PennState Wilkes-Barre

Penn State Wilkes-Barre
44 University Drive
Dallas, PA 18612

CONSUMER NOTICE OF TAP WATER RESULTS

Dear Consumer,

Penn State Wilkes-Barre is a public water system, because we are responsible for providing you with water at this location and ensuring that the drinking water we provide to you meets state and federal standards. The following table provides information on the tap location, date, and water sample results.

Sample Location	Sample Date	Sample ID Number	Lead (ppb)	Copper (ppb)
Hayfield Building First Floor Kitchen Sink	4/30/2020	822	9	200
Hayfield Building First Floor Kitchen Sink	4/23/2020	822	7	180
Student Commons Building Small Sink in Kitchen Prep Area	4/23/2020	825	< 5	432
Student Commons Building Small Sink in Food Line	4/23/2020	826	< 5	375
Student Commons Building Large Kitchen Sink on Right	4/23/2020	827	< 5	386
Science Building 108A Kitchenette	4/23/2020	838	< 5	174
Hayfield Building Sink in Boiler Room Basement	4/23/2020	841	< 5	183
Bell Atlantic/Bell of PA Building Sink in Kitchen Upper Level	4/23/2020	850	< 5	148
Bell Atlantic/Bell of PA Building Sink in Kitchen Lower Level	4/23/2020	851	< 5	202
Nesbitt Academic Commons Building Upstairs Kitchen Sink	4/23/2020	860	< 5	414
Career Services Kitchen Sink	4/23/2020	862	< 5	542
Student Commons Building Small Sink in Food Line	4/30/2020	826	< 5	363
Student Commons Building Large Kitchen Sink on Right	4/30/2020	827	< 5	371
Bell Atlantic/Bell of PA Building Sink in Kitchen Upper Level	4/30/2020	850	< 5	125
Bell Atlantic/Bell of PA Building Sink in Kitchen Lower Level	4/30/2020	851	< 5	194
Nesbitt Academic Commons Building Upstairs Kitchen Sink	4/30/2020	860	< 5	469
Student Commons Building Small Sink in Kitchen Prep Area	5/14/2020	825	< 5	440
Science Building 108A Kitchenette	5/14/2020	838	< 5	157
Bell Atlantic/Bell of PA Building Sink in Kitchen Upper Level	5/14/2020	850	< 5	109
Bell Atlantic/Bell of PA Building Sink in Kitchen Lower Level	5/14/2020	851	< 5	175
The 90th percentile value for our water system			< 5	440

Values in red font exceed action levels.
Values listed as < 5 ppb were less than the level of detection used by the laboratory testing procedure.

The 90th percentile value for our water system is **below the lead action level of 15 parts per billion (ppb).**
The 90th percentile value for our water system is **less than the copper action level of 1,300 ppb.**

What Does This Mean?

Under the authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act, US EPA set the action level for lead in drinking water at 15 ppb. This means utilities must ensure the water from the taps used for human consumption do not exceed this level in at

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least 90 percent of the sites' samples (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 exceeds this limit, then the utility must take certain steps to correct the problem. Because lead may pose serious health risks, the US 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 a no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

As part of its regulatory monitoring measures based on the 2019 sampling data, in 2020 we began testing for lead every six (6) months to closely monitor the lead levels in our water system. In addition, we initiated a public education campaign to ensure that people who drink water in our facility know about the action level exceedance, understand the health effects of lead, the sources of lead and actions they can take to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water. We are also evaluating possible actions to reduce the corrosivity of our water because corrosive water can cause lead to leach from plumbing materials that contain lead. As part of this evaluation, in 2020 we began a corrosion control sampling program to collect data, which demonstrated that our wells (raw water sources) and water treatment processes are not the source of the lead. A table depicting these sampling results is at the end of notification. We strongly urge you to take the steps below to reduce your exposure to lead in drinking water.

What Are The Health Effects of Lead?

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. If you are concerned about lead exposure at this facility or in your home, you may want to ask your health care providers about testing your children to determine levels of lead in their blood.

What are The Sources of Lead?

Although most lead exposure occurs when people eat paint chips and inhale dust, or from contaminated soil, US EPA estimates that 10 to 20 percent of human exposure to lead may come from lead in drinking water. As evidenced by the non-detectable results from the testing, the raw water supply and treatment is not the source of the elevated lead levels. Lead is rarely found in source water but enters tap water through corrosion of plumbing materials. Buildings built before 1986 are more likely to have lead pipes, fixtures and solder. There are no known lead pipes on the Penn State Wilkes-Barre campus.

What Can I do to Reduce Exposure to Lead in Drinking Water?

- **Run your water to flush out lead.** If water hasn't been used for several hours, run water for two minutes to flush out interior plumbing or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking.
- **Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula.**
- **Do not boil water to remove lead.**

For More Information

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Please contact Jennifer Henniges, Penn State Wilkes-Barre strategic communications specialist, by telephone at (570) 675-9269 or by email at jhk5993@psu.edu, or visit waterstandards.psu.edu. For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit US EPA's website at: www.epa.gov/lead, call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider.

Corrosion Control Sampling Program Data Table

Sample Location	Sample Date	Sample ID Number	Lead (ppb)	Copper (ppb)
Well 1 - Raw Water - Sample Tap	2/26/2020	001	< 5	< 10
Well 2 - Raw Water - Sample Tap	2/26/2020	002	< 5	< 10
Well 1 - Entry Point - Sample Tap	2/26/2020	101	< 5	< 10
Well 2 - Entry Point - Sample Tap	2/26/2020	102	< 5	< 10
Science Building - Janitor's Closet Room 14	2/26/2020	804	< 5	19
Student Commons Building - Boiler Room	2/26/2020	802	< 5	< 10
Well 1 - Raw Water - Sample Tap	3/26/2020	001	< 5	< 10
Well 2 - Raw Water - Sample Tap	3/26/2020	002	< 5	17
Well 1 - Entry Point - Sample Tap	3/26/2020	101	< 5	< 10
Well 2 - Entry Point - Sample Tap	3/26/2020	102	< 5	< 10
Science Building - Janitor's Closet Room 14	3/31/2020	804	< 5	23
Student Commons Building - Boiler Room	3/26/2020	802	< 5	< 10
Well 1 - Raw Water - Sample Tap	4/28/2020	001	< 5	< 10
Well 2 - Raw Water - Sample Tap	4/28/2020	002	< 5	< 10
Well 1 - Entry Point - Sample Tap	4/28/2020	101	< 5	< 10
Well 2 - Entry Point - Sample Tap	4/28/2020	102	< 5	< 10
Science Building - Janitor's Closet Room 14	4/30/2020	804	< 5	41
Student Commons Building - Boiler Room	4/30/2020	802	< 5	10
Well 1 - Raw Water - Sample Tap	5/26/2020	001	< 5	< 10
Well 2 - Raw Water - Sample Tap	5/26/2020	002	< 5	< 10
Well 1 - Entry Point - Sample Tap	5/26/2020	101	< 5	16
Well 2 - Entry Point - Sample Tap	5/26/2020	102	< 5	< 10
Science Building - Janitor's Closet Room 14	5/28/2020	804	< 5	27
Student Commons Building - Boiler Room	5/28/2020	802	< 5	10