The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and **Perrydale Domestic Water Association** are concerned about lead in your drinking water. Although most homes have very low levels of lead in their drinking water, some homes in the community have lead levels above the EPA action level of 15 parts per billion (ppb), or 0.015 milligrams of lead per liter of water (mg/L). Under Federal law we are required to have a program in place to minimize lead in your drinking water and are working on the design-implementation of that system.

This program includes:
1. Corrosion control treatment (treating the water to make it less likely that lead will dissolve into the water);
2. Source water treatment (removing any lead that is in the water at the time it leaves our treatment facility); and
3. A public education program.

We are also required to replace the portion of each lead service line that we own if the line contributes lead concentrations of more than 15 ppb after we have completed the comprehensive treatment program. If you have any questions about how we are carrying out the requirements of the lead regulation, please give us a call at **503-835-7221**

This brochure also explains the simple steps you can take to protect yourself by reducing your exposure to lead in drinking water.

Important Information about Lead in Your Drinking Water Perrydale Domestic Water Association found elevated levels of lead in drinking water in some homes/buildings. Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Please read this information closely to see what you can do to reduce lead in your drinking water.

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 main sources of lead exposure are lead-based paint and lead-contaminated dust or soil, and some plumbing materials. In addition, lead can be found in certain types of pottery, pewter, brass fixtures, food, and cosmetics. Other sources include exposure in the work place and exposure from certain hobbies (lead can be carried on clothing or shoes). Lead is found in some toys, some playground equipment, and some children's metal jewelry.

Brass faucets, fittings, and valves, including those advertised as "lead-free," may contribute lead to drinking water. The law currently allows end-use brass fixtures, such as faucets, with up to 8 percent lead to be labeled as "lead-free."

PWDA has wells in the Lincoln and Reimer Road areas. These are the sources of all of our water. New testing of these sources is underway and results are expected in October.

When water is in contact with pipes or service lines, and plumbing containing lead for several hours, the lead may enter drinking water. Homes built before 1988 are more likely to have lead pipes or lead solder. PDWA service lines do not have lead in them.

EPA estimates that 10 to 20 percent of a person's potential exposure to lead may come from drinking water. Infants who consume mostly formula mixed with lead-containing water can receive 40 to 60 percent of their exposure to lead from drinking water.

Don't forget about other sources of lead such as lead paint, lead dust, and lead in soil. Wash your children's hands and toys often as they can come into contact with dirt and dust containing 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 to flush lead from interior plumbing 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.

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. Look for alternative sources or treatment of water. 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 **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 instructions to protect water quality.

5. Test your water for lead. Call us at 503-835-7221to find out how to get your water tested for lead. PDWA does regular testing from sample stations, sources-wells, and in homes. Waterlab in Salem can test your water: (503) 363-0473.

6. Get your child's blood 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 exposure.

7. Identify and replace plumbing fixtures containing lead. New brass faucets, fittings, and valves, including those advertised as "lead-free," may contribute lead to drinking water. The law currently allows end-use brass fixtures, such as faucets, with up to 8% lead to be labeled as "lead-free."

WHAT HAPPENED?
WHAT IS BEING DONE?

Two (2) of the sample group that were taken in homes on the PDWA water system tested positive for lead. PDWA then contacted OHA and other experts to learn what the best practices are to eliminate lead. PDWA has begun following the processes required and recommended by the experts. This flier is one of the educational elements of our plan. The flier will be updated as we have new data.

What is PDWA doing to reduce lead in homes connected to PDWA water?
Educational flyers as this piece are part of what we are doing. An additional Copper and Lead webpage has been added to www.perrydalewater.com. Both the website and fliers will be updated as new information is available.

Could your service line have lead in it?
PDWA mainlines do not have lead in them. Your line from the meter may be galvanized or another metal product. If you are not sure your plumber can help you identify the pipe type.

Historically PDWA lead tests have been in compliance with the Oregon Health Authority requirements. During the 2016 testing two (2) of the in home sample locations had elevated lead. One of these homes had changed out the faucet where the sample was taken from. This can happen when the PH levels cause corrosion of pipes. Recent PH tests of PDWA water indicate our combined PH level is 7.5 which is not acidic.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call us at 503-835-7221 or visit our Web site at www.perrydaledwa.com. 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 contact your health care provider.

This information is provided as public education by:

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Amity OR 97101
503-835-7221

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Lead in Drinking Water