Web Site Announcement

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT LEAD IN YOUR DRINKING WATER
Village of Lyndonville and Town of Yates Water Departments found elevated levels of lead in drinking water in some homes/buildings in our community. Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and children 6 years and younger. Please read the following notice closely to see what you can do to reduce lead in your drinking water and to learn what the Village of Lyndonville and Town of Yates is doing to address this problem.

Call the Village of Lyndonville at 585-765-9312 or 585-765-9385 or the Town of Yates at 585-765-9735 or 585-765-9716 for more information.
Date: November 27, 2018

Public Education Notice

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT LEAD IN YOUR DRINKING WATER

The Village of Lyndonville and Town of Yates District #4 Water Departments found elevated levels of lead in drinking water in some homes/buildings. Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and children 6 years and younger. Please read this notice closely to see what you can do to reduce lead in your drinking water.

This notice is brought to you by the Village of Lyndonville and Town of Yates District #4 Water Systems
State Water System ID# Village of Lyndonville # 3600599, Town of Yates District #4 #3630017
Date: November 27, 2018

Health Effects of Lead

Lead can cause serious health problems if too much enters your body from drinking water or other sources. It can cause damage to the brain and kidneys, and can interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to all parts of your body. The greatest risk of lead exposure is to infants, young children, and pregnant women. Scientists have linked the effects of lead on the brain with lowered IQ in children. Adults with kidney problems and high blood pressure can be affected by low levels of lead more than healthy adults. Lead is stored in the bones and it can be released later in life. During pregnancy, the child receives lead from the mother's bones, which may affect brain development.

Sources of Lead

Lead is a common metal found in the environment. Drinking water is one possible source of lead exposure. The primary source of lead exposure for most children is lead-based paint. Other sources of lead exposure include lead-contaminated dust or soil, and some plumbing materials. In addition, lead can be found in a number of consumer products, including certain types of pottery, pewter, brass fixtures, food, and cosmetics. Other sources include exposure in the work place (jobs that include house painting, plumbing, renovation, construction, auto repair, welding, electronics repair, jewelry or pottery repair) and exposure from certain hobbies (such as stained glass or pottery, fishing, making or shooting firearms and collecting lead or pewter figurines), as lead can be carried on clothing and shoes.

Children's hands or their toys can come into contact with lead in paint, dust and soil. Therefore, washing children's hands and their toys will help reduce the potential for lead exposure from these sources.

Plumbing materials, including pipes, new brass faucets, fittings, and valves, including those advertised as "lead-free," may contribute lead to drinking water. The law currently allows pipes, fittings, and fixtures with up to 0.25 percent weighted average of lead to be identified as "lead-free."

The Village of Lyndonville /Town of Yates water system does not have any lead in its source water or water mains. **Neither the Village or Town have any lead service lines in their systems.** When water is in contact with pipes or plumbing that contains lead for several hours, the lead may enter drinking water. Homes built before 1986 are more likely to have plumbing containing lead. New homes may also have lead; even "lead-free" plumbing may contain some lead.

Steps You Can Take To Reduce Your Exposure To Lead In Your Water

1. ***Run your water to flush out lead.*** 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. This flushes lead-containing water from the pipes.
2. ***Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula.*** Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap; lead dissolves more easily into hot water. Do not use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula.
3. ***Do not boil water to remove lead.*** Boiling water will not reduce lead.
4. ***Replace your plumbing fixtures if they are found to contain lead.*** Plumbing materials including brass faucets, fittings, and valves, including those advertised as "lead-free," may contribute lead to drinking water. The law previously allowed end-use brass fixtures, such as faucets, with up to 8 percent lead to be labeled as "lead free." As of January 4, 2014, end-use brass fixtures, such as faucets, fittings and valves, must meet the new "lead-free" definition of having no more than 0.25 percent lead on a weighted average. Visit the National Sanitation Foundation website at: **http://www.nsf.org/newsroom_pdf/Lead_free_certification_marks.pdf** to learn more about lead-containing plumbing fixtures and how to identify lead-free certification marks on new fixtures.
5. ***Use bottled water or use a water filter.*** If your home is served by a lead service line, and/or if lead containing plumbing materials are found to be in your home, you may want to consider purchasing bottled water or a water filter. Read the package to be sure the filter is approved to reduce lead or contact NSF International at 800-NSF-8010 or visit **http://www.nsf.org/consumer-resources/what-is-nsf-certification/faucets-plumbing-certification/lead-older-homes**, for a consumer guide of approved water filters. Be sure to maintain and replace a filter device in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to protect water quality. Any measure you take to reduce your exposure to lead should be continued until the lead source(s) has been minimized or eliminated.

Should you test your water for lead?

If lead-containing plumbing materials are identified in your home, you may want to consider testing your water for lead to determine how much lead is in your drinking water. Call us at the Village of

Lyndonville 585-765-9312 or 585-765-9385 or the Town of Yates at 585-765-9735 or 585-765-9716 to find out how to get your water tested for lead. New York State has a pilot program for free lead testing in drinking water. For information on participating in this program, click the link below:

https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/lead/free_lead_testing_pilot_program.htm

Erie County Lab is certified to perform lead testing at the homeowner's expense. The Village of Lyndonville and the Town of Yates can assist with collection of the lead samples.

Should your child be tested for lead?

New York Public Health Law requires primary health care providers to screen each child for blood lead levels at one and two years of age as part of routine well-child care. In addition, at each routine well-child visit, or at least annually if a child has not had routine well-child visits, primary health care providers assess each child who is at least six-months of age, but under six years of age, for high lead exposure. Each child found to be at risk for high lead exposure is screened or referred for lead screening.

If your child has not had routine well-child visits (since the age of one year) and you are concerned about lead exposure to your child, contact your local health department or healthcare provider to find out how you can get your child tested for lead.

What Happened? What is Being Done?

The September sampling round for lead and copper found two of ten homes had results above the EPA Action Level for lead. The Action Level is 15 parts per billion (ppb) at the 90th percentile of samples. The Lyndonville/Yates 90th percentile was 15.6 ppb. 1 ppb is equivalent to one drop of water in an Olympic size swimming pool.

Most of the samples collected were well below the Action Level for lead, thereby demonstrating that the two positive samples were most likely the result of improper collection points within the certified/approved sample sites. One sample was collected from an outside hose bib and the other was collected from a laundry room sink.

A revised lead sampling plan is being submitted to the Department of Health which includes a revaluation of our sample pool to capture all high-risk customers. Sampling frequency will be increased to 20 samples every 6 months until 12 months without an Action level Exceedance is achieved.

Lyndonville is performing a corrosion control study to identify possible treatments to better protect our high-risk customers. The results will be shared with the Department of Health and an optimal corrosion control treatment will be recommended and implemented if deemed necessary.

The Lyndonville/Yates water systems have absolutely no lead service lines. They are either copper or plastic.

Since the inception of the Lead and Copper Rule sampling in 1993 there have been no results above 15ppb at the 90th percentile. Lyndonville/Yates are confident that the next two rounds of testing will prove the September 2018 Action Level Exceedance was due to the collection of samples from improper taps.

For More Information

Call the Village of Lyndonville at 585-765-9312 or 585-765-9385, or the Town of Yates at 585-765-9735 or 585-765-9716. Or visit our Website at http://villageoflyndonville.com or https://townofyates.org. For more information on lead in drinking water, contact your local Orleans County Department of Health at 585-589-3278 or the New York State Department of Health directly by calling the toll-free number (within New York State) 1 800-458-1158, extension 27650, or out of state at (518) 402-7650, or by email at bpwsp@health.state.ny.us. For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's Web site at www.epa.gov/lead, or call the National Lead Information Center at 1-800-424-LEAD.