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IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER Reporting Requirements Not Met for Trenton Water Works

Our water system recently violated a drinking water requirement. Trenton Water Works failed to submit an optimal corrosion control treatment (OCCT) recommendation or a source water treatment recommendation after exceeding the 90th percentile requirement for lead sampling between January 2017 and June 2017 thereby violating a drinking water requirement. Even though this is not an emergency, as our customer, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do and what we are doing to correct the situation.

What happened?

We routinely sample water at consumers' taps for lead and copper. The tests between January 2017 and June 2017 indicated lead levels in the water above the action level. Trenton Water Works is, therefore, required to submit an Optimum Corrosion Control Treatment (OCCT) recommendation or a source water recommendation to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) – Division of Water Supply & Geoscience. The recommendation should have been completed and submitted by December 30, 2017.

Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

What should I do?

Listed below are some steps you can take to reduce your exposure to lead if you suspect you have a lead service or lead solder or if your home was constructed prior to 1986:

- Run water to flush out lead. Run water for 1 – 3 minutes or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking, if it hasn't been used for several hours.
- Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula. Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap; Lead dissolves more quickly into hot water. Do not use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula.
- Do not boil water. Boiling water will not reduce lead levels.
- Use alternate sources or treatment of water. You may want to consider using bottled water for drinking and cooking or a water filter designed to remove Lead. Read the package to be sure the filter is approved to reduce Lead or contact NSF International at 800-NSF-8010 or www.nsf.org for information on performance standards for water filters. Be sure to maintain and replace a filter device in accordance with the manufacturer's standards to ensure water quality.
- Get your child tested. Contact your local health department or healthcare provider to find out how you can get your child tested for lead if you are concerned about lead exposure.

What is being done?

This is not an emergency, if it had been, you would have been contacted immediately. The OCCT, source water treatment recommendation and documentation identifying the initial number of lead service lines in our distribution system will be submitted to the NJDEP by March 30, 2018

For more information please call 609-989-3055.

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 Trenton Water Works.
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