

WATER DEPARTMENT

NEWS AND UPDATES

LEAD AND COPPER IN DRINKING WATER



DOH requires our water system to sample for lead and copper every three years. Lead and copper in drinking water are largely due to corrosion of service lines and household plumbing, so samples are typically collected by homeowners at their home.

Lead and copper have action levels. “Action level” means that an exceedance results in the water system having to act, usually corrosion control, to reduce the lead and copper levels in homes. The action level for lead is 0.015 parts per million (ppm). The action level for copper is 1.3 parts per million (ppm).

An exceedance occurs if more than 10 percent of the samples (in our case, if more than 1 sample) exceeds the action levels of 0.015 ppm or 1.3 ppm.

Surfside collected 12 lead and copper samples on September 18th. Surfside’s water does not tend to be corrosive. None of the samples exceeded the action levels. Our highest lead result was 0.003 ppm (action level 0.015 ppm). Our highest copper result was 0.404 ppm (action level 1.3 ppm).

Samples are collected by members from a bathroom or kitchen faucet after allowing the water to sit in the pipes (usually overnight) for at least 6 hours.

If you have concerns about lead and copper in your water, a simple tip for reducing the lead and copper levels in tap water is to allow the water to run a few minutes before using.

If you have a home that has copper, brass, galvanized, or lead plumbing, and you are typically available during the month of September, please submit your address as a possible candidate for lead and copper sampling in 2021. Please include the approximate percentage of copper, brass, galvanized, or lead plumbing in your home. If you wish to know the lead and copper levels in your home, the water department can assist you with locating a lab that performs sampling services and can assist you with proper procedure for collecting a lead/copper sample.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT US: water@surfsideonline.org
VISIT OUR WEBPAGE: surfsideonline.org/surfside-water-department/