



June 25, 2019

Dear Water Consumer,

As you may know, Horsham Air Guard Station has a public water system and is responsible for providing water at this location and ensuring that the drinking water provided meets state and federal standards.

On May 29th we distributed the results of nine drinking water samples for lead collected at this facility on April 19, 2018. The tenth sample site was still being determined because of reconstruction. We have now collected the tenth sample at a site that is approved. Below is a table indicating the results and locations of all ten samples from the monitoring period.

Drinking Water Sample for Lead		
Location	Date	Result (ppb)
Building 203	4/19/2018	<1
Building 229	4/19/2018	1
Building 232	4/19/2018	1
Building 235	4/19/2018	4
Building 310	4/19/2018	<1
Building 348	4/19/2018	<1
Building 354	4/19/2018	7
Building 5505	4/19/2018	2
Building 5600	4/19/2018	<1
Building 219	6/29/2018	<1

We are happy to report that all ten samples as well as the 90th percentile value for the HAGS water system were below the lead action level of 15 parts per billion for this monitoring period.

What Does This Mean?

Under the authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act, EPA set the action level for lead in drinking water at 15 ppb. This means utilities must ensure that water from the taps used for human consumption do not exceed this level in at least 90 percent of the sites sampled (90th percentile value). The action level is *the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow*. If water from the tap does exceed this limit, then the utility must take certain steps 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 the Sources of Lead?

The primary sources of lead exposure for most children are deteriorating lead-based paint, lead contaminated dust, and lead contaminated residential soil. 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 your water to flush out lead.*** If water hasn't been used for several hours, 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 boil water to remove lead.***

For More Information

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, call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider.

Horsham Air Guard Station contact: Lt.-Col. Jacqueline Siciliano 215-323-8387

