



CLARKSBURG WATER BOARD

A Municipal Corporation Serving Clarksburg Since 1887

GENERAL MANAGER
JASON L. MYERS

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD
ALBERT N. COX II, PRESIDENT
PAUL J. HOWE III
CHAD E. SIGMON

November 4, 2024

RE: Lead Service Line Replacement Plan and CSL Material Notification

Dear Valued Customer,

The Clarksburg Water Board is committed to providing you with safe and reliable drinking water. As part of this commitment, we want to keep you informed about our ongoing efforts to remove lead service lines from our system.

The Clarksburg Water Board was established in 1887. At that time, lead service lines were widely used in plumbing systems due to their ease of installation and availability. However, as the health risks associated with lead exposure⁺⁺ became better understood, the use of lead in new water service lines was phased out nationwide by 1986. Since then, we have been working to replace existing lead service lines throughout our system.

In 2021, our regulatory agencies required the Board to reevaluate and optimize our corrosion control treatment (CCT) to further reduce the potential for lead to leach into the water from remaining lead service lines. Although the results of our required compliance sampling for lead and copper had always met the applicable safety standards under the federal Lead and Copper Rule, we took this precautionary measure to ensure the continued safety of your drinking water.

To assist with this effort, we retained a specialized engineering firm to analyze our CCT process and recommend improvements. Based on their findings, which were reviewed and approved by both the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the West Virginia Bureau for Public Health, we began adding orthophosphate to our treatment process in December 2022. Orthophosphate is a food-grade substance that forms a protective coating on the inside of pipes to prevent corrosion and minimize the release of lead.

We are pleased to report that this treatment optimization has been highly successful, with noticeable reductions in lead levels at our sampling sites within the first month of implementation. As a result of these improved results, the requirement to provide filtered pitchers to certain households has been lifted by our regulatory agencies.

Lead Service Line Replacement Plan and CSL Material Notification

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The recent revision of the federal Lead and Copper Rule requires all water systems to inventory the material composition of their service lines. We have completed this inventory to the best of our ability using a combination of record reviews, customer surveys, visual inspections, and predictive modeling. Based on this inventory, we are writing to inform you of the material composition of your customer service line (CSL), which is the private line that connects the water meter to your home or business. This information is included in the subject line of this letter.

If your water service line (CSL) is made of galvanized pipe that has ever been connected to a lead service line, it will need to be replaced. You will not be charged for this replacement. Our team will contact you in the coming months to schedule the work with a contractor from our approved list. The new service line will run from the water meter to inside your building. Please note that you have the option to decline this replacement if you prefer, but the Board strongly encourages all customers to proceed with these replacements. If the replacements are not conducted as part of the Board's replacement project, we cannot guarantee that funding will be available to finance these replacements in the future and the costs of replacement at a later date may have to be borne by the customer.

This replacement is being coordinated with a larger project to upgrade our water infrastructure. The first phase will focus on the North View, Stealey, Rosebud, Chestnut Hills, Main Street, and Pike Street areas. We will host neighborhood meetings in November to discuss the project timeline, construction impacts, and how to select a contractor for your CSL replacement. If you live or work in these areas, watch for a separate notification with more details.

We encourage you to attend one of these meetings or reach out to our customer service team at (304) 623-3711 or customer.service@clarksburgwater.com if you have any questions or concerns. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding as we work to complete this important infrastructure upgrade.

Sincerely,



Jason L. Myers
General Manager

⁺⁺ Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems.

I May Have Lead (Pb) In My Water

What Can I Do?

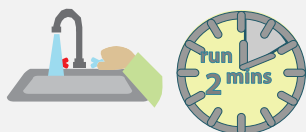
www.epa.gov/dwreginfo/lead-and-copper-rule

Flushing pipes is very important to remove lead in water that has been sitting for several hours.

NOTE: Boiling water does NOT remove lead in your water.

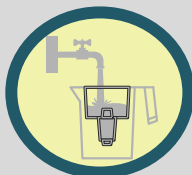
Step 1 - Flush Water

Run cold water at the highest flow from the kitchen faucet for 2 minutes.



Step 2

Pour fresh water into a filtered pitcher.



Step 3

Use the filtered water for drinking, cooking, and baby formula. Store additional filtered water for use throughout the day.



Can I Take a Shower or Wash My Hands?

It is okay for water with lead in it to touch your skin. You can still wash your hands and take a bath using unfiltered water.



Can I Brush My Teeth?

Make sure you brush your teeth with filtered or bottled water.



Can I Wash Dishes?

You can still wash and dry the dishes and stay safe! Dishes will not soak up the lead in the water.



Can I Wash Clothes?

Lead will not soak into clothes. If the water with lead in it does get into your clothes, it will not make you sick if the clothes touch your skin.



Can I Give My Pet Water?

ONLY give your pet water that is safe for you to drink! Make sure to give your pet filtered or bottled water.



Can I Water My Garden?

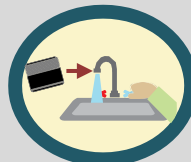
You can use the water flushed from the tap to water plants.



Regularly clean your faucet aerators.



An aerator is a device attached to the tip of a faucet.



It's important to clean faucet aerators and screens to remove small particles and any debris from them.



WHAT IS LEAD?

- Lead is a toxic metal that is harmful if inhaled or swallowed.
- Lead can be found in air, soil, dust, food, and water.

HOW CAN I BE EXPOSED TO LEAD?

- The greatest exposure to lead is swallowing or breathing in lead paint chips and dust.
- Lead also can be found in some household plumbing materials and water service lines.

WHO IS AT RISK?

- Children ages 6 and under are at the greatest risk. Pregnant women and nursing mothers should avoid exposure to lead to protect their children.
- Exposure to lead can result in delays in physical and mental development.

Your child is also at risk if:

- your home or a home that your child spends a lot of time in was built before lead paint was banned in 1978.
- renovation work is being done in such a home.
- the adults in the home work with lead.

HOTLINES & INFORMATION

EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline:
800-426-4791

National Lead Information Center:
800-424-LEAD
www.epa.gov/lead

NSF International:
www.nsf.org

Lead in Drinking Water Web Site:
www.epa.gov/safewater/lead

Additional Information:

Read the annual report you get from your water utility to find out about how they are working to reduce levels of lead in drinking water and other information about your drinking water. Call them if you have any questions.

Contact your local public health department or talk to your doctor about reducing your family's exposure to lead.

Office of Water (4606 M)
EPA 816-F-05-001
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IS THERE LEAD IN MY DRINKING WATER?

You can reduce the risk of lead exposure from drinking water in your home.



**Tips For
Protecting
Your Family's
Health**

HOW DOES LEAD GET INTO WATER?

Lead enters the water ("leaches") through contact with the plumbing.

Lead leaches into water through:

- Corrosion* of
 - Pipes
 - Solder
 - Fixtures and Faucets (brass)
 - Fittings

*Corrosion is a dissolving or wearing away of metal caused by a chemical reaction between water and your plumbing.

The amount of lead in your water also depends on the types and amounts of minerals in the water, how long the water stays in the pipes, the amount of wear in the pipes, the water's acidity and its temperature.

HEALTH TIP

To help block the storage of lead in your child's body, serve your family meals that are low in fat and high in calcium and iron, including dairy products and green vegetables.



What should I do if I suspect that my water contains high lead levels?

- If you want to know if your home's drinking water contains unsafe levels of lead, have your water tested.
- Testing is the only way to confirm if lead is present or absent.
- Most water systems test for lead as a regular part of water monitoring. These tests give a system-wide picture and do not reflect conditions at a specific drinking water outlet.
- For more information on testing your water, call EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

Should I test my children for exposure to lead?

- Children at risk of exposure to lead should be tested.
- Your doctor or local health center can perform a simple blood test to determine your child's blood-lead level.
- If your child has a blood lead level at or above 10ug/dl, should take preventive measures.

QUICK TIPS TO REDUCE YOUR FAMILY'S EXPOSURE TO LEAD



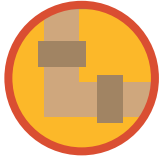
Boiling your water will not get rid of lead.

- Use cold water for drinking or cooking. Never cook or mix infant formula using hot water from the tap.
- Make it a practice to **run the water at each tap** before use.
- Do not consume water that has sat in your home's plumbing for more than six hours. First, make sure to **run the water** until you feel the temperature change before cooking, drinking, or brushing your teeth, unless otherwise instructed by your utility.
- Some faucet and pitcher filters can remove lead from drinking water. If you use a filter, be sure you get one that is certified to remove lead by the NSF International.



CONCERNED ABOUT LEAD IN YOUR DRINKING WATER?

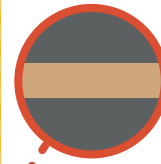
Sources of LEAD in Drinking Water



Copper Pipe with Lead Solder: Solder made or installed before 1986 contained high lead levels.



Faucets: Fixtures inside your home may contain lead.



Galvanized Pipe: Lead particles can attach to the surface of galvanized pipes. Over time, the particles can enter your drinking water, causing elevated lead levels.



Lead Service Line: The service line is the pipe that runs from the water main to the home's internal plumbing. Lead service lines can be a major source of lead contamination in water.



Lead Goose Necks: Goose necks and pigtails are shorter pipes that connect the lead service line to the main.



WATER METER
MAIN WATER LINE

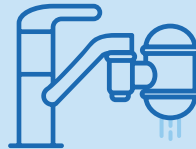
Reduce Your Exposure To Lead



Use only cold water for drinking, cooking and making baby formula. *Boiling water does not remove lead from water.*



Regularly clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator).



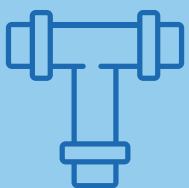
Consider using a water filter certified to remove lead and know when it's time to replace the filter.



Before drinking, flush your pipes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes.

To find out for certain if you have lead in drinking water, **have your water tested.**

Replace Your Lead Service Line



Water systems are required to replace lead service lines if a water system cannot meet EPA's Lead Action Level through optimized corrosion control treatment.

Replacement of the lead service line is often the responsibility of both the utility and homeowner.

Homeowners can contact their water system to learn about how to remove the lead service line.

Identify Other Lead Sources In Your Home

Lead in homes can also come from sources other than water. If you live in a home built before 1978, you may want to have your paint tested for lead. **Consider contacting your doctor to have your children tested if you are concerned about lead exposure.**



For more information, visit: epa.gov/safewater