

Tri-Valley Central School

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NTNC – Consumer Notice of Tap Water Results (Action Level Exceedance)

Dear Tri Valley Central School District Shareholder,

As you may know, *Tri Valley Central School District* is also a public water system because we are responsible for providing you with water at this location and ensuring that the drinking water we provide to you meets state and federal standards. We collected drinking water samples for lead analysis at the following locations on May 15, 2018. Table of results appears below:

TRI VALLEY CSD
May 2018 LEAD TEST RESULTS
> 15 PPB EXCEEDS ACCEPTABLE LEVELS (in italics)

| LOCATION | RESULTS (PPB) | LOCATION | RESULTS (PPB) |
|-------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| COOLER BY RM 1B | <1.0 | HS NURSE SINK #1 | <1.0 |
| ROOM 110 SINK | 1.3 | BY NURSE WALL HYDRANT | 13.5 |
| HS KITCHEN | 6.4 | MC FACING SINK | 1.4 |
| ES KITCHEN | <1.0 | ROOM 52 SINK | 9.5 |
| ROOM 209 COOLER | 5.3 | ROOM 55 SINK | 20.7 |
| ROOM 113 SINK | 27.8 | ROOM 56 BLUE L SINK | 2.3 |
| ROOM 215 COOLER | <1.0 | ROOM 60 SINK | 7.8 |
| ROOM 100 SINK #2 | 6.7 | ES NURSE SINK | <1.0 |
| HS 2ND FLOOR BOYS SINK | 16 | ES OFFICE | 2.3 |
| HS 2ND FLOOR GIRLS SINK | 3.9 | HOME EC SINK #1 | 3.0 |

The 90th percentile value for our water system is greater than the lead action level of 15 parts per billion.

What Does This Mean?

Under the authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act, EPA set the action level for lead in drinking water at 15 ppb. This means utilities must ensure that water from the taps used for human consumption do not exceed this level in at least 90 percent of the sites sampled (90th percentile result). 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.

We are taking a number of steps to correct the problem. We will begin sampling for lead every 6 months so we can closely monitor the lead levels in our water system. In addition, we will initiate a Public Education campaign to ensure that people who drinking water in our facility know about the action level exceedance, understand the health effects of lead, the sources of lead and actions they can take to reduce exposure to leads in drinking water. We will also monitor our source water, initiate controls to reduce the corrosivity of our water (corrosive water can cause lead to leach from plumbing materials that contain lead) and [if appropriate] initiate lead service line replacement. We strongly urge you to take the steps below to reduce your exposure to lead in drinking water.

What Are The 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. If you are concerned about lead exposure at this facility or in your home, you may want to ask your health care providers about testing children to determine levels of lead in their blood.

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. Buildings built before 1986 are more likely to have lead pipes,

fixtures and solder. However, new buildings 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.

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

- ▶ ***Run your water to flush out lead.*** If water hasn’t been used for several hours, run water for 15-30 seconds [or 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 boil water to remove lead.***

For More Information

Call us at 845-985-2296, ext. 5201] or visit our Web site at www.trivalleycsd.org. For more information on lead in drinking water, the New York State Department of Health, Monticello District Office at 845-794-2045 or email modo@health.ny.gov, or the New York State Department of Health directly by calling the toll-free number (within New York State) 1 800-458-1158, extension 27650, or out of state at (518) 402-7650, or by email at bpwsp@health.state.ny.us. For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's Web site at www.epa.gov/lead, or call the National Lead Information Center at 1-800-424-LEAD.