



TOWN OF FRISCO WATER DIVISION

February 19, 2019

Public Water System ID: CO0159055

System Name: Town of Frisco

Testing found elevated levels of lead in the drinking water in six (6) homes/buildings in Frisco.

- During recent testing, Frisco's Water Division was informed by the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment that lead levels had tested in exceedance of the maximum allowable limits, as six (6) homes/buildings out of forty (40) homes/buildings tested in Frisco were found to have lead levels in exceedance of 15 parts per billion (ppb).
- Frisco has four (4) water sources and testing has found that three (3) of Frisco's water sources have lead levels registering at below detectable levels (BDL) and the fourth source of Frisco's water tested at 1 part per billion (ppb). The maximum allowable level is 15 ppb
- Testing for lead done earlier in 2018 at forty (40) homes/buildings did not find that the lead level was in exceedance of the maximum allowable limit.
- All of Frisco's main water lines are constructed out of ductile iron, and all service lines (from the main line to homes) are either copper or galvanized.

What are the maximum allowable levels of lead in drinking water?

In 1991, the maximum allowable lead levels in drinking water went from fifty (50) parts per billion (ppb) to fifteen (15) parts per billion (ppb) measured at the tap.

What is a part per billion (ppb)?

One part per billion = 1 ug/L (microgram per liter).

This amount is equal to:

- One drop of ink in a backyard swimming pool
- One grain of sand in a child's sandbox
- One second in 32 years

Where, when and how is testing done for lead?

- As of 2018 in a water service area of Frisco's size, 40 homes/buildings must be tested every six months, as opposed to the previous requirement to test in 10 homes/buildings every three years.
- Homes/buildings are selected for testing based on tiered selection criteria and must have been constructed between 1982 and 1988.
- Most home/building residents collect their own samples, after receiving instructions from the water provider. Samples must be cold water from an inside faucet that is used regularly for drinking water, but that has not

been used in the previous six (6) hours at a minimum. The faucet, where samples are taken, may not be connected to any type of personal water treatment system.

What are the health effects associated with lead exposure?

Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. 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 the 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). 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.

How does lead get into drinking water?

Lead in drinking water typically comes from the corrosion of household plumbing materials. Lead solder was used in household plumbing until 1987.

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 eight percent lead to be labeled as "lead free". However, plumbing fixtures labeled National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) certified may only have up two percent lead. Consumers should be aware of this when choosing fixtures and take appropriate precautions.

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. 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 the lead-containing water can receive 40 to 60 percent of their exposure to lead from drinking water.

Steps you can take to reduce your exposure to lead in your water

Please read this information closely to see what you can do to reduce lead in your drinking water.

- 1) 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).
- 2) 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.
- 3) Do not boil water to remove lead. Boiling water will not reduce lead.
- 4) Periodically remove and clean the faucet's strainer/aerator. While removed, run the water to remove debris.
- 5) You may consider investing in a home water treatment device or alternative water source. When purchasing a water treatment device, make sure it is certified under Standard 53 by NSF International to remove lead.

Contact NSF at 1-800-NSF-8010 or visit www.nsf.org. You may also visit the Water Quality Association's website at www.wqa.org.

- 6) Test your water for lead. A list of certified laboratories is listed at www.colorado.gov/cdphe/dwlab.
- 7) Get your child's blood tested. Contact your local health department (970-668-9161) or healthcare provider to find out how you can get your child tested for lead if you are concerned about exposure.
- 8) Identify and replace plumbing fixtures containing lead. Identify and replace plumbing fixtures containing lead. Brass faucets, fittings and valves, including those advertised as "lead-free," may leach lead into drinking water. The NSF website at www.nsf.org has more information on lead-containing plumbing fixtures. You should use only lead-certified contractors.
- 9) Have a licensed electrician check your wiring. If grounding wires from the electrical system are attached to your pipes, corrosion may be greater. Check with a licensed electrician or your local electric code to determine if your wiring can be grounded elsewhere. DO NOT attempt to change the wiring yourself because improper grounding can cause electrical shock and fire hazards.

What happened and what is being done?

- The Town of Frisco water division was notified in a letter dated January 7, 2019 from the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment that there had been an exceedance in maximum allowable lead levels in six (6) homes/buildings out of a sample pool of forty (40) homes/buildings.
- Upon receipt of this notification, the Town of Frisco contacted the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment to determine next steps.
- All those who submitted water samples from their homes/buildings were informed of the test results for their specific sites within thirty (30) days of receiving the results.
- Water samples are currently being collected for re-testing from all forty (40) homes/buildings. As of February 5, 2019, thirteen (13) sites have re-submitted samples. Homeowners/residents typically collect samples themselves, and sample collection scheduling is frequently impeded by the prevalence of second homes and the individual schedules of residents. Frisco has six (6) months to do all re-testing.
- Source water samples from all four (4) water sources in Frisco have been taken on two (2) different days and sent for testing to determine source lead levels and corrosiveness/"aggressiveness" of the water.
- Although not required, the Town of Frisco's Water Division contacted and offered to test the drinking water at Summit Middle School, Frisco Elementary, The Peak School, Summit County Preschool and at the two registered private in-home daycare facilities in Frisco. Everyone provided samples, except for one in-home daycare. All of the schools and daycare facilities tested were significantly under the maximum allowable limit of 15 parts per billion (ppb).
 - Summit Middle School – Below Detectable Limits
 - Frisco Elementary School – 3 ppb
 - Summit County Pre School – Below Detectable Limits
 - Peak School – 5 ppb
 - In-Home Daycare #1 – 1 ppb
- Once test results for all forty (40) homes/buildings are received, the Town of Frisco will work with the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment to determine if any corrective action needs to be taken.
- Public outreach and education to all water users, including parents of children attending daycares and schools Frisco, healthcare facilities and all residents, will continue to ensure that awareness of testing outcomes and next steps are well publicized and understood.

More information

- FriscoGov.com
- Call or email Ryan Thompson, Water Foreman- 970-668-9156 and RyanT@TownofFrisco.com
- For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's website at www.epa.gov/lead or contact your health care provider.

Notice Provided by: Town of Frisco

Date: February 19, 2019