

Location: _____

Date: _____

Notification of Results

Thank you for participating in the monitoring of tap water.

The results at the sampled tap are:

Lead _____mg/L Copper _____mg/L

Contaminant level requiring follow-up action:

Lead 0.015 mg/L Copper 1.3 mg/L

ppm or mg/L = Parts per million or milligrams per liter, explained in terms of money as one penny in \$10,000.

ppb or micrograms/L = Parts per billion or micrograms per liter, explained in terms of money as one penny in \$10,000,000.

The MCLG, or maximum contaminant level goal for lead is zero mg/L. This is the level of a contaminant in drinking water where there is no known or expected health risk. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety. The action level for lead is 0.015 mg/L and the action level for copper is 1.3 mg/L. An action level is the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Lead is a common metal found in the environment. Although most lead exposure occurs when people eat paint chips and inhale dust, or from contaminated soil, the EPA estimates that 10 to 20 percent of human exposure to lead may come from lead in drinking water. Lead is rarely found in source water but enters tap water through corrosion of plumbing materials. Homes built before 1988 are more likely to have lead pipes, fixtures, and solder. However, new homes are also at risk: even legally designated "Lead-Free" plumbing may contain up to 8 percent lead. The most common source is brass and chrome-plated brass faucets and fixtures, which can leach significant amount of lead into water, especially hotwater.

Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney, or nervous system problems.

Copper is a reddish metal that occurs naturally in rock, soil, water, sediment, and air. It is commonly found in coins, electrical wiring, and pipes. It is an essential element for living organisms, including humans. However, too much copper can cause adverse health effects, including vomiting, diarrhea, stomach cramps, and nausea. It has also been associated with liver damage and kidney disease.

The human body has a natural mechanism for maintaining the proper level of copper; however, children under one year old have not yet developed this mechanism and, as a result, are more

vulnerable to the toxic effects of copper. People with Wilson's disease also have a problem with maintaining the proper balance and should exercise particular care in limiting exposure to copper.

Consumers can reduce their exposure to lead in drinking water by the following:

- (I) Run your water to flush out lead. If the water has not been used for several hours, run water for 15-30 seconds, or until it becomes cold, or until it reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking. Flushing removes water containing lead from the plumbing lines.
- (II) Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap. Lead dissolves more easily into heated water. Do not use hot water for preparing baby formula. Boiling water does not reduce lead.
- (III) Look for alternative sources or treatment of water if you are concerned about contaminants. You may want to consider purchasing a water filter or bottled water. Read the packaging to ensure the filter is approved to reduce lead or contact NSF International at 800-NSF-2010 or www.nsf.org for more information on performance standards for water filters.
- (IV) Get your child tested. Visit the Tennessee Department of Health to learn more about children and lead, or contact your healthcare provider to find out how you can get your child tested for lead if you concerned about lead exposure. <https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/mch-lead.html>
- (V) The following is a list of some Department approved laboratories in your area that you can call to have your water tested for lead (Insert names and phones numbers of at least two laboratories).
- (VI) Identify your plumbing fixtures containing lead. New brass faucets, fittings, and valves, even those advertised as "Lead-Free" may contribute lead to drinking water. Tennessee law currently restricts the sale of plumbing fixtures not considered "lead-free."

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's Web site at www.epa.gov/lead, call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791, contact your health care provider, or reach out to the State of Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation by mailing:

Lead and Copper in Drinking Water
Tennessee Tower, 11th Floor
312 Rosa L. Parks Ave.,
Nashville, TN 37243

Your participation in this program is a valuable contribution to the community's safety.

For more information contact please contact _____
with your local water utility at (____) _____