



Educational Information on Lead in Drinking Water



We believe it is important to provide you with information about the sources of lead and copper in drinking water and the health effects associated with them.

What is Lead?

Major Sources in Drinking Water: Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

Health Effects Statement: Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

Connecticut Water Company is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home where they could potentially result in lead in your drinking water. If you are concerned about the potential for lead in your drinking water from in-home plumbing and fixtures, *you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking.* This is important especially in cases where you may not have used your water over a period of several hours and it's been sitting in the pipes. You may also wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (<https://www.epa.gov/groundwateranddrinking-water/safe-drinking-water-hotline>) or www.epa.gov/safewater/lead Where needed, we have a comprehensive corrosion control program, to reduce risk of lead leaching from our customers' service line or internal plumbing. This includes pH monitoring and adjustment. And, we fully comply with EPA requirements regarding sampling for lead in drinking water. We provide documentation to the Connecticut Department of Public Health to demonstrate our results.

The EPA has an action level of 15 parts of lead per billion (ppb) for public water systems. If lead is found at levels over 15 ppb at more than 10 percent of water samples, water systems are required to take further actions such as increased corrosion control, public education, and, if applicable, replacing lead service lines.

Below please find the lead testing results for the Birchwood Heights Water System:

System Name	System ID	Sample Date	Lead (ppb)	Below Action
Birchwood Heights	CT0780121	7/6/2023	1.8	Yes
Birchwood Heights	CT0780121	7/6/2023	1.6	Yes
Birchwood Heights	CT0780121	7/7/2023	1.1	Yes
Birchwood Heights	CT0780121	7/6/2023	0.9	Yes
Birchwood Heights	CT0780121	7/6/2023	0.7	Yes