

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT LEAD IN YOUR DRINKING WATER

The Bloomfield Water Department found elevated levels of lead in drinking water in some homes/buildings. Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Please read this information closely to see what you can do to reduce lead in your drinking water.

We collected drinking water samples at 61 locations throughout township during the monitoring period from January to June of 2018. Fifteen of the 61 samples exceeded the lead action level of 15 parts per billion. Results can be found at the end of this advisory.

This is a follow-up advisory to a previous one. Bloomfield is currently sampling for lead for the monitoring period from July to December of 2018. These results will be posted after January 1, 2019 once all results are returned and additional information will be provided.

The 90th percentile value for our water system was 22 parts per billion which 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*.

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.

Sources of Lead

Lead is a common metal found in the environment. Drinking water is one possible source of lead exposure. The main sources of lead exposure are lead-based paint and lead-contaminated dust or

soil, and some plumbing materials. In addition, lead can be found in certain types of pottery, pewter, brass fixtures, food, and cosmetics. Other sources include exposure in the work place and exposure from certain hobbies.

Lead is unusual among drinking water contaminants in that it seldom occurs naturally in water supplies like rivers and lakes. Lead enters drinking water primarily as a result of the corrosion, or wearing away, of materials containing lead in the water distribution system and household plumbing. These materials include lead-based solder used to join copper pipe, brass and chrome-brass faucets, and in some cases, pipes made of lead that connect houses and buildings to water mains (service lines).

New brass faucets, fittings, and valves, including those advertised as “lead-free”, may contribute lead to drinking water. The law currently allows end-use brass fixtures, such as faucets, with up to 0.25 percent lead to be labeled as “lead free”. However, prior to January 4, 2014, “lead free” allowed up to 8 percent lead content of the wetted surfaces of plumbing products including those labeled National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) certified. Consumers should be aware of this when choosing fixtures and take appropriate precautions.

EPA estimates that up to 20 percent of a person’s potential exposure to lead may come from drinking water. Infants who consume mostly formula mixed with lead-containing water can receive 40 to 60 percent of their exposure to lead from drinking water.

When water stands in Lead pipes or plumbing systems containing lead for several hours or more, the lead may dissolve into your drinking water. This means the first water drawn from the tap in the morning, or later in the afternoon if the water has not been used all day, can contain fairly high levels of lead.

Steps you can take to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water

- 1. Run the water to flush out lead.** Let the water run from the tap before using it for drinking or cooking any time the water in a faucet has gone unused for more than six hours. The longer the water resides in plumbing the more lead it may contain. Flushing the tap means running the cold-water faucet for about 15-30 seconds. Although toilet flushing or showering flushes water through a portion of the plumbing system, you still need to flush the water in each faucet before using it for drinking or cooking. Flushing tap water is a simple and inexpensive measure you can take to protect your health. It usually uses less than one gallon of water.
- 2. Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula.** Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap. Hot water can dissolve lead more quickly than cold water. If you need hot water, draw water from the cold tap and then heat it. Do not use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula.
- 3. Do not boil water to remove lead.** Boiling water will not reduce lead.

4. Look for alternative sources or treatment of water. The Township of Bloomfield is presently providing water filters at no cost for any resident who provides a lead sample to the Health Department. You can sign up for this program by contacting the Bloomfield Health Department at 973-680-4024. You will be provided with a lead sample test kit and be signed up for a free water filter.

If you do not wish to participate in this program, you may want to consider purchasing bottled water or a water filter. Be sure the filter is approved to reduce lead or contact NSF International at 1-800-NSF-8010 or www.nsf.org for information on performance standards for water filters. Be sure to maintain and replace a filter device in accordance with the manufacturer.

5. Get your child tested. Contact your local health department or healthcare provider to find out how you can get your child tested for lead if you are concerned about lead exposure. Your family doctor or pediatrician can perform a blood test for lead and provide you with information about the health effects of lead.

Based upon extensive sampling and testing, the presence of lead is not within the Bloomfield water supply but is a result of lead service lines which connect a building or structure to the Township's water system. Lead can also get into your water supply if your home's plumbing contains old lead pipes and/or copper piping that uses lead soldering. Older water fixtures on sinks can also contain lead which can be absorbed into the water.

The Bloomfield water Department is preparing a plan to replace all lead service lines, when discovered, from the street to the building. This will eliminate the potential for lead to be absorbed into your water supply.

For more information, call us at 973-680-4009 or via e-mail at engineering@bloomfieldtwpnj.com. For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's website at, <http://www.epa.gov/lead> call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD or Safe Drinking Water Act hotline at 1-800-426-4791, or contact your health care provider.

Test your water for lead. Call us at 973-680-4009 to find out how to get your water tested for lead. The Bloomfield Health Department will sample your water at no cost if you suspect lead in your water and provide you with a free water filter. Contact us at 973-680-4009 to obtain a translated copy of the public education materials or to request assistance in the appropriate language.

This notice is being sent to you by the Bloomfield Water Department, 1 Municipal Plaza, Bloomfield, NJ 07003; New Jersey Public Water Supply (NJPWS) Identification Number NJ0702001.

Date Notification was distributed: December 5, 2018

PWSID:	NJ0702001	Water System Type:	Community (C)
Water System Name:	BLOOMFIELD WATER DEPARTMENT	System Status:	A

Lead/Copper Results for Monitoring Period: 01/01/2018--06/30/2018

Lead 61 Samples; 90th %ile: 0.022 MG/L						Copper 61 Samples; 90th %ile: 0.247 MG/L					
Collection Date	Sample Pt ID	Sample # ^	Result	Analysis Date	Date Received	Collection Date	Sample Pt ID	Sample # ^	Result	Analysis Date	Date Received
06/29/2018	DS	380629014PBCR	0.004 MG/L	07/05/2018	07/11/2018	06/29/2018	DS	380629014PBCR	0.05 MG/L	07/09/2018	07/11/2018
06/29/2018	DS	380629020PBCR	0.004 MG/L	07/05/2018	07/11/2018	06/29/2018	DS	380629020PBCR	0.227 MG/L	07/09/2018	07/11/2018
06/29/2018	DS	380629021PBCR	<0.001 MG/L	07/05/2018	07/11/2018	06/29/2018	DS	380629021PBCR	0.146 MG/L	07/09/2018	07/11/2018
06/29/2018	PBCU5	380629027	0.022 MG/L	07/05/2018	07/11/2018	06/29/2018	PBCU5	380629027	0.136 MG/L	07/09/2018	07/11/2018
06/28/2018	DS	380629015PBCR	0.019 MG/L	07/05/2018	07/11/2018	06/28/2018	DS	380629015PBCR	0.187 MG/L	07/09/2018	07/11/2018
06/28/2018	DS	380629016PBCR	<0.001 MG/L	07/05/2018	07/11/2018	06/28/2018	DS	380629016PBCR	<0.01 MG/L	07/09/2018	07/11/2018
06/28/2018	DS	380629017PBCR	0.179 MG/L	07/05/2018	07/11/2018	06/28/2018	DS	380629017PBCR	0.193 MG/L	07/09/2018	07/11/2018
06/28/2018	DS	380629018PBCR	<0.001 MG/L	07/05/2018	07/11/2018	06/28/2018	DS	380629018PBCR	0.056 MG/L	07/09/2018	07/11/2018
06/28/2018	DS	380629022PBCR	0.006 MG/L	07/05/2018	07/11/2018	06/28/2018	DS	380629022PBCR	0.438 MG/L	07/09/2018	07/11/2018
06/28/2018	DS	380629025PBCR	0.008 MG/L	07/05/2018	07/11/2018	06/28/2018	DS	380629025PBCR	0.068 MG/L	07/09/2018	07/11/2018
06/27/2018	DS	380629023PBCR	0.033 MG/L	07/05/2018	07/11/2018	06/27/2018	DS	380629023PBCR	0.127 MG/L	07/09/2018	07/11/2018
06/27/2018	DS	380629024PBCR	0.01 MG/L	07/05/2018	07/11/2018	06/27/2018	DS	380629024PBCR	0.448 MG/L	07/09/2018	07/11/2018
06/27/2018	DS	380629026PBCR	<0.001 MG/L	07/05/2018	07/11/2018	06/27/2018	DS	380629026PBCR	0.067 MG/L	07/09/2018	07/11/2018
06/27/2018	DS	380629037PBCR	0.002 MG/L	07/05/2018	07/11/2018	06/27/2018	DS	380629037PBCR	0.106 MG/L	07/09/2018	07/11/2018
06/26/2018	DS	380629019PBCR	0.001 MG/L	07/05/2018	07/11/2018	06/26/2018	DS	380629019PBCR	0.011 MG/L	07/09/2018	07/11/2018
06/26/2018	DS	380629028PBCR	0.006 MG/L	07/05/2018	07/11/2018	06/26/2018	DS	380629028PBCR	0.181 MG/L	07/09/2018	07/11/2018
06/26/2018	DS	380629036PBCR	0.002 MG/L	07/05/2018	07/11/2018	06/26/2018	DS	380629036PBCR	0.101 MG/L	07/09/2018	07/11/2018
06/26/2018	DS	380629038PBCR	0.014 MG/L	07/05/2018	07/11/2018	06/26/2018	DS	380629038PBCR	0.199 MG/L	07/09/2018	07/11/2018
06/25/2018	DS	380629031PBCR	0.001 MG/L	07/05/2018	07/11/2018	06/25/2018	DS	380629031PBCR	0.136 MG/L	07/09/2018	07/11/2018
06/25/2018	DS	380629032PBCR	0.012 MG/L	07/05/2018	07/11/2018	06/25/2018	DS	380629032PBCR	0.223 MG/L	07/09/2018	07/11/2018
06/25/2018	DS	380629033PBCR	0.004 MG/L	07/05/2018	07/11/2018	06/25/2018	DS	380629033PBCR	0.114 MG/L	07/09/2018	07/11/2018
06/25/2018	PBCU63	380629030	0.002 MG/L	07/05/2018	07/11/2018	06/25/2018	PBCU63	380629030	0.035 MG/L	07/09/2018	07/11/2018
06/24/2018	DS	380629034PBCR	0.026 MG/L	07/05/2018	07/11/2018	06/24/2018	DS	380629034PBCR	0.141 MG/L	07/09/2018	07/11/2018
06/24/2018	PBCU115	380629029	0.028 MG/L	07/05/2018	07/30/2018	06/24/2018	PBCU115	380629029	0.183 MG/L	07/09/2018	07/30/2018
06/23/2018	DS	380629035PBCR	0.003 MG/L	07/05/2018	07/11/2018	06/23/2018	DS	380629035PBCR	0.249 MG/L	07/09/2018	07/11/2018
06/19/2018	DS	380619147PBCR	0.004 MG/L	06/21/2018	07/11/2018	06/19/2018	DS	380619147PBCR	0.076 MG/L	06/26/2018	07/11/2018
06/14/2018	DS	380619146PBCR	0.021 MG/L	06/21/2018	07/11/2018	06/14/2018	DS	380619146PBCR	0.117 MG/L	06/26/2018	07/11/2018
06/13/2018	DS	380619145PBCR	0.006 MG/L	06/21/2018	07/11/2018	06/13/2018	DS	380619145PBCR	0.295 MG/L	06/26/2018	07/11/2018
06/05/2018	PBCU70	380607030	0.013 MG/L	06/10/2018	06/27/2018	06/05/2018	PBCU70	380607030	0.168 MG/L	06/10/2018	06/27/2018
05/31/2018	PBCU47	380607026	0.016 MG/L	06/10/2018	06/27/2018	05/31/2018	PBCU47	380607026	0.086 MG/L	06/10/2018	06/27/2018
05/30/2018	PBCU69	380607025	0.015 MG/L	06/10/2018	06/27/2018	05/30/2018	PBCU69	380607025	0.134 MG/L	06/10/2018	06/27/2018
05/29/2018	PBCU65	380607028	0.022 MG/L	06/10/2018	06/27/2018	05/29/2018	PBCU65	380607028	0.305 MG/L	06/10/2018	06/27/2018
05/24/2018	PBCU117	380607027	0.016 MG/L	06/10/2018	06/27/2018	05/24/2018	PBCU117	380607027	0.132 MG/L	06/10/2018	06/27/2018
05/23/2018	PBCU109	380525019	0.019 MG/L	05/30/2018	06/08/2018	05/23/2018	PBCU109	380525019	0.094 MG/L	06/06/2018	06/08/2018
05/22/2018	DS	380525020PBCR	0.016 MG/L	05/30/2018	07/11/2018	05/22/2018	DS	380525020PBCR	0.194 MG/L	06/06/2018	07/11/2018

Collection Date	Sample Pt ID	Sample # ^	Result	Analysis Date	Date Received	Collection Date	Sample Pt ID	Sample # ^	Result	Analysis Date	Date Received
05/22/2018	PBCU13	380525021	0.007 MG/L	05/30/2018	06/08/2018	05/22/2018	PBCU13	380525021	0.297 MG/L	06/06/2018	06/08/2018
05/22/2018	PBCU111	380525017	0.003 MG/L	05/30/2018	06/08/2018	05/22/2018	PBCU111	380525017	0.303 MG/L	06/06/2018	06/08/2018
05/18/2018	PBCU18	380525018	0.001 MG/L	05/30/2018	06/08/2018	05/18/2018	PBCU18	380525018	0.104 MG/L	06/06/2018	06/08/2018
05/15/2018	PBCU11	380516156	0.004 MG/L	05/18/2018	06/05/2018	05/15/2018	PBCU11	380516156	0.19 MG/L	05/22/2018	06/05/2018
05/15/2018	PBCU96	380516155	<0.001 MG/L	05/18/2018	06/05/2018	05/15/2018	PBCU96	380516155	0.158 MG/L	05/22/2018	06/05/2018
05/14/2018	PBCU59	380607029	0.004 MG/L	06/10/2018	06/27/2018	05/14/2018	PBCU59	380607029	0.037 MG/L	06/10/2018	06/27/2018
05/08/2018	PBCU41	380511013	0.012 MG/L	05/14/2018	05/26/2018	05/08/2018	PBCU41	380511013	0.077 MG/L	05/15/2018	05/26/2018
05/08/2018	PBCU73	380511016	0.011 MG/L	05/14/2018	05/26/2018	05/08/2018	PBCU73	380511016	0.057 MG/L	05/15/2018	05/26/2018
05/06/2018	PBCU95	380511017	0.012 MG/L	05/14/2018	05/26/2018	05/06/2018	PBCU95	380511017	0.044 MG/L	05/15/2018	05/26/2018
05/03/2018	PBCU94	380511015	0.005 MG/L	05/14/2018	05/26/2018	05/03/2018	PBCU94	380511015	0.105 MG/L	05/15/2018	05/26/2018
05/02/2018	PBCU8	380511014	<0.001 MG/L	05/14/2018	05/26/2018	05/02/2018	PBCU8	380511014	0.074 MG/L	05/15/2018	05/26/2018
04/24/2018	PBCU45	380427087	0.005 MG/L	05/01/2018	05/09/2018	04/24/2018	PBCU45	380427087	0.093 MG/L	05/01/2018	05/09/2018
04/24/2018	PBCU83	380427086	0.018 MG/L	05/01/2018	05/09/2018	04/24/2018	PBCU83	380427086	0.12 MG/L	05/01/2018	05/09/2018
04/20/2018	PBCU1	380427085	0.002 MG/L	05/01/2018	05/09/2018	04/20/2018	PBCU1	380427085	0.075 MG/L	05/01/2018	05/09/2018
04/20/2018	PBCU51	380427084	0.014 MG/L	05/01/2018	05/09/2018	04/20/2018	PBCU51	380427084	0.158 MG/L	05/01/2018	05/09/2018
04/12/2018	PBCU12	380418091	0.001 MG/L	04/20/2018	05/04/2018	04/12/2018	PBCU12	380418091	0.166 MG/L	04/23/2018	05/04/2018
04/12/2018	PBCU34	380418090	0.006 MG/L	04/20/2018	05/04/2018	04/12/2018	PBCU34	380418090	0.112 MG/L	04/23/2018	05/04/2018
04/09/2018	PBCU25	380418092	0.002 MG/L	04/20/2018	05/04/2018	04/09/2018	PBCU25	380418092	0.058 MG/L	04/23/2018	05/04/2018
04/06/2018	PBCU4	380409212	0.021 MG/L	04/12/2018	05/04/2018	04/06/2018	PBCU4	380409212	0.152 MG/L	04/13/2018	05/04/2018
04/05/2018	PBCU42	380409210	0.012 MG/L	04/12/2018	05/04/2018	04/05/2018	PBCU42	380409210	0.145 MG/L	04/13/2018	05/04/2018
04/05/2018	PBCU76	380409211	0.007 MG/L	04/12/2018	05/04/2018	04/05/2018	PBCU76	380409211	0.137 MG/L	04/13/2018	05/04/2018
04/04/2018	PBCU60	380409209	0.01 MG/L	04/12/2018	05/04/2018	04/04/2018	PBCU60	380409209	0.079 MG/L	04/13/2018	05/04/2018
04/03/2018	PBCU11	380409207	0.137 MG/L	04/12/2018	05/04/2018	04/03/2018	PBCU11	380409207	0.233 MG/L	04/13/2018	05/04/2018
04/03/2018	PBCU75	380409208	0.003 MG/L	04/12/2018	05/04/2018	04/03/2018	PBCU75	380409208	0.124 MG/L	04/13/2018	05/04/2018
03/29/2018	PBCU3	380409206	0.007 MG/L	04/12/2018	05/04/2018	03/29/2018	PBCU3	380409206	0.091 MG/L	04/13/2018	05/04/2018
03/29/2018	PBCU6	380402092	0.001 MG/L	04/04/2018	05/03/2018	03/29/2018	PBCU6	380402092	0.082 MG/L	04/04/2018	05/03/2018

^Rollover sample # to see lab name and ID and METHOD

*MG/L=milligrams of contaminant per liter of water, equivalent to ppm (parts per million).

µg/L=micrograms of contaminant per liter of water, equivalent to ppb (parts per billion).

pCi/L=picocuries of contaminant per liter of water--a curie is a measurement of the rate at which a radioactive material decays.

"<" (less than) means the contaminant cannot be accurately detected below the limit specified; the result can be considered zero.