



CITY OF DECATUR ILLINOIS

#1 GARY K ANDERSON PLAZA DECATUR, ILLINOIS 62523-1196

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

This notice is to inform you that the City of Decatur Public Works Department is planning to or has performed maintenance to the water system in your area that could result in a disruption of your water service. While it is not known for certain if water system maintenance and construction projects may adversely affect lead levels in your home or business, it is very important that you take precautionary measures. Lead in drinking water can be a source of lead exposure to humans. In the past, lead was used nationwide in some water service piping, internal plumbing materials and fixtures.

What you can do to reduce lead exposure in drinking water:

Run your water to flush out lead.

- ◆ Running water for 3 to 5 minutes in a kitchen sink should clear the lead from your household plumbing to the kitchen. Once you have done this, fill clean containers with water and store them in a refrigerator for drinking, cooking, and preparing baby formula throughout the day.
- ◆ If the plumbing in your home is accessible, inspect the water pipes to determine if they are made of lead. Or hire a licensed plumber to do an inspection.

Use cold water for drinking, cooking, and preparing baby formula.

- ◆ Do not make baby formula using hot water from your hot water faucet.
- ◆ Do not cook with or drink water from your hot water faucet. Lead dissolves easier in hot water.

Use alternative sources of drinking water.

- ◆ You may want to consider purchasing bottled water or a water filter that is certified to remove "total lead".

Clean and remove any debris from faucet aerators on a regular basis.

Do not boil water to remove lead.

- ◆ Boiling water will not reduce lead and could increase the concentration levels.

Install lead-free faucets and plumbing components.

Remove the entire lead service line if you have one.

Test your water for lead.

- ◆ We do not test for lead at our facility. However, we can provide a list of certified laboratories that do. Please note that the City of Decatur is not affiliated with the laboratories and they will charge a fee of \$15 - \$35. To receive a list of certified laboratories, call us at **424-2831** or **875-5705**.

If test results indicate a lead level above 15 micrograms per liter (parts per billion).

- ◆ Stop using tap water for drinking immediately.
- ◆ Use bottled water for pregnant women, breast-feeding women, young children, and formula-fed infants.
- ◆ Immediately notify the Water Production Division at **424-2831**.

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT THE
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT AT 424-2831 OR 875-5705**