

**NOTICE OF TAP WATER RESULTS
LEAD AND COPPER COMPLIANCE SAMPLING PROGRAM**

PWS Name: Becket Washington School
PWS ID: 1022011

Date: 9/27/2023

Dear Consumer:

As you may know, Becket Washington School is also a public water system (PWS) responsible for providing drinking water that meets state and federal standards. This notice reports the lead and copper results from the samples collected at this facility on 9/1/2020.

A total of 5 samples were taken and the following table provides information on the tap location and the water sample result represented in milligrams per liter (mg/l):

Building Sampling Location	Lead (mg/l)	This result is above the Lead Action Level	Copper (mg/l)	This result is above the Copper Action Level
1. Kitchen Prep	0.0143	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.480	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Room 205 Fountain	0.0011	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.202	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Ground Floor Fountain	N/D	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.450	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Room 214 Fountain	0.0041	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.246	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Room 203 Fountain	0.0044	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.211	<input type="checkbox"/>

What Does This Mean?

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) set the **Lead Action Level¹** for lead in drinking water at 0.015 mg/l (or parts per million) and the **Copper Action Level** at 1.3 mg/l. Because lead may pose serious health risks, the EPA and MassDEP also set a **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)²** for lead of zero. The MCLG for copper is 1.3 mg/l.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Our public water system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. More information on lead in drinking water and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at: <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

We recommend the following tips to keep any potential lead and copper out of the water you drink:

- Most importantly – Flushing your water is the simplest way to reduce exposure to lead. When your water has been sitting for several hours, flush the tap until the water feels cold before use.
- Never use hot water from the faucet for drinking or cooking especially when making baby formula.
- Never boil water to remove lead or copper. Boiling water for an extended time may make the lead or copper more concentrated.

For more information on lead in drinking water visit:

- <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/overview-of-lead-in-massachusetts-drinking-water>
- <https://www.mass.gov/lists/lead-in-drinking-water>

For more information on copper in drinking water visit:

- <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/copper-and-your-health>

¹ The Action Level is the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

² The Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (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.

- <https://safewater.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/sections/202346427>

MDPH Lead and Copper in Drinking Water FAQ and Quick Facts:

- <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/sources-of-lead-besides-lead-paint>
- [Lead in Drinking Water FAQ \(https://www.mass.gov/media/1571266/\)](https://www.mass.gov/media/1571266/)
- [Copper in Drinking Water FAQ \(https://www.mass.gov/media/1571251/\)](https://www.mass.gov/media/1571251/)

CDC: <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/default.htm>.

USEPA: <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water>

If you have any questions regarding lead or copper in drinking water or your lead or copper sampling results, please feel free to contact: Housatonic Basin Sampling & Testing at 413-248-4622

Sincerely,

Housatonic Basin Sampling & Testing