



Dear Lake Hopatcong Water Customers,

On September 9, 2022, the Township received a Notice of Non-Compliance regarding Water Quality Parameters (WQP) in the Lake Hopatcong system for testing that took place on January 1, 2022 (see attached letter of Non-Compliance). Upon receipt of the notification, the Township remediated the issue. The failure to meet the orthophosphate residual in the distribution system had no effect on water quality or any other sampling results. The orthophosphate is added to aid in corrosion for lead and copper in household plumbing.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me directly at 973-208-6145.

Very Truly Yours,

John C. Perry, Utilities Director

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER
PWSID# 1414011 Jefferson Township Lake Hopatcong System
Fails to Meet Water Quality Parameter (WQP) Levels

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

Our system has installed corrosion control treatment to help prevent lead and/or copper in the pipes from dissolving into the water. During the January through June 2022, we failed to consistently meet treatment technique requirements for our corrosion control system. Water Quality Parameters (WQP) results did not meet the optimal WQP control values set by the State 180 days in the 6-month monitoring period, and the system cannot be outside the values set by the State for nine or more days.

Specifically, the system met the corrosion control requirements at Peak Wells Treatment Plant but failed to maintain the proper residual in the distribution system. The Lake Hopatcong system has not had an action level exceedance for lead and copper since 1996. This was the reason that the corrosion control system was required to be installed.

What should I do?

Listed below are some steps you can take to reduce your exposure to lead and/or copper:

- Run water to flush out lead and/or copper. Run water for 15 – 30 seconds or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking, if it hasn't been used for several hours.
- Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula. Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap; Lead dissolves more quickly into hot water. Do not use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula.
- Do not boil water. Boiling water will not reduce lead and/or copper levels.
- Use alternate sources or treatment of water. You may want to consider using bottled water for drinking and cooking or a water filter designed to remove Lead. Read the package to be sure the filter is approved to reduce Lead or contact NSF International at 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's standards to ensure water quality.
- 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.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours.

However, infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. 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.

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 personal physician.

If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.

What is being done?

The corrosion control chemical feed has been adjusted, and we expect all future Water Quality Parameter samples to be in compliance. We anticipate resolving the problem within the next monitoring period.

For more information, please contact John Perry at (973) 208-6145 or jperry@jeffersontownship.net.

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 October 19th. State Water System ID#: 1414011.

Date distributed: September 28th, 2022.