

Milltown Water Billing Notice for Lead & Copper

Milltown Water Department found high levels of lead in drinking water in some homes. Lead can cause serious health problems. For more information please call Milltown Water Department or visit www.milltownnj.org.

The above statement is included with our water customers who received their water bill in November and will continue to remain on the back of all water bills until Milltown becomes compliant for lead testing. Milltown had 3 homes which exceeded the lead levels of 15ppb (point per billion) and in June 2016 we received non-compliance from the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) because of these homes having exceeded lead levels. One of the homes is a vacant property and is why we exceeded the lead levels higher than the DEP requirements. When water stands in lead pipes or plumbing systems for several hours or more, the lead may dissolve into your drinking water. This means the first drawn from the tap in the morning, or later in the afternoon if the water has not been used all day can contain fairly high levels of lead.

Milltown had an old Lead & Copper Sampling Site Plan and is now updating to **new** Lead and Copper Sampling Site Plan. We appreciate those residents coming forward to volunteer to help us with our new sampling site plan.

Milltown tested the water coming in from the main connection site at Elkins Lane Pump Station where our main water supply comes from New Brunswick Water is received. The test results were clear and there is no lead entering our water system from New Brunswick Water. This was tested before we were notified of our non-compliance from the DEP which was in July 2016.

A brochure was mailed to all water customers plus the notification was dropped off at the day care centers, SACC, non-profit family services, the library and posted on our website to educate all water customers in Milltown.

Due to these results of higher lead levels, the DEP Lead and Copper Sampling Guidance Plan requires us to notify all consumer water sampling sites and then proceed to reach out to all water customers. In addition, we are to do a public education program and continue with the above message on our billing statements until we are compliant for lead.

The Utility Department team continues to invest in updating our water infrastructure; by our lining and flushing programs, repairing or replacing fire hydrants, working to maintain or replace pump station issues, and is working on inventorying what is needed for future planning beyond the capital budget.

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home or building and the health effects of lead, visit the EPA's website www.epa.gov/lead or call the National Lead Information Center at 1-800-424-LEAD or Safe Drinking Water Act hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or contact your health provider.