

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Upper Surface Creek Domestic WUA

Did Not Install Treatment for Lead/Copper Control

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

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

We routinely sample water at consumers' taps for lead. The tests show lead levels in the water above the limit, or "action level", so we are required to install corrosion control treatment. This treatment helps prevent lead in the pipes from dissolving into the water. Corrosion control should have been installed by November 10, 2024, but installation is incomplete.

What does this mean? What should I do?

- 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.
- **How to Reduce Your Exposure to Lead in Your Water**
 - ***Run your water to flush out lead.*** If it hasn't been used for several hours, run the cold water tap until the temperature is noticeably colder. This flushes lead-containing water from the pipes. To conserve water, remember to catch the flushed tap water for plants or some other household use (e.g. cleaning).
 - ***Always use cold water for drinking, cooking, and preparing baby formula.*** Never cook with or drink water from the hot water tap. Never use water from the hot water tap to make formula.
 - ***Do not boil water to remove lead. Boiling water will not reduce lead.***
 - ***Test your water for lead.*** Call us at the number below to find out how to get your water tested for lead.
 - ***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.

- This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified **within 24 hours**. Typically, lead enters water supplies by leaching from lead or brass pipes and plumbing components. New lead pipes and plumbing components containing lead are no longer allowed for this reason. **However**, many older homes may contain lead pipes. Your water is more likely to contain high lead levels if water pipes in or leading to your home are made of lead or contain lead solder. Visit [epa.gov/lead](https://www.epa.gov/lead) for more information.

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.

What is being done?

- We received final approval for Corrosion Control installation from the State Engineer on August 19, 2024. We immediately reached out to Filter Tech in Grand Junction. We signed the contract to order and install according to State specifications mid-September. We were told it will be 6-8 weeks for the system to arrive and then Filter Tech will schedule installation.

We anticipate resolving the problem by **ASAP**. For more information, please contact **Amber McPherson** at ambermcpherson@uscdwua.com or **970-856-7199**, or **PO Box 70, Cedaredge, CO 81413**.

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: Upper Surface Creek Domestic WUA - CO0115784
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