

Putnam Community Water Corporation

1.26.2015

This notice is being provided to our customers to explain the recent mailing of elevated lead levels in some of our customer tap water.

Because lead contamination of drinking water often results from corrosion of the plumbing materials belonging to water system customers, the EPA established a treatment regulation for lead that requires water systems to control the corrosivity of the water.

The regulation requires Putnam Community Water (PCW) to collect tap samples from selected customers served by the system that are more likely to have plumbing materials containing lead. If more than **10%** of tap water samples exceed the lead action level of 15 parts per billion, then PCW is required to take additional actions including educating the public about lead in drinking water and actions consumers can take to reduce their exposure to lead.

PCW has been complying with the EPA requirements for monitoring selected customer tap water since the 1990's. The results from the July - Sept 2014 sampling period showed 10% of tap water samples exceeded the lead action level of 15 parts per billion. These customers were notified in writing of the sampling results. PCW was also required to mail out a public education notice regarding lead in your drinking water. This mailing was done in January 2015.

Notices are required by law to be delivered to all customers, with each billing cycle, as long as the lead action level is exceeded. This is the reason for the post card notice that all customers received with their billing. These notices will continue with each billing cycle, until two consecutive sampling events are below the action level.

PCW modified its corrosion control program in mid-2015 to reduce corrosivity of the water. This modification reduced the water corrosivity as seen by the sample collected from the Oct – Dec 2015 period, this sample showed less than 10% of the tap water collected to be above the lead action level. A second set of samples are scheduled to be taken in January 2016. If these results are also below the lead action level, then further notification will not be needed.

It is important to understand that water being supplied by PCW does NOT contain lead. Repeated sampling of the water leaving the treatment plant is below detection limits.