

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

FAILURE TO MAINTAIN REQUIRED CORROSION CONTROL TREATMENT

ESTE INFORME CONTIENE INFORMACIÓN IMPORTANTE ACERCA DE SU AGUA POTABLE. HAGA QUE ALGUIEN LO TRADUZCA PARA USTED, O HABLE CON ALGUIEN QUE LO ENTIENDA.

The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority Has Violated a Permit Condition

Our water system recently violated a drinking water treatment standard. Although this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

What happened? What was done?

At times during 2013, 2014, 2015 and January 2016, we did not use the corrosion control treatment that is identified in our permit. We switched treatment chemicals to another commonly used treatment chemical without obtaining a permit amendment from DEP. In January 2016, we resumed using the corrosion control treatment chemical approved in our permit. During the times that the alternate treatment chemical was in use, we did not conduct monitoring to determine whether the use of the alternate treatment was sufficient to control lead and copper levels at consumers' taps. We will be collecting additional samples during two periods in 2016 to ensure our permitted corrosion control treatment is optimized. We will also be conducting a thorough investigation into any impact the change in treatment chemicals may have had on pipe corrosion protection and lead levels at consumers' taps, and will keep you updated on the results of further sampling and our investigation. The investigation will focus on homes with lead service lines, lead plumbing, lead fixtures, and copper plumbing with lead solder. To date, lead and copper levels have remained below the action level during all compliance monitoring periods.

We anticipate resolving the problem within ten months or sooner, after completing the necessary additional sampling. Use of the permitted corrosion control chemical has already resumed and PWSA plans to promptly address any other issues on an ongoing basis.

What should I do?

- **You do not need to use an alternative (i.e., bottled water) water supply.** However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
- **If you would like your tap water tested for lead,** please contact the PWSA Lab at 412-782-7554.

What does this mean?

- This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However, you may want to determine whether your home has lead service lines, lead plumbing, lead fixtures, or copper plumbing with lead solder, consider having them replaced if it does, or use the precautions listed on the back of this notice.

For more information, please visit <http://pgh2o.com> or contact the PWSA Lab at 412-782-7554.

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 Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority.

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 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.**
- **Look for alternative sources or treatment of water.** NSF Consumer Affairs Office has developed a NSF Water Fact Kit for consumers that includes specific information about lead in drinking water at: http://www.nsf.org/consumer/newsroom/ket_water.asp.

For More Information

Call us at 412-782-7554 to find out additional information on lead. For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's website at: www.epa.gov/lead, call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider.