Consumer Notice of Lead and Copper Tap Water Results

Water System (PWS) Name: _____ PWS ID: _____

Sample Site Address: _____ Date of Collection: _____ Date Results Received: _____

Thank you for participating in the lead and copper tap monitoring program. The Safe Drinking Water Act requires that a water system provides a notice of the individual lead and copper tap results to the occupants of the site where the tap was tested.

The level of lead found at your location was _____ ug/L.

The level of copper found at your location was _____ug/L.

What Does This Mean?
Water samples were recently collected from this location and tested for lead and copper to assure the safety of the water you consume. This document provides you the results of those tests and some important health information.

Important Facts:
An action level (AL) is the concentration of lead or copper, which if exceeded, may require a water system to install treatment to correct the problem.

- The AL for lead is 15 micrograms of lead per liter of water (ug/L).
    - A maximum contaminant level goal (MCLG) is the level of contaminant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. The MCLG for lead is zero.
- The AL for copper is 1300 micrograms of copper per liter of water (ug/L). The MCLG for copper is 1300 micrograms.

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. Lead 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 to lowered IQ in children. Adults with kidney problems and high blood pressure may be affected by low levels of lead more than healthy adults. Lead is stored in the bones and may be released later in life. During pregnancy, the child receives lead from the mother's bones, which may affect brain development.

The EPA estimates that 10 to 20 percent of human exposure to lead may come from drinking water. Exposure to lead is a significant health concern, especially for young children and infants whose growing bodies tend to absorb more lead than the average adult. If you are concerned about lead exposure in your home contact your health care provider about testing children to determine levels of lead in their blood.

What Are the Health Effects of Copper?

Copper is an essential nutrient but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's disease should consult their physician.

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

- *Do not boil water to remove lead.* Boiling water will not reduce lead.
- *Flush Out Lead:* Run water for 15-30 seconds before drinking this may flush lead-containing water from the pipes.
- *Use Cold Water:* Do not make baby formula, cook with, or drink water from the hot water tap.
- *Use alternative source for water: Y*ou may want to consider purchasing water or a water filter. Read the package to be sure the filter is approved to reduce lead.
- *Identify if your plumbing fixtures contain lead.* New faucets, fittings, and valves, may contain lead.

For 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 healthcare provider.

For More Information

Call _____at _____ .