**Consumer Notification**

Location:

Thank you for participating in the monitoring of tap water.

**Your results are the tap are:**

**Lead \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_mg/L Copper \_\_\_\_\_\_\_mg/L**

**Contaminant Level requiring follow-up action:**

**Lead \_\_0.015\_\_\_mg/L Copper\_\_1.3\_\_\_mg/L**

The MCLG, or maximum contaminant level goal for lead is zero mg/L. This 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. 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 1986 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 hot water.

Lead can cause serious health problems if too much enters the 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. 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.

The greatest risk of lead exposure is to infants, young children, and pregnant women. During pregnancy, the child receives lead from the mother’s bones, which may affect brain development. Lead can also be transferred through breastmilk to nursing infants. Scientists have linked the effects of lead on the brain with lowered IQ in children.

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 also exercise particular care in limiting exposure to copper.

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

1. 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.
2. Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap. Lead dissolves more easily into heated water. Boiling water does not reduce lead. Use cold flushed water for cooking and preparing baby formula.
3. 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](http://www.nsf.org/) for more information on performance standards for water filters.
4. Conduct additional testing for lead. Call us at ( ) - to find out how to get your water tested for lead.
5. 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. <http://www.tn.gov/health/article/lead>
6. 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 your local water utility at ( ) - .

Appreciatively,