

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT LEAD IN YOUR DRINKING WATER.

## Sampling shows elevated lead levels in some homes.

Jericho Fire District 1 – WSID VT0005476 found elevated levels of lead in drinking water in some homes. Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant people and young children. Please read this information closely to see what you can do to reduce lead in your drinking water.

### What Happened?

During the most recent round of sampling performed between September 25<sup>th</sup> – September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025, we collected **five(5)** samples and analyzed them for lead. The samples resulted in a 90<sup>th</sup> percentile level of **55 parts per billion (ppb)** for lead, which is an action level exceedance.

### What Does a Lead Action Level Exceedance Mean?

Under the authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) set the action level for lead in drinking water at 15 parts per billion (ppb). This means public drinking water system must ensure that lead in water from the customer's tap does 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, including distributing this information.

### Health Effects of Lead

*\*There is no safe level of lead in drinking water. Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Some of the health effects to infants and children include decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can also result in new or worsened learning and behavior problems. The children of persons who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy may be at increased risk of these harmful health effects. Adults have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems. Contact your health care provider for more information about your risks.\**

### Sources of Lead

Lead is a toxic metal that was used for many years in products found in and around our homes. The most common sources of lead in drinking water are lead pipes, faucets, and fixtures. In homes with lead pipes that connect the home to the water main, also known as lead services lines, these pipes are typically the most significant source of lead in the water. Lead pipes are more likely to be found in older cities and homes built before 1986. Lead may also come from lead solder used to connect pipes in home plumbing, and from some faucets and fixtures.

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

Below are recommended actions that you may take, separately or in combination, if you are concerned about lead in your drinking water. The list also includes where you may find more information and is not intended to be a complete list or to imply that all actions equally reduce lead from drinking water.

- **Use your filter properly.** Using a filter can reduce lead in drinking water. If you use a filter, it should be certified to remove lead. Read any directions provided with the filter to learn how to properly install, maintain, and use your cartridge and when to replace it. For more information on facts and advice on home water filtration systems, visit EPA's website at <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/home-drinking-water-filtration-fact-sheet> and EPA's [Consumer Tool for Identifying Point-of-Use and Pitcher Filters Certified to Reduce Lead in Drinking Water \(pdf\)](#).
- **Clean your aerator.** Regularly remove and clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator). Sediment, debris, and lead particles can collect in your aerator.
- **Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula.** Lead dissolves more easily in hot water.
- **Boiling water does not remove lead from water.**

- **Run your water to flush out lead.** The more time water has been sitting in your home’s pipes, the more lead it may contain. Before drinking, flush your home’s pipes by running the tap, taking a shower, doing laundry, or doing a load of dishes. The amount of time to run the water will depend on whether your home has a lead service line or not, as well as the length and diameter of the service line and the amount of plumbing in your home. Residents may contact us at \_\_\_\_\_ for recommendations about flushing times in their community.
- **Identify and replace plumbing fixtures that contain lead.** The amount of lead allowed in plumbing solder and fixtures has been reduced by several state and federal laws over the last few decades.
- **Have your water tested.** Contact us at \_\_\_\_\_ for more information on getting your water tested.
- **Consider getting your child tested to determine lead levels in their blood.** A family doctor or pediatrician can perform a blood test for lead and provide information about the health effects of lead.

### What is Being Done?

The water system has:

- no known lead service lines
- full or partial lead service lines in some areas
- lead “gooseneck” or “pigtail” connections to service lines in some areas

We have engaged with the State and are working to determine which corrosion control treatment strategy would be most effective in addressing this situation. Jericho Fire District 1 – WSID VT0005476 will be required to install corrosion control treatment **no later than June 30, 2028.**

What else is Jericho Fire District 1 – WSID VT0005476 doing?:

For more information, call us at \_\_\_\_\_, or visit our website at \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's website at <https://www.epa.gov/lead> or contact your health care provider.

*\*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 Jericho Fire District 1. State Public Water System (PWS) ID#: **WSID VT0005476**. Date distributed: \_\_\_\_\_