



City of Denham Springs

Water Department

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Lead & Copper Rule (LCR)

Under the authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act, EPA set the action level for lead in drinking water at 0.015 mg/L. This means utilities must ensure that water from the customer’s tap does not exceed this level in at least 90 percent of the homes 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.

The City of Denham Springs tests for lead and copper every three years. Those results may be found in our yearly CCR.

Our 2017 results were: *lppb in the 90th percentile for lead and oil ppm in the 90th percentile for copper.*

The Water Department has removed all known lead and copper service lines, which were located at the new park at the corridor split. Our distribution system now consists of PVC, A.C, Cast Iron, and Ductile Iron Pipe.

We will continue to monitor and take samples for lead and copper every three years.

What Can I Do To Reduce Exposure to Lead in Drinking Water?

If you are concerned about the lead levels at your location, there are several things you may do:

- **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 will help flush water containing lead from the pipes.
- **Use the cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula.** Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap; lead dissolves more easily into hot water.
- **Do not boil water to remove lead.** Boiling water will not reduce lead.
- **Look for alternative sources or treatment of water.**
- **Test your water for lead.** Call us at the number below to find out how to get your water tested for lead.
- **Identify if your plumbing fixtures contain lead.** Brass faucets, fittings, and valves, including those advertised as “lead-free”, may contribute lead to drinking water. The law currently allows pipes, fittings, and fixtures with up to .25 percent weighted average of lead to be identified as “lead-free”.