

**PUBLIC NOTIFICATION**  
Important Information About Your Drinking Water

**LEAD ACTION LEVEL EXCEEDANCE**

Date: 10/19/2020  
PWS ID: CT 018112  
To: The Customers/Residents of Whisconier Middle School  
From: Brookfield Board of Education  
Compliance Period: 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

Our public water system recently exceeded the lead drinking water action level. As our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct this situation. We routinely monitor for drinking water contaminants. The results of routine water quality samples indicate a lead level of 0.020mg/L. This level exceeds the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile lead action level of 0.015 mg/L.

**What does this mean?**

Action level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, signals a need for treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. Under the authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act, the EPA set the action level for lead in drinking water at 0.015 mg/l. Public Water Systems are required to act if the sample results are greater than 0.015 mg/l in 10 percent or more of the samples collected for compliance.

90<sup>th</sup> percentile: This means that no more than 10 percent of the lead samples collected can be above the lead action level.

**What is being done?**

- Increased sampling: Sampling for lead will be conducted every 6 months so we can closely monitor the lead levels in our water system.
- Public Education: We are issuing public education materials to ensure all our customers know about the water system 90<sup>th</sup> percentile values exceeding the action level, the health effects of lead, the sources of lead in drinking water and actions you can take to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water. See attached "IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT LEAD IN YOUR DRINKING WATER" document for more information.
- Source water monitoring: We will conduct monitoring of our source water to ensure that lead is not entering our water system from the source water.
- Corrosion Control: We will be preparing and submitting our recommended optimal corrosion control treatment proposal and, if needed, a source water treatment proposal to the Department of Public Health Drinking Water Section for review and approval.

We expect to return to compliance or resolve the situation by June 2021  
(date)

If you have any questions please contact Brookfield Superintendent's Office at 203-775-7700 or  
(owner, operator or designee) (phone #)  
by mail at 100 Pocono Rd., Brookfield, CT, 06804  
(Street) (Town) (State) (Zip Code)

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 and distributing copies by hand or mail.

## CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE

### LEAD PUBLIC EDUCATION CONTENT AND DELIVERY

Public Water System Name: Whisconier Middle School

Public Water System Town: Brookfield

Public Water System ID: CT0181112

Water System Facility: Distribution System WSF ID: 00600

Reason for Notification: Lead Exceedance

Compliance Period: 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

Date situation was reported to the Department of Public Health: 10/15/2020

A Copy of the Lead Public Education Materials must be submitted with this certification.

The public water system indicated above hereby affirms that public notice has been provided to consumers in accordance with the delivery, content, and format requirements of Section 19-13-B102(i)(6) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

Methods and Dates of Distribution (check all that apply and indicate date):

- ☒ Notice Posted on 10/19/2020
- ☐ Notice Mailed or Hand Delivered on \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Notice published in \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_  
(newspaper, newsletter, CCR, etc.)
- ☒ Other Delivery Method: Electronically/Email on 10/19/2020

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Owner or Certified Operator

10/19/2020  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT LEAD IN YOUR DRINKING WATER**

Whisconier Middle School \_\_\_\_\_ 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.* Although most homes have very low levels of lead in their drinking water, some homes in the community have lead levels above the EPA action level of 15 parts per billion (ppb), or 0.015 milligrams of lead per liter of water (mg/L).

### **What Happened? What is being done?**

Under State and Federal law we are required to have a program in place to minimize lead in your drinking water. This program includes corrosion control treatment, source water treatment, and public education. We are currently conducting additional monitoring and reviewing treatment options to correct the situation. We are also required to replace the portion of each lead service line that we own if the line contributes lead concentrations of more than 15 ppb after we have completed the comprehensive treatment program.

This brochure explains the simple steps you can take to protect you and your family by reducing your exposure to lead in drinking water. If you have any questions about how we are carrying out the requirements of the lead regulation please call 203-775-7700.

### **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. 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 can be carried on clothing or shoes). Lead can also be found in some toys, some playground equipment, and some children's metal jewelry.

Drinking water is also a possible source of lead exposure. Most sources of drinking water have no lead or very low levels of lead. 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 plated brass faucets, and in some cases, pipes made of lead that connect your house to the water main (service lines). In 1986, Congress banned the use of lead solder containing greater than 0.2% lead, and restricted the lead content of faucets, pipes and other plumbing materials to 8.0%. Homes built before 1988 are more likely to have lead pipes or lead solder.

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 after returning from work or school, can contain fairly high levels of lead. EPA estimates that 10 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.

### **Steps You Can Take to Reduce Your Exposure to Lead in Drinking Water**

Despite our best efforts mentioned earlier to control water corrosivity and remove lead from the water supply, lead levels in some homes or buildings can be high. To find out whether you need to take action in your own

home, have your drinking water tested to determine if it contains excessive concentrations of lead. Testing the water is essential because you cannot see, taste, or smell lead in drinking water. For more information on having your water tested, please call 203-775-7700.

If a water test indicates that the drinking water drawn from a tap in your home contains lead above 15 ppb, then you can take the following precautions:

- **Run your 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 water resides in your home's plumbing the more lead it may contain. Flushing the tap means running the cold water faucet until the water gets noticeably colder, usually about 15-30 seconds. If your house has a lead service line to the water main, you may have to flush the water for a longer time, perhaps one minute, before drinking. Although toilet flushing or showering flushes water through a portion of your home's 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 family's health. To conserve water, fill a couple of bottles for drinking water after flushing the tap, and whenever possible use the first flush water to wash the dishes or water the plants
- **Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula.** Do not to cook with, or drink water from the hot water tap. Lead can dissolve more easily in hot water. Do not use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula.
- **Do not boil water to remove lead.** Boiling water will not reduce lead.
- **Clean and flush faucets.** Periodically remove the faucet strainers from all taps and flush out any debris that has accumulated over time by running the water for 3 to 5 minutes.
- **Identify and replace plumbing fixtures containing lead.** 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 8% lead to be labeled as "lead free." Visit the Web site at [www.nsf.org](http://www.nsf.org) to learn more about lead-containing plumbing fixtures.
- **Have an electrician check your wiring.** If grounding wires from the electrical system are attached to your pipes, corrosion may be greater. Check with a licensed electrician or your local electrical code to determine if your wiring can be grounded elsewhere. DO NOT attempt to change the wiring yourself because improper grounding can cause electrical shock and fire hazards.
- **Look for alternative sources or treatment of water.** You may want to consider purchasing bottled water or a water filter. Home treatment devices are limited in that each unit treats only the water that flows from the faucet to which it is connected, and all of the devices require periodic maintenance and replacement. Devices such as reverse osmosis systems or distillers can effectively remove lead from your drinking water. Some activated carbon filters may reduce lead levels at the tap, however all lead reduction claims should be investigated. Be sure to check the actual performance of a specific home treatment device before and after installing the unit.
- **Get your child's blood tested.** Contact your local health department or health care provider to find out how you can get your child tested for lead, if you are concerned about exposure.

#### **For More Information**

Call us at 203-775-7700 or visit our website [www.brookfieldps.org](http://www.brookfieldps.org)

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/lead> or contact your health care provider.

PWS ID: CT0181112

Date Issued: 10/19/2020

## Report of Analysis

**Name:** Brookfield Board of Education  
Attn: D. Caldwell  
PO Box 5194  
Brookfield, CT 06804  
**Sample Date:** 9/26/2020 8:00 AM  
**Receipt Date:** 9/27/2020 8:53 AM  
**Report Date:** 10/12/2020 12:07:45 PM  
**Site:** Whisconier Middle School - Distribution  
System - PWSID CT0181112

**Work ID#:** H25424  
**Sample ID#:** 339215  
**Sample Type:** Drinking Water  
**Sample Source:** Distribution Samples  
**Sampler:** DC Client  
**Client Sample ID:** Results by ETL - Newburgh, NY - CTDOPH  
PH-0554.

Sample Location	Lead Result mg/l	Rank	Copper Result mg/l	Rank
04 - WMS004 - Cafeteria Fountain	<0.001	1	0.2	5
01 - WMS001 - Teachers Room Sink	0.001	2	0.2	4
05 - WMS005 - Fountain D Wing	0.002	3	0.2	2
06 - WMS006 - Nurse Clinic Sink	0.002	4	0.4	6
07 - WMS007 - A Wing Boys Lav	0.002	5	0.2	3
09 - WMS009 - C Wing Fountain	0.003	6	0.4	7
03 - WMS003 - B Wing Girls Lav	0.004	7	0.2	1
02 - WMS002 - Boys Locker Rm	0.006	8	0.4	8
08 - WMS008 - Main Office Sink	0.020	9	0.4	9
10 - WMS010 - Kitchen Sink	0.029	10	1.1	10

**Action Level: Lead : 0.015 mg/l**

**Copper : 1.3 mg/l**

Summary: 90<sup>th</sup> percentile Lead: 0.020 mg/l

90<sup>th</sup> percentile Copper: 0.4 mg/l

Comment: 90<sup>th</sup> percentile levels for Copper were within CT action Levels.

90<sup>th</sup> percentile levels for Lead were not within CT action Levels.

Results Certified by Hydro Technologies, LLC:



**Note:** The test results are only valid for date sample was taken. We do not accept any liability for use of these results.

# Consumer Notice of Lead Tap Water Results

Public Water System: Whisconier Middle School

PWS ID: CT 0181112

We are responsible for providing water at this location and ensuring that the drinking water we provide to you meets state and federal standards. This notice is to inform you of the lead tap monitoring results for the drinking water samples collected at the locations identified below:

Drinking Water Sample Results for Lead		
Location	Date	Lead Result (mg/L)
09-WMS009 C Wing Fountain	9/29/2020	0.003
03-WMS B Wing Girls Lav	9/29/2020	0.004
02-WMS002 Boys Locker Room	9/29/2020	0.006
08-WMS00 Main Office	9/29/2020	0.020
10-WMS010 Kitchen Sink	9/29/2020	0.029

## What Does This Mean?

Under the authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act, EPA set the action level for lead in drinking water at 0.015 milligrams of lead per liter of water (mg/L). This means utilities must ensure that water from the customer's tap does not exceed this level in at least 90 percent of the sites sampled. The action level is the concentration of the contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow 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.

## 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, 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.*

## What Are Some Sources of Lead?

Although the primary sources of lead exposure for most children are deteriorating lead-based paint, lead-contaminated dust, and lead-contaminated soil, the U.S. 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. Although our facility's lead levels were below the action level, if you are concerned about lead exposure in your home, parents should ask their health care providers about testing children to determine levels of lead in their blood.

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

- *Run the Water To Flush Out Lead.* 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 cook with or drink water from the hot water tap; lead dissolves more easily in hot water. Do not use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula.
- *Do not boil water to remove lead.* Boiling water will not reduce lead.
- *Look for alternative sources of water.*

## For More Information

Call us at 203-775-7700. For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's Web site at [www.epa.gov/lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead), call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider.

# Consumer Notice of Lead Tap Water Results

Public Water System: Whisconier Middle School

PWS ID: CT 0181112

We are responsible for providing water at this location and ensuring that the drinking water we provide to you meets state and federal standards. This notice is to inform you of the lead tap monitoring results for the drinking water samples collected at the locations identified below:

Drinking Water Sample Results for Lead		
Location	Date	Lead Result (mg/L)
04-WMS004 cafeteria fountain	9/29/2020	>0.001
01-WMS teachers room sink	9/29/2020	0.001
05-WMS002 Fountain D wing	9/29/2020	0.002
06-WMS006 Nurse Clinic	9/29/2020	0.002
07-WMS010 A Wing Boys Lav	9/29/2020	0.002

## What Does This Mean?

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

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- *Do not boil water to remove lead.* Boiling water will not reduce lead.
- *Look for alternative sources of water.*

## For More Information

Call us at 203-775-7700. For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's Web site at [www.epa.gov/lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead), call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider.

**CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE**

**CONSUMER NOTIFICATION OF LEAD TAP WATER MONITORING**

Public Water System ID: CT 018112

Public Water System Name: Whisconier Middle School


Public Water System Town: Brookfield

Notification of lead tap water monitoring results for the period: 09/26/2020

Consumer Notices delivered within 30 days after learning of the results: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Note: A sample copy of the consumer notification of tap results must be submitted with this certification.

The public water system indicated above hereby affirms that it has provided a notice of the individual tap results from lead tap water monitoring carried out under the requirements of Code of Federal Regulations 141.86 to the persons served by the water system at the specific sampling site from which the sample was taken in accordance with the reporting, content, and delivery requirements of Code of Federal Regulations 141.85(d).

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of owner or operator

10/19/2020  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date