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Information Bulletin

Lead in Drinking Water

Health Canada revised the Lead (Pb) levels from 10ppb to 5ppb (0.01mg/l to 0.005mg/l)

What we know about Lead:

- Lead leaches into drinking water from distribution or plumbing systems
- Lead service lines to the home are the main source of Lead in drinking water
- More prevalent in homes built before 1975
- Plumbing parts may also leach Lead – solder, faucets and valves

How to test for Lead:

- Check with your water utility provider or municipality
- Check your water service line by water meter – colour is greyish-black
- If you suspect Lead contact your municipality or public health authority to test water

What are the health effects?

- Highest at risk are children, infants and fetuses
- May cause neurological development such as lower IQ in children
- Increased blood pressure or kidney issues in adults

How to reduce your exposure:

- Use cold water tap only for drinking, cooking and preparing baby formula
- Hot water increases the release of Lead, flush your lines for 10 minutes every morning
- Lead is not a concern for bathing or showering

How to remove lead:

- Install a point of use (POU) water treatment device for your drinking water tap
- Ensure the device is certified (NSF or WQA) to remove lead to the 0.005 mg/l level
- Call upon a CWQA professional member to provide the proper water treatment device



Summary:

CWQA members are your water treatment experts. They offer certified products to the standards of CSAB483.1 and NSF53 standards. All water treatment devices require yearly maintenance and the CWQA members offer that piece of mind. The CWQA members are trained to work with the local municipalities and provincial authorities to manage Lead issues in your drinking water.

CWQA members are the companies that sell, service, supply, manufacture and distribute point and use and point of entry water treatment systems for residential, industrial, commercial and small system applications.

CWQA members are here to help provide quality water for all!

Go to www.cwqa.com for list of CWQA members