

Peter Dart  
Superintendent

January 17, 2025

Dear Mansfield Elementary School Families & Staff:

As you may know, we collaboratively work with our local and state Department of Public Health and the Connecticut Water Company to ensure that our water is safe and that we appropriately address any issues. Attached to this letter are the latest required public notifications regarding current copper level exceedances and the completion of lead testing.

Water tests continue to show that source well water at MES is safe. All tests for lead indicated “non-detect” and require no further action. However, there are elevated levels of copper (concentrations slightly above action levels) in *some* water samples obtained at *certain* locations within the building. The source of this copper is in the water lines and pipes. The state DPH, along with the Connecticut Water Company, have designed a chemical injection system intended to adjust the source waters PH level, control corrosion of copper distribution piping, and proactively disinfect the water. Delays due to state review, approval processes, and staffing have been challenging. However, we have secured final approval and procurement and anticipate the installation of this system in the coming months. This office will notify you when we have more information on the installation date.

We continue to encourage all students and staff to bring filled water bottles from home and/or use the filtered drinking fountains and bottled water stations that are available in each grade level area as well as in key locations throughout the building. Tap water is safe for handwashing and cleaning and the kitchen continues to have access to filtered and bottled water for cooking.

As always, the district will share updates and information as they become available. Mansfield Public Schools is committed to ensuring the highest standards of safety for our students, staff, and community visitors.

Sincerely,



Peter Dart  
Superintendent

# Consumer Notice of Lead Tap Water Results

Public Water System: Mansfield Elementary School

PWS ID: CT0781233

We are responsible for providing water at this location and ensuring that the drinking water we provide to you meets state and federal standards. This notice is to inform you of the lead tap monitoring results for the drinking water samples collected at the locations identified below:

Drinking Water Sample Results for Lead		
Location	Date	Lead Result (mg/L)
Classroom 5	12/11/24	Non-Detect
Classroom 8	12/05/24	Non-Detect
Classroom 2	12/06/24	Non-Detect
Custodial 126	12/06/24	Non-Detect
Art Room Sink 1	12/06/24	Non-Detect
Custodial 132A	12/05/24	Non-Detect
Health Room	12/04/24	Non-Detect
Kitchen Slop	12/04/24	Non-Detect
Classroom 17	12/11/24	Non-Detect
Classroom 48	12/04/24	Non-Detect
Classroom 41	12/05/24	Non-Detect
Staff Lounge	12/04/24	Non-Detect
Classroom 22	12/05/24	Non-Detect
Classroom 7	12/04/24	Non-Detect
Classroom 16	12/03/24	Non-Detect
Classroom 42	12/03/24	Non-Detect
Art Room Sink 2	12/03/24	Non-Detect
Classroom 6	12/03/24	Non-Detect
Kitchen Sink 5	12/05/24	Non-Detect
Kitchen Sink 6	12/03/24	Non-Detect

## What Does This Mean?

Under the authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act, EPA set the action level for lead in drinking water at 0.015 milligrams of lead per liter of water (mg/L). This means utilities must ensure that water from the customer's tap does not exceed this level in at least 90 percent of the sites sampled. The action level is the concentration of the contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow to correct the problem. Because lead may pose serious health risks, the EPA set a Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) of zero for lead. The MCLG is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

### **What Are The 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.*

### **What Are Some Sources of Lead?**

Although the primary sources of lead exposure for most children are deteriorating lead-based paint, lead-contaminated dust, and lead-contaminated soil, the U.S. EPA estimates that 10 to 20 percent of human exposure to lead may come from drinking water. Exposure to lead is a significant health concern, especially for young children and infants whose growing bodies tend to absorb more lead than the average adult. Although our facility's lead levels were below the action level, if you are concerned about lead exposure in your home, parents should ask their health care providers about testing children to determine levels of lead in their blood.

### **What Can I Do To Reduce Exposure to Lead in Drinking Water?**

- *Run the 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. This flushes lead-containing water from the pipes.
- *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 in hot water. Do not use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula.
- *Do not boil water to remove lead.* Boiling water will not reduce lead.
- *Look for alternative sources of water.*

### **For More Information**

Call us at [860-429-3322](tel:860-429-3322) . For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's Web site at [www.epa.gov/lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead), call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider.

**PUBLIC NOTIFICATION**  
Important Information About Your Drinking Water

**COPPER ACTION LEVEL EXCEEDANCE**

*Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable.  
Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda.*

Date: December 20, 2024

PWS ID: CT0781233

To: The Customers/Residents of Mansfield Elementary School

From: Mansfield Elementary School

Compliance Period: 07/01/24 -12/31/24

Our public water system recently exceeded a drinking water action level. As our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct this situation. We routinely monitor for drinking water contaminants. The results of routine water quality samples indicate a copper level of 2.35 mg/L. This level exceeds the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile copper action level of 1.3 mg/L.

**What should I do?**

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 doctor. EPA has set the 90th percentile action level for copper at 1.3 mg/L to reduce the risk of these adverse health effects. Drinking water that meets this action level is associated with little or none of this risk and should be considered safe with respect to copper.

If you have been diagnosed with copper intolerance due to a genetic deficiency, please inform your physician that the 90th percentile level of copper in our water is 2.35 mg/L.

All customers should consider drinking alternative water sources until copper levels in the public water system have been reduced. You should also consider using an alternative source of water for cooking. Parents with infants should use an alternative water source for preparing infant formula. You may continue to use the water for bathing, showering and laundry.

**What is being done?**

The following area(s) have been affected:

Distribution system.

The following steps are being taken to correct this violation:

A treatment system for copper action level exceedance will be installed in 2025

We expect to return to compliance or resolve the situation by 07/11/25  
(date)

If you have any questions please contact Bill Trietch at 860-429-3322 or  
(owner, operator or designee) (phone #)

by mail at 4 South Eagleville Rd, Mansfield, CT, 06268  
(Street) (Town) (State) (Zip Code)

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.