

EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP SCHOOL

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“ Cougars ROAR ” **Respect Others, Accept Responsibility**

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Dear Parents,

Our water system has installed a corrosion control treatment to help prevent lead and/or copper in the pipes from dissolving into the water. We test the treatment system daily to insure the level of phosphate added to the system is adequate.

When inspected by the State, it was found that during the past summer months the treatment amount was below the state required minimum. Because we were below, we are required to report to everyone using the water that we were below the required level. Our tests did not match that of the State, however, we must comply with State regulations.

This is not an emergency and there is no evidence that our system ever exceeded the lead or copper action levels which would trigger a warning level to all users of the system. Currently our lead and copper samples indicate all lead and copper levels are within State guidelines.

As a preventative and proactive measure, we are doing the following:

- The system has purchased digital meters for pH and orthophosphate. A staff custodian will be an Approved Person responsible for performing the bi-weekly testing and reporting the results to the NJDEP.
- The system has already begun collecting the bi-weekly samples using digital meters.

The official public notice as written by the State is posted on our website (see Drinking Water link). As in the past, if our District ever receives a lead/copper report that does not meet State standards, we would install bottled water immediately throughout the school.

Sincerely,



Edward F. Stoloski
Superintendent

/jns

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

East Amwell Twp. Board of Education Fails to Meet Water Quality Parameter (WQP) Levels

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers you have the right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did (are doing) to correct this situation.

Our system has installed corrosion control treatment to help prevent lead and/or copper in the pipes from dissolving into the water. During the 7/1/17 to 12/31/17, we failed to consistently meet treatment technique requirements for our corrosion control system. WQP results did not meet the optimal WQP control values set by the state [69 of days with excursions] in the 6-month monitoring period, and the system cannot be outside the values set by the State for nine or more days.

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 does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours.

However, 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 an increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.

What is being done?

The system has purchased digital meters for pH and orthophosphate. A staff custodian will be an Approved Person responsible for performing the bi-weekly testing and reporting the results to the NJDEP.

The system has already begun collecting the bi-weekly samples using digital meters.

This notice is being sent to you by East Amwell Twp. Board of Education

State Water System ID#: NJ1008301

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