

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Sussex Brough Water Fails to Meet Water Quality Parameter (WQP) Levels

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

Our system has installed corrosion control treatment to help prevent lead and/or copper in the pipes from dissolving into the water. During the July 1st to December 31st 2023 sampling period, specifically December 19, 2023, we failed to consistently meet treatment technique requirements for our corrosion control system. WQP results did not meet the optimal WQP control values set by the State for 14 days in the 6-month monitoring period, and the system cannot be outside the values set by the State for more than nine (9) days. The Sussex Water Treatment Plant takes operational samples for pH daily, and the pH returned to the appropriate level within 24 hours. However, compliance sampling is scheduled every 14 days. The Sussex system is currently revising the compliance sampling schedule to be done within the nine (9) period in question. This will allow the system to remain in compliance under all conditions moving forward.

What should I do?

Listed below are some steps you can take to reduce your exposure to lead and/or copper:

- Run water to flush out lead and/or copper. Run water for 15 – 30 seconds 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.
- Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula. Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap; Lead dissolves more quickly into hot water. Do not use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula.
- Do not boil water. Boiling water will not reduce lead and/or copper levels.
- Regularly remove and clean aerators/screens on plumbing fixtures. Over time, particles and sediment can collect in the aerator screen. Regularly remove and clean aerators screens located at the tip of faucets and remove any particles.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours.

However, 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.

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 physician.

If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.

What is being done?

All water quality parameters since January 2, 2024 have been in compliance. We resolved this issue immediately after the 14 day period in question by collecting and submitting compliance sample on January 2, 2024. pH is measured on a daily basis at the water treatment plant, and adjustments made as needed.

For more information, please contact Antoinette Smith at (973) 875-4831 or admin@sussexboro.com.

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 the Sussex Borough Water System. State Water System ID#: 1921001
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