

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

### Ocean County Vocational Technical School Failed to Meet Water Quality Parameter (WQP) Levels

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did (are doing) to correct this situation.

Our system has installed corrosion control treatment to help prevent lead and/or copper in the pipes from dissolving into the water. During the 7/1/2021- 12/31/2021 monitoring period, we failed to consistently meet treatment technique requirements for our corrosion control system. WQP results did not meet the optimal WQP control values set by the State 55 days in the 6-month monitoring period, and the system cannot be outside the values set by the State for nine or more days.

#### What should I do?

Listed below are some steps you can take to reduce your exposure to lead and/or copper:

- Run water to flush out lead and/or copper. Run water for 15 – 30 seconds or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking, if it hasn't been used for several hours.
- Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula. Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap; Lead dissolves more quickly into hot water. Do not use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula.
- Do not boil water. Boiling water will not reduce lead and/or copper levels.
- Use alternate sources or treatment of water. You may want to consider using bottled water for drinking and cooking or a water filter designed to remove Lead. Read the package to be sure the filter is approved to reduce Lead or contact NSF International at 800-NSF-8010 or [www.nsf.org](http://www.nsf.org) for information on performance standards for water filters. Be sure to maintain and replace a filter device in accordance with the manufacturer's standards to ensure water quality.
- Get your child tested. Contact your local health department or healthcare provider to find out how you can get your child tested for lead if you are concerned about lead exposure.

#### What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours.

However, infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal physician.

*If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.*

#### What is being done?

Testing for pH will now be performed by OCVTS personnel or the Water System Licensed Operator. The system has sampled within optimal WQP parameters since October 26, 2021. We anticipate resolving the problem within the January 1, 2022 – June 30, 2022 monitoring period.

For more information, please contact Ed Rainer - licensed operator at 609-312-9690 or [e.rainer413@gmail.com](mailto:e.rainer413@gmail.com)

*\*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.\**

This notice is being sent to you by Ocean County Vocational Technical School. State Water System ID#: NJ1520316.  
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