



**DELAWARE HEALTH
AND SOCIAL SERVICES**

DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH

OFFICE OF DRINKING WATER
PHONE: (302) 741-8630
FAX: (302) 741-8631

May 28, 2014

Ryan Felber
1601 Kirkwood Highway
Wilmington, DE 19805

RE: Wilmington VAMC, PWS ID#: DE0020057

Dear Mr. Felber,

The Office of Drinking Water (ODW) would like to inform that **Wilmington VAMC** that as a community water system, you will now be required to sample your water for lead and copper. **Wilmington VAMC** will begin on a 6 month standard lead and copper monitoring schedule, in which the first set of samples will be due July-December of 2014. To maintain compliance, **twenty (20) lead and copper** tap water samples must be collected by December 31, 2014. These samples should be analyzed by a certified lab and submitted to ODW no later than January 10, 2015.

Please see the list below for a list of certified laboratories:

- Batta Environmental – Newark, DE – (302) 737-3376
- QC Lab – New Castle, DE – (302) 266-9121 *They have a courier that travels throughout Delaware
- Water Testing Labs – Salisbury, MD – (410) 546-1318

Please be aware that ODW is required to issue violations for failure to monitor lead and copper and/or for failure to report these results to our office during the appropriate time frame.

In addition, **Wilmington VAMC** must notify all persons receiving their water from taps that were sampled of the individual lead tap results, regardless of whether the lead action level was exceeded. This notification must be mailed or hand delivered as soon as possible, but no later than 30 days once **Wilmington VAMC** has learned of the lead results. A signed and dated Notification of Lead Sample Result Certification Form, and a copy of the notification as mailed or hand delivered, shall be sent to this office within 10 days of distribution.

If you have any questions regarding this information, or would like an electronic version of the attached forms, please contact me at 302-741-8598.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Katie Huegel".

Katie Huegel
Environmental Health Specialist II

**Delaware Division of Public Health
Office of Drinking Water**

43 S. DuPont Hwy • Dover, Delaware 19901
(302) 741-8630; Fax (302) 741-8631

THE LEAD AND COPPER RULE
NOTIFICATION OF LEAD SAMPLE RESULT CERTIFICATION
For Non-Transient Non-Community Water Systems

WITHIN TEN DAYS AFTER NOTIFYING ALL WATER CUSTOMERS OF LEAD SAMPLE RESULTS, SEND THE WATER SUPPLY PROGRAM A COPY OF:

- A. A copy of the notice distributed;
- B. This form with the Certification portion below completed.

CERTIFICATION

I certify that (check all that apply):

- All customers served by the facility on a regular basis (e.g. employees, staff, students, etc.) received a notice of all lead tap water monitoring results either by mail or other methods such as posting (please specify below):

- All customers received the notice no later than 30 days after the water system learned of the lead tap monitoring results.
- The notice included the following information:
 - Results of lead tap water monitoring
 - Explanation of the health effects of lead using EPA mandatory language
 - List of steps consumers can take to reduce their exposure to lead in drinking water
 - The Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) and the Action Level (AL) for lead and the EPA definitions.
 - Utility contact information

SIGNATURE

DATE

NAME (printed or typed)

PHONE NUMBER

WATER SYSTEM NAME

PWSID

COUNTY

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Lead Water Sample Result

Public Water System name: _____

SAMPLE RESULT

On _____, 2014, ___ lead water samples were collected from this location: _____ . The Safe Drinking Water Act requires us to provide each customer served by the facility on a regular basis (e.g. employees, staff, students, etc.) the results of those lead samples. The lead results from the samples collected at the above address were as follows (please use additional sheet for results if needed):

Sample Location

Lead result (mg/L)

Please mark the appropriate box:

- The 90th percentile value for our water system is *below* the lead action level of 15 parts per billion (or 0.015 mg/L).
- The 90th percentile value for our water system is *above* the lead action level of 15 parts per billion (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. 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 no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety*.

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.

STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO REDUCE EXPOSURE TO LEAD IN DRINKING WATER

To further reduce your exposure to lead in drinking water, you may wish to follow the steps below. However, if your 90th percentile lead level was greater than that of the EPA's action level, we strongly urge you to take these steps.

1. 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.
2. Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula: Lead from the plumbing 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 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.
5. (If applicable i.e. facilities that are schools or day care centers) Get your child 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.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information, please call us at _____. 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.

PWSID #: DE _ _ _ _ _