Hot water can dissolve more lead more quickly than cold water. If you need hot water, draw water from the cold tap and heat it on the stove.
- (C) Remove loose lead solder and debris from the plumbing materials installed in newly constructed homes, or homes in which the plumbing has recently been replaced, by removing the faucet strainers from all taps and running the water from 3 to 5 minutes. Thereafter, periodically remove the strainers and flush out any debris that has accumulated over time.
- (D) If your copper pipes are joined with lead solder that has been installed illegally since it was banned in 1986, notify the plumber who did the work and request that he or she replace the lead solder with lead-free solder. Lead solder looks dull gray, and when scratched with a key looks shiny. In addition, notify your State [insert name of department responsible for enforcing the Safe Drinking Water Act in your State] about the violation.
- (E) Determine whether or not the service line that connects your home or apartment to the water main is made of lead. The best way to determine if your service line is made of lead is by either hiring a licensed plumber to inspect the line or by contacting the plumbing contractor who installed the line. You can identify the plumbing contractor by checking the city's record of building permits which should be maintained in the files of the [insert name of department that issues building permits]. A licensed plumber can at the same time check to see if your home's plumbing contains lead solder, lead pipes, or pipe fittings that contain lead. The public water system that delivers water to your home should also maintain records of the materials located in the distribution system. If the service line that connects your dwelling to the water main contributes more than 15 ppb to drinking water, after our comprehensive treatment program is in place, we are required to replace the line. If the line is only partially controlled by the [insert name of the city, county, or water system that controls the line], we are required to provide you with information on how to replace your portion of the service line, and offer to replace that portion of the line at your expense and take a follow-up tap water sample within 14 days of the replacement. Acceptable replacement alternatives include copper, steel, iron, and plastic pipes.

- (F) 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.
- (iii) 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 tap contains lead concentrations in excess of 15 ppb after flushing, or after we have completed our actions to minimize lead levels, then you may want to take the following additional measures:
- (A) Purchase or lease a home treatment device. Home treatment devices are limited in that each unit treats only the water that flows from the faucet to which it is connected, and all of the devices require periodic maintenance and replacement. Devices such as reverse osmosis systems or distillers can effectively remove lead from your drinking water. Some activated carbon filters *may* reduce lead levels at the tap; 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.
- (B) Purchase bottled water for drinking and cooking.
- (iv) You can consult a variety of sources for additional information. Your family doctor or pediatrician can perform a blood test for lead and provide you with information about the health effects of lead. State and local government agencies that can be contacted include:
- (A) [Insert the name of city or county department of public utilities] at [insert phone number] can provide you with information about your community's water supply, and a list of local laboratories that have been certified by EPA for testing water quality;
- (B) [Insert the name of city or county department that issues building permits] at [insert phone number] can provide you with information about building permit records that should contain the names of plumbing contractors that plumbed your home; and
- (C) [Insert the name of the State Department of Public Health] at [insert phone number] or the [insert the name of the city or county health department] at [insert phone number] can provide you with information about the health effects of lead and how you can have your child's blood tested.
- (v) The following is a list of some State approved laboratories in your area that you can call to have your water tested for lead. [Insert names and phone numbers of at least two laboratories.] *at Homeowners expense*

PACE Analytical (304) 241-5861

Fredericktowne Labs, Inc. (301) 293-3340