

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER FOLLOWING WATER SERVICE LINE

REPLACEMENT: Due to replacement of the water service line connected to your property, there may be a temporary increase in lead levels in your drinking water. **Once water service is restored, before using water for drinking or cooking, follow the steps outlined below to reduce exposure to lead.**

ESTE INFORME CONTIENE INFORMACIÓN IMPORTANTE ACERCA DE SU AGUA POTABLE. HAGA QUE ALGUIEN LO TRADUZCA PARA USTED, O HABLE CON ALGUIEN QUE LO ENTIENDA. Para ver este aviso en español, escanee el código QR a continuación o vaya a www.lehighcountyauthority.org/leadfree.



Health Effects of Exposure to Lead in Drinking Water: *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.*

What is Lead? Lead is a common naturally occurring metallic element found in air, soil, and water. It is a powerful toxin that is harmful to human health. Lead was used for centuries in plumbing because of its pliability and resistance to leaks. Some homes still have lead pipes and plumbing fixtures that can allow lead to leach into the drinking water that passes through them.

REDUCE YOUR RISK OF EXPOSURE TO LEAD IN DRINKING WATER: Take steps to reduce your potential exposure to lead in drinking water. After the service line is returned to service **BUT BEFORE USING THE WATER FOR CONSUMPTION:**

- Remove all faucet aerators and screens, including shower heads.
- Flush your service line and all internal plumbing by opening all taps and letting **cold** water run for at least 30 minutes. Start by opening faucets on the lowest floor and work your way up.
- After 30 minutes, start on the highest level of the home and close the faucets.
- Clean and re-install the aerators. Replace any that are worn or damaged.

Clean Faucet Aerators: As water stands in your home's plumbing, lead from the soldered joints and old lead pipes can get into your water. Other debris can build up on the aerator, too. It's important to clean faucet aerators and screens to remove any debris from them. Clean all aerators once a month for 6 months, then twice a year, spring, and fall. You should also replace aerators each year. You can buy them at your local hardware or home improvement store.

Daily Rinsing: Run cold water from your tap for at least three minutes. After that you will have fresh water from the LCA water main that is safe for drinking, cooking, making baby formula, feeding your pets, making ice, or watering vegetable gardens. You can also bring in fresh water from the LCA water main by taking a shower, washing dishes, using the clothes washer, or flushing the toilets first.

Avoid using hot tap water for the preparation of baby formula and be aware that boiling tap water does not reduce lead levels.

Use the Water Pitcher and Filters Provided: A pitcher and a six-month supply of filters certified to remove lead from drinking water will be provided to you at no cost post-water service line replacement. Once received, please refer to the instructions provided with the pitcher and filters for their proper use. If you need additional assistance with pitcher assembly, visit our website to view a video by Brita: <http://www.lehighcountyauthority.org/leadfree>.

Water Sampling Available 3-6 Months Post-Replacement: Lehigh County Authority will test your tap water for free in three to six months post-water service line replacement. The sample results will ensure your water is lead-free. Results of the water testing will be provided to you. If the results exceed the maximum contaminant level of 0.015 micrograms per liter (mg/L) you will be notified within 3 calendar days. If the results do not exceed 0.015 mg/L, the results of the sample(s) will be provided within 30 days.

Customers will receive a follow-up communication from LCA that outlines the lead testing process, how to get a sampling kit, instructions for use, and more. Please watch for it in the mail post-replacement and read it carefully.

Please share this information with all the other individuals who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, tenants and other residents in the home). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

Additional Information & Resources: 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>, the LCA Web site at <http://www.lehighcountyauthority.org/leadfree>, or contact your health care provider.

Questions about your tap water? Contact LCA by email at cityservice@lehighcountyauthority.org or by phone at 610-437-7515.