LEAD & COPPER IN DRINKING WATER

What Residents Need to Know

Why are lead and copper important?

Lead and copper are metals that can enter drinking water through corrosion of pipes, plumbing fixtures, faucets, and household plumbing materials. Both can affect your health when present at elevated levels.

EPA DRINKING WATER ACTION LEVELS

Contaminant	EPA Action Level
Lead	15 parts per billion (ppb)
Copper	1.3 parts per million (ppm)

The lead action level will change to 10 ppb beginning November 1, 2027. These are water-system action levels, not individual household safety limits. There is no known safe level of lead exposure.

WHO CAN BE AFFECTED?

Lead can harm:

- Infants and young children by affecting brain development, learning, and behavior.
- Pregnant women and unborn babies by affecting development.
- Adults through increased risks of high blood pressure, kidney problems, and other health effects.

Copper can harm:

- Anyone exposed to excessive amounts.
- People with elevated exposure may experience nausea, vomiting, stomach cramps, and diarrhea.
- Long-term excessive exposure may damage the liver and kidneys.

HOW DO LEAD AND COPPER ENTER DRINKING WATER?

- Older lead service lines and plumbing.
- Older solder and brass plumbing fixtures.
- Corrosion of copper pipes.
- Water sitting in household plumbing for extended periods.

Remember: Lead cannot be seen, smelled, or tasted. Testing is the only way to determine whether it is present.

HOW CAN YOU PROTECT YOUR FAMILY?

1. Use cold water for drinking, cooking, and preparing baby formula.
2. Flush your faucet before using water if it has been sitting in the pipes for several hours.
3. Never boil water to remove lead. Boiling does not remove lead.
4. Consider a water filter certified for lead reduction (NSF/ANSI 53).
5. Replace filters according to manufacturer instructions.
6. Have your household water tested if you have concerns.

WHAT IS THE VILLAGE DOING?

The Village is committed to protecting the health and safety of its residents. We will continue to:

- Collect drinking water samples in accordance with applicable EPA and state guidelines.
- Monitor lead and copper levels through required sampling.
- Review laboratory results and address any concerns.
- Follow applicable drinking water regulations and requirements.
- Keep residents informed about water quality.

OUR COMMITMENT

Providing safe, reliable drinking water is a priority for the Village. We remain committed to ongoing monitoring, proper sampling, and compliance with applicable EPA and state drinking water requirements.

For additional information, visit www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water.

Monitoring Violations Annual Notice Template

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Monitoring Requirements Not Met for St. Jacob

Our water system violated several drinking water standards over the past year. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct these situations.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During compliance period 1/1/26 – 6/30/26 we did collect the required amount of lead and copper samples and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

The table below lists the contaminant(s) we did not properly test for during the last year, how often we are supposed to sample for these contaminants, how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples were (or will be) taken.

Contaminant	Required sampling frequency	Number of samples taken	When all samples should have been taken	When samples were or will be taken
Lead and copper rule	Every six months	0	1/1/26 – 6/30/26	These samples are currently being collected within the system

What happened? What is being done?

What happened was a breakdown in personnel and the samples simply did not get collected. Those samples are currently being collected, and we will continue to conduct sampling in accordance with applicable EPA guidelines and requirements.
For more information, please contact Water Operator at 618-644-5666

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

This notice is being sent to you by The Village of St. Jacob. Water System ID# IL1190950 Date distributed