

Township of Bloomfield

Public Forum

Update on Bloomfield Action About Lead?



August 19, 2019

Agenda

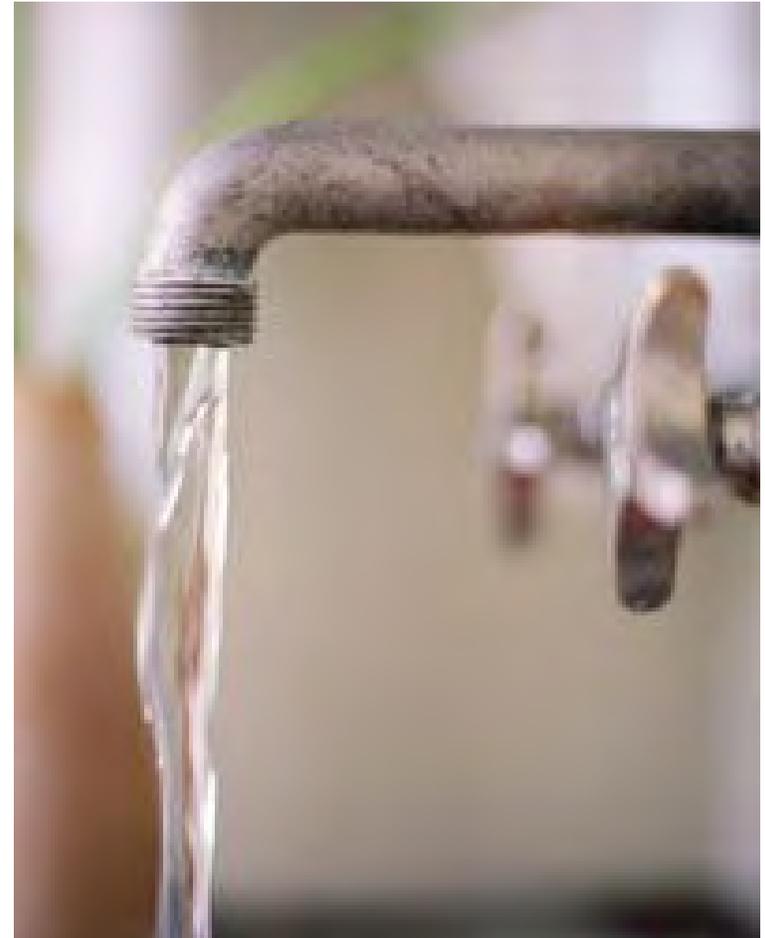
- Results of PUR Filter Tests.
- Results of Recent Lead Testing.
- Source of Bloomfield Water.
- Steps Bloomfield is Taking.
- How Does Lead Get Into Our Water?
- Taking the Lead Out.
- What Can Residents Do?

Results of Recent PUR Filter Testing

- Recent failures of PUR filters in Newark.
- We tested our own. Ours work.
- Tested results from 5 locations show filters working

Results of System Testing

- Independent testing of the township's water supply passed EPA guidelines for lead.
- This means the issue is with the pipes through which water passes, **particularly in older homes that have not been renovated since 1986.**



Results of Recent Lead Testing

- Last in-the-home test included 69 homes.
- 11 had elevated levels of lead, and exceeded the purity standard or “action level” of **15 parts per billion (ppb)** established by the EPA.
- Recent indications show improvements occurring.
 - Newark introduced new treatment.

Important Fact About 15 ppb

- What does “15 ppb” mean?
- Equal to 15 drops of water in an average size swimming pool



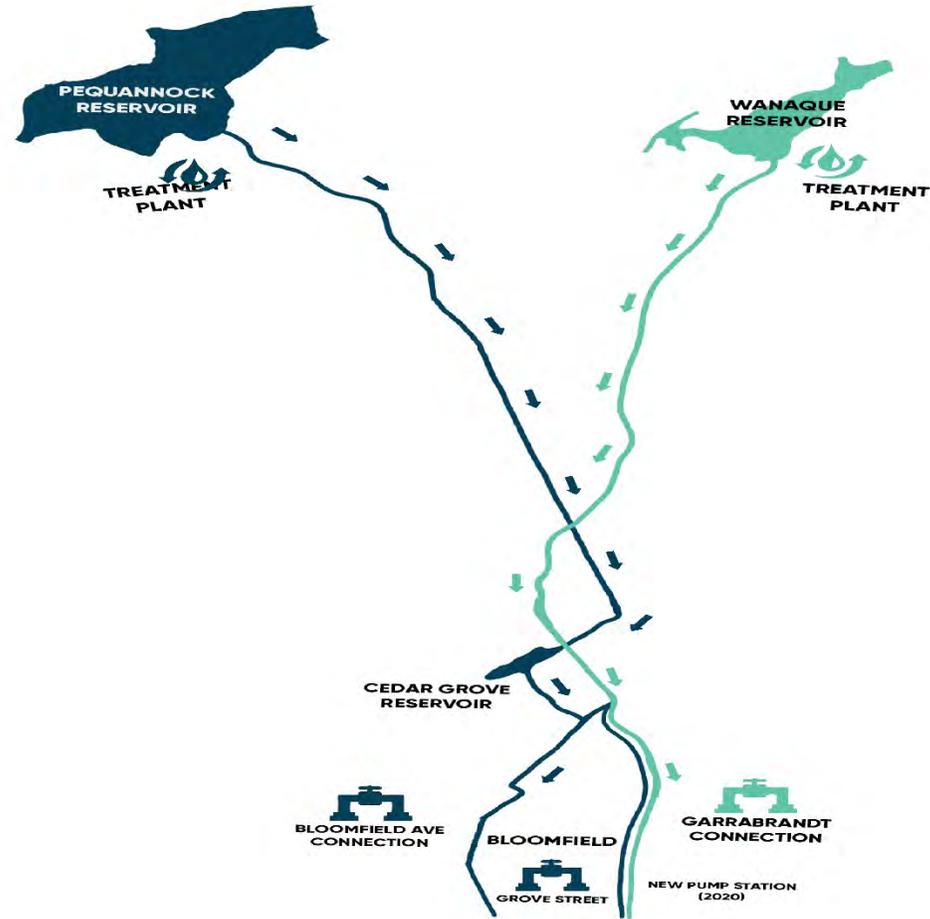
Important Fact About 15 ppb

In your drinking water, at 15 ppb:

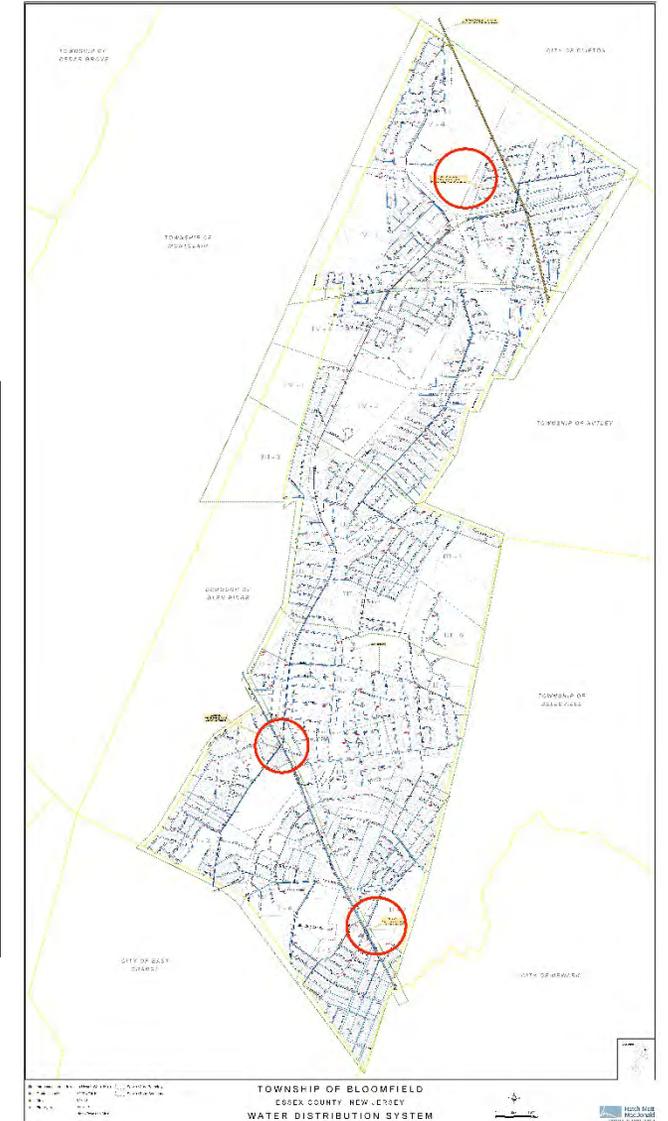
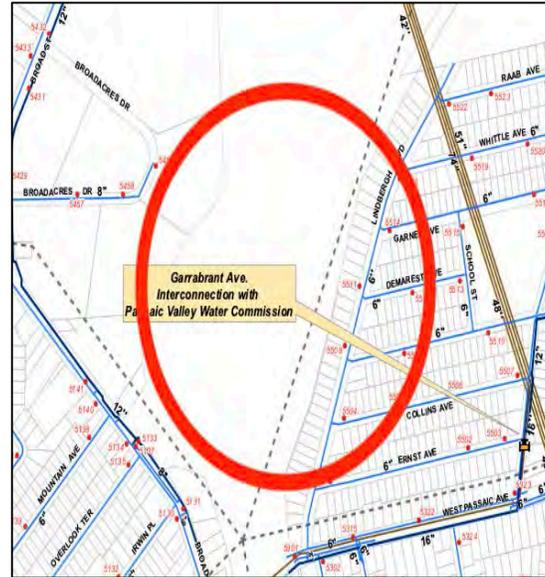
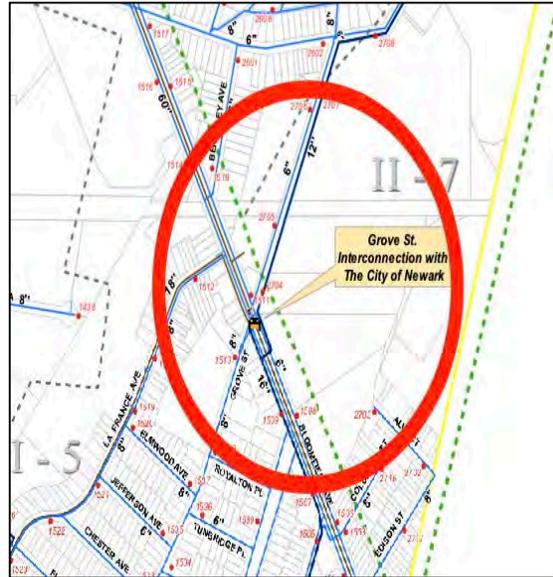
- You cannot see it.
- You cannot taste it.
- You cannot smell it.

Lead at these levels can only be detected by taking a sample and having it analyzed by a certified laboratory.

Source of Bloomfield Water



Source of Bloomfield Water



- At each location, results showed an undetectable amount of lead content - **this is NOT Flint, Michigan.**

Steps Bloomfield is Taking

- Changing Water Supply
- Moving to the Wanaque system run by North Jersey Water District

Steps Bloomfield is Taking

New Interconnection, New Supply



Bloomfield Pump Station at Bloomfield, New Jersey



200 High Street, Mt. Holly, NJ 08060

Steps Bloomfield is Taking

New Interconnection, New Supply



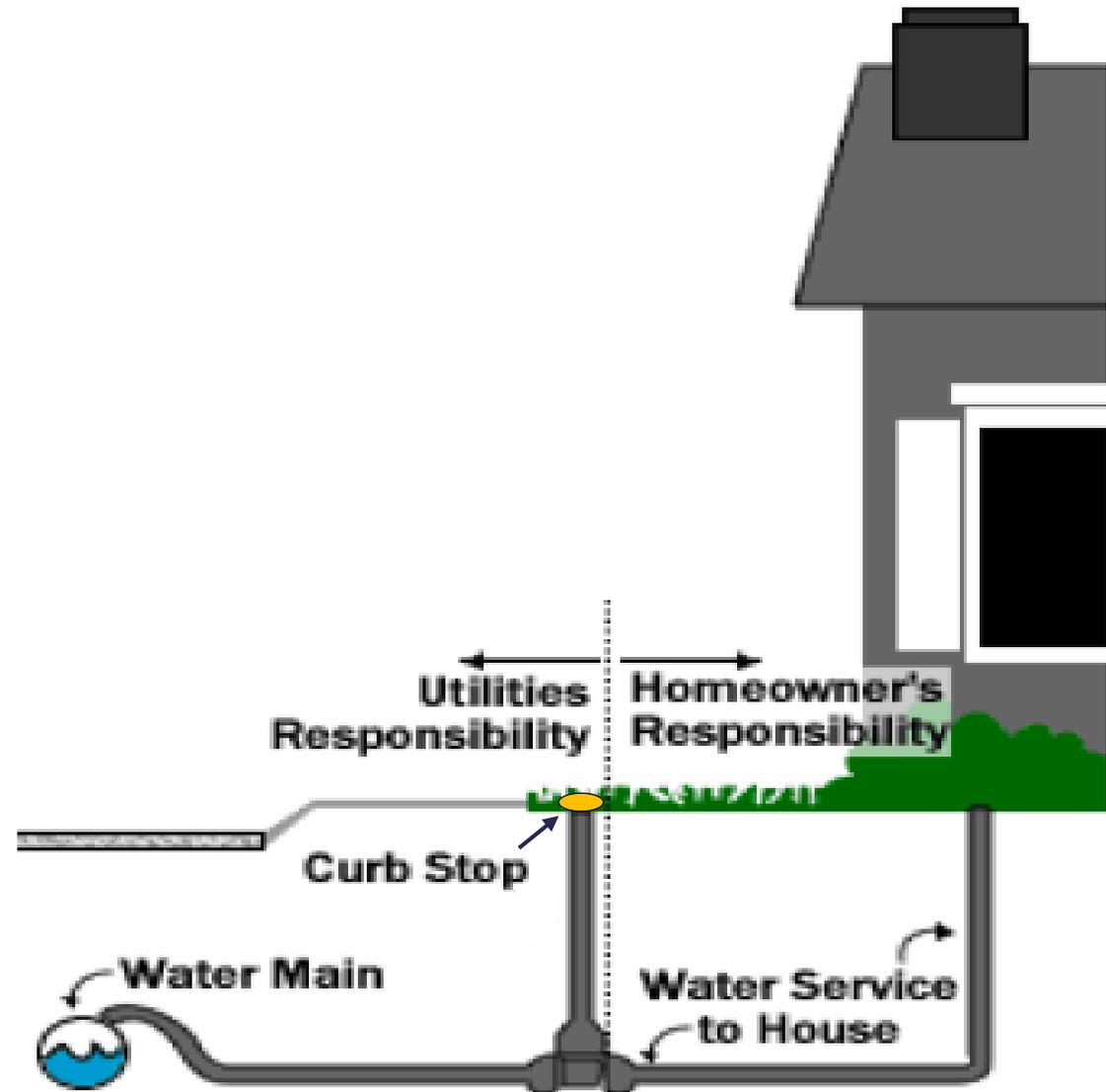
Bloomfield Pump Station at Bloomfield, New Jersey



200 High Street, Mt. Holly, NJ 08060

How Does Lead Get Into Our Water?

- In some cases,
 - pipes connecting houses to water main service lines are coated in lead.
- Lead is not usually found in tap water—**just the lead-coated fixtures.**



How Does Lead Get Into Our Water?

- Most lead in the home comes from solid objects collecting rust or not being fully insulated.
- **Before 1986**, many pipes, fittings and valves installed during the construction of homes were made with lead or coated in lead.

lead



copper



galvanized



pvc



Taking the Lead Out

Replacing Service Line connections to homes that are found to contain Lead.



Taking the Lead Out

- So far, replaced 46 Service Line connections to homes that are found to contain Lead.



Taking the Lead Out

Spending
\$1.1
million to
do more.



What Can Residents Do?

- Run their water for 15-30 seconds before drinking to flush out lead built up in the faucet.
- Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula.
- Boiling water does NOT reduce lead.



What Can Residents Do?

RUNNING YOUR WATER

(ACTUAL Results from the Township's Sampling)

"First Draw" Sample

The water was not used for over six hours before the sample was taken by the resident

"FLUSHED" Sample

Immediately after the resident took the first draw sample, a second sample was taken after running the water for several minutes.

NEWARK AVENUE	61.0	7.0
HOOVER AVENUE	48.0	2.0
LENOX TERRACE	30.0	11.0
HIGHVIEW TERRACE	24.0	3.0
VERNON TERRACE	23.0	<1
NEWARK AVENUE	22.0	15.0
BROAD STREET	20.0	7.0
BALDWIN PLACE	19.0	13.0
FRANKLIN STREET	18.0	<1
ESSEX AVENUE	16.0	8.0

Several rounds of testing by the Township indicate that water at locations that exceed 15 ppb drop - see most of these lead particles reduced after "flushing" water through the pipes for several minutes.

What Can Residents Do?

- Get your water tested if...
...you have an older single family house.
- Free Lead Test kit for any resident concerned about lead exposure.
- Use a water filter.

What Can Residents Do?

- Parents of young children should have their children tested for lead exposure. This can be done for free by the Bloomfield Health Department staff or by your healthcare provider.





Questions and Answers

Mayor Michael Venezia

Township Administrator Matthew Watkins

Township Engineer Paul Lasek

Health Officer Mike Fitzpatrick