

Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills Water Department
1001 Parsippany Boulevard
Parsippany, New Jersey 07054
(973) 263-7099
PWSID No. 1429001

Important Information About Your Drinking Water

The Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills Water Department Failed to Meet Water Quality Parameter (WQP) Levels and Provide Public Notification Within the Required Timeframe

Our Water Department receives water from a system that performs corrosion control treatment. Accordingly, our system is operating on an Optimal Water Quality Parameter (OWQP) monitoring program under the Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) to help prevent lead and/or copper corrosion and release into the drinking water. During the 7/1/2019 to 12/31/2019 and 1/1/2020 to 6/30/2020 monitoring periods, the minimum value for pH, as defined and approved by the NJDEP at two (2) of our Points of Entry (POE) into the distribution system (Jersey City Municipal Utilities Authority and Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority Interconnections), was not maintained. Water quality parameter (WQP) results did not meet the optimal WQP control values set for a minimum pH of 7.0 approved by the State for a period greater than 9 days in the 6-month monitoring periods.

The WQP violation required us to notify you no later than 3/28/2020; we requested clarification to the legitimacy of this violation from the NJDEP on 3/10/2020. Followed by a lengthy review period and logistical difficulties with the COVID-19 pandemic, unfortunately, a formal request for an extension was not made, and we were unable to provide you with the public notification until this time. This, therefore, incurred an additional public notification violation under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act.

Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did (are doing) to correct this situation.

What Does This Mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours. Although the pH levels at the POEs were in compliance with the NJ State Secondary Drinking Water Standard (between 6.5 and 8.5) they did not meet the State designated optimal WQP values for optimized corrosion control.

What Should I Do?

Listed below are some steps you can take to reduce your exposure to lead and/or copper:

- Run water to flush out lead and/or copper. Run water for 15-30 seconds 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 and/or copper 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?

We are conducting an extensive review of water distribution system operations, equipment calibration, and sampling and reporting procedures. We anticipate resolving the problem immediately to keep compliance within the next monitoring period window for 7/1/2020 to 12/31/2020.

In addition to this notice, we are developing a remedial evaluation report with the assistance of water consulting licensed professional engineers to be reviewed and approved by the NJDEP. We are also collecting lead and copper tap samples each 6-month compliance period, beginning 1/1/2020, to confirm that we remain under the lead and copper action levels in the distribution system. We are pleased to report that there were no action level exceedances for lead or copper during our first 6-month compliance period of this year.

Mandatory Health Affects Language

While this optimal WQP monitoring violation is not related to a lead and copper action level exceedance during the 7/1/2019 to 12/31/2019 and 1/1/2020 to 6/30/2020 monitoring periods, the following information regarding the potential health affects related to elevated levels of lead and copper as required by EPA and NJDEP regulations has been provided.

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.

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal physician.

If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.

Contact Information

For more information, please contact Superintendent John Wieworka or Asst. Superintendent Sean Andres with the Parsippany-Troy Hills Water Department at (973) 263-7099. 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 hands or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by Parsippany-Troy Hills Water Department.

Public Water System ID#: 1429001.

Date distributed: 7/15/2020.