

SOURCES OF LEAD IN DRINKING WATER

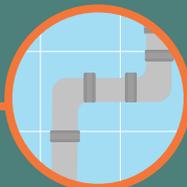
FAUCETS:

Some fixtures may contain lead



GALVANIZED OR LEAD SOLDER PIPES:

Pre-1986 solder contains lead



Lead can build up on galvanized surfaces



LEAD GOOSE NECK:

Connects service line to the water mains

LEAD SERVICE LINE:

Connects home plumbing system to water mains

LEAD AND COPPER CHECK:

- Was your home built before 1986?
- Have you noticed any metal pipes or fixtures corroding?
- Do your pipes have protective scales or coatings in the pipes?
- Is your home connected to a lead service line?
- Are there any brass or chrome plated brass faucets in your home?

If you checked yes to any of these questions, it may be a good idea to get your water tested. Please contact the Environmental Department to find out how.

Contact the Tribal Environmental Department via phone at:

(951) - 654 - 5544
Ext. 4130/4154



WATER SAFETY:

Lead & Copper



PROVIDED BY
THE SOBOBA TRIBAL ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT
951-654-5544 EXT: 4130

HOW CAN LEAD ENTER WATER?

Lead can enter drinking water through plumbing materials in a home, such as lead pipes, faucets, and fixtures. It may also enter the water due to erosion of natural deposits. Lead is a heavy metal that is toxic, even in small amounts. The most significant source of lead in water is through service lines. Lead pipes are more common in older cities or homes built before 1986. The lead pipes tend to corrode when the water has a high acidity or a low mineral content. Corrosion is when a metal begins to dissolve or wear away due to a chemical reaction between water and the plumbing. Other factors may include temperature of the water, how long the water is in the pipes and the presence of protective scales or coatings inside plumbing materials. Turf fields can also increase lead levels when turf fibers have aged and become loose.

HOW DOES COPPER GET INTO WATER?

Copper is often found in many household products such as wiring, plumbing, cookware, and pesticides. Water may have more copper if you have a water softener. Copper can get into your drinking water as the water passes through your household plumbing system if the home has copper pipes

and acidic water. This is often the case in new or recently renovated buildings and homes. Over time plumbing parts build up a natural coating that keeps water from absorbing copper from the plumbing. Copper also enters water by attaching to soils and dissolving or erosion of natural deposits. At times, if a well is utilized, groundwater sources may be contaminated by copper through mining, farming, and industrial operations.

DRINKING WATER

The EPA has set legal limits on 90 different contaminants in drinking water, including lead and copper. EPA estimates that up to 20 percent of a person's potential exposure to lead comes from drinking water. The EPA action level for lead in drinking water is .015 mg/L. However, the goal is to have it at zero due to its negative health impacts. While the level of action for copper is 1.3 mg/L. Copper has a higher limit because it is a necessary nutrient for the human body, however, too much copper can be harmful. Bathing and showering should be safe even if the water contains lead over EPA's action level as human skin doesn't absorb lead in water.

SIGNS OF COPPER EXPOSURE:

If your water has a metallic or bitter taste or smell, it is a sign that there is copper in the water. This water may also appear to be a greenish blue color.

HOW TO REDUCE LEAD & COPPER IN YOUR DRINKING WATER

- Learn if you have a lead service lines or other lead plumbing fixtures
- Use cold water – lead dissolves more easily in hot water
- Clean your faucet aerator
- Use your filter properly
- Run your water- the more time the water has been sitting in your pipes the more contaminates it may contain. Run for 30 to 60 seconds if there is no lead service line. If there is a service line let water run for 3-5 minutes.
- Learn about construction in your neighborhood

HAVE YOUR WATER TESTED AND INSTALL FILTRATION SYSTEMS

