

Tuscarawas PWS Finds Lead in Drinking Water Distribution System

In recent results, Tuscarawas PWS detected lead in levels exceeding the federal action level. Samples were collected May 17, 2023. Lead can cause serious health problem especially for pregnant woman and young children. Our 90th percentile (90% of sample results below this value) for lead was 156 micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$). When the 90th percentile for lead samples results exceeds 15 $\mu\text{g/L}$, Tuscarawas PWS is required to take action to correct the exceedance. Tuscarawas PWS collected 20 lead samples and 11 results were above 15 $\mu\text{g/L}$, resulting in a 90th percentile of 156 $\mu\text{g/L}$. Lead typically enters water primarily as a result of the corrosion, or wearing away, of pipes or materials containing lead in the water distribution system and household plumbing. There are steps the public can take to reduce their lead exposure, which include running the water for 30 seconds to 3 minutes (or until it is noticeably colder) before using it for drinking, cooking, or preparing baby formula. For more information on the health effects of lead, visit U.S. EPA's website at www.epa.gov/lead. You can contact the Village of Tuscarawas PWS on the availability of tap water testing. In addition, do not hesitate to contact John M Heil, Operator of Record at (330) 691-0504 or email: tuscvg@tuscv.org if you have questions or concerns about the village drinking water. Please contact the Tuscarawas County Health Department with any health concerns at (330) 343-5555.

The village is working closely with Ohio EPA to determine the steps needed to correct the lead issue described above. Additional samples are to be collected in the following weeks to help with identifying the areas of concern throughout the system.

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