

Lakeview Water System found elevated levels of lead in drinking water in some homes. The homeowners where the elevated lead levels were found have been notified directly. Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Please read this information closely to see what you can do to reduce lead in your drinking water.

Lead can cause serious health problems if too much enters your body from drinking water or other sources. It can cause damage to the brain and kidneys, and can interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to all parts of your body. The greatest risk of lead exposure is to infants, young children, and pregnant women. Scientists have linked the effects of lead on the brain with lowered IQ in children. Adults with kidney problems and high blood pressure can be affected by low levels of lead more than healthy adults. Lead is stored in the bones, and it can be released later in life. During pregnancy, the child receives lead from the mother's bones, which may affect brain development.

Lead is a poisonous metal that our bodies cannot use. Lead in the body stops good minerals such as iron and calcium from working right. Some of these effects may be permanent.

The most common sources of lead exposure come from paint, dust, soil, and the corrosion of household plumbing systems. Areas with soft water and water with low pH levels can cause the leaching of lead particles from household plumbing materials into the water coming from your tap.

The highest chances for lead to leach into the water are after the water has set without being run for a period of time. Flushing any taps before using the water for any purpose helps eliminate consumption of elevated lead levels.

Lakeview Water System is utilizing a corrosion control program for their drinking water system in an effort to minimize lead exposure to the customers.

Running water from the home tap prior to use may reduce exposure to lead coming from the water. Use cold water for drinking and cooking. Never cook or mix infant formula using hot water from the tap. Boiling water does not reduce lead levels. Use cold water boiled on the stove top if hot water is needed.

Some faucet and pitcher filters can remove lead from drinking water. If you use a filter, be sure you get one that is certified to remove lead by the NSF International.

Parents concerned about their lead levels in their child's blood should have their child tested

For more information, call us at 318-222-4871 or visit our Web site at lww.myruralwater.com. For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/lead> or contact your health care provider.