

Turkeyfoot Valley Area School District

172 Turkeyfoot Road, Confluence, PA 15424

Dr. Nicole L. Dice
Superintendent

Mr. Christopher Shilk
Principal

Mrs. Amanda Younkin
Business Manager

Mrs. Linette Wagner
Guidance Counselor

October 22, 2025

Dear Parent/Guardians of Turkeyfoot School,

In an effort of full transparency between our school and families we are sending the attached notification required by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Over the month of June there is limited water usage in the school building due to students not being in the building and only limited staff working daily. This leaves numerous water lines with sitting water and many faucets unused.

Between June 2025 and July 2025 water samples were collected within the school from faucets that were sitting idle for some time. As water sits in the pipes it collects elements from the pipes and copper fittings. The collection for the water lead levels requires the first draw which was taken from these standing water pipes that were not flushed prior to testing. Any water sample from a school, whether done correctly or incorrectly, stands and requires notification, hence the attached notification letter.

Additional testing was done using the correct testing protocols in September 2025 which yielded results with appropriate lead levels and below action level results. Our district takes water lead levels seriously and are therefore following all requirements from the draw in June that is believed to have been done incorrectly. The district is following through with required public education issuance and follow up sampling in full accordance with Department of Environmental Protection requirements. After reviewing the sampling techniques used in the June 2025 timeframe, and suspecting that the proper sampling protocols were not followed, appropriate sampling techniques have been reviewed which will be part of future water samplings.

Turkeyfoot School holds the cleanliness of our drinking water to the highest standards and will work diligently to ensure appropriate samplings are completed along with any requirements for ongoing sampling. We will work alongside the Department of Environmental Protection to provide the healthiest environment possible for our students and staff. If you have questions about this matter please contact my office at the information below.

Respectfully,



Dr. Nicole L. Dice
Superintendent

www.tvasd.org



Phone 814-395-3621 ♦ Fax 814-395-3366



DRINKING WATER WARNING

Lead Action Level (AL) Exceedance

Sampling shows elevated lead levels in some homes and/or buildings.

**ESTE INFORME CONTIENE INFORMACIÓN IMPORTANTE ACERCA DE SU AGUA POTABLE. HAGA QUE
ALGUIEN LO TRADUZCA PARA USTED, O HABLE CON ALGUIEN QUE LO ENTIENDA.**

Turkeyfoot Valley Area School District found elevated levels of lead in drinking water in some homes/buildings. Turkeyfoot Valley Area School District may also have tested your home or building. If they did, you should receive or may have already received these results. These results are specific to your home/building and may be different from the results taken in other locations. Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Please read this information closely to see what you can do to reduce lead in your drinking water.

What is an Action Level?

The lead action level is a measure of the effectiveness of the corrosion control treatment in water systems. The action level is not a standard for establishing a safe level of lead in a home. To check if corrosion control is working, EPA requires water systems to test for lead at the tap in certain homes, including those with lead service lines. Systems compare sample results from homes to EPA's action level of 0.015 mg/L (15 ppb). If 10 percent of the samples from these homes have water concentrations that are greater than the action level, then the system must perform actions such as public education, adjusting treatment, and lead service line replacement.

What Happened?

Between 06/2025 and 07/2025, we collected 5 and analyzed them for lead. The results of more than 10 percent of our samples exceeded the action level for lead.

Cooper Piping before 1982 With Soldering Joints Contains Lead

Turkeyfoot Valley Area School District is focused on protecting the health of every household in our community; however, lead from service lines and lead plumbing and fixtures can dissolve or break off into water and end up at the faucet. **Cooper Piping** We found that **Soldering Joints** are potential sources of lead in your drinking water. This does not mean that every property that receives drinking water from Turkeyfoot Valley Area School District has lead in the drinking water. It does mean that you should understand how to reduce your exposure to lead through water. Keep in mind that drinking water is not the only potential source of lead exposure, since lead can be found in air, soil, and paint. For more information on all sources of lead, visit <https://www.epa.gov/lead>.

Health Effects of Lead

Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney, or nervous system problems.

Steps You Can Take to Reduce Your Exposure to Lead in Your Water

Below are recommended actions that you may take, separately or in combination, if you are concerned about lead in your drinking water. The list also includes where you may find more information and is not intended to be a complete list or to imply that all actions equally reduce lead from drinking water.

- **Clean your aerator.** Regularly remove and clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator). Sediment, debris, and lead particles can collect in your aerator. If lead particles are caught in the aerator, lead can get into your water.
- **Use cold water.** Do not use hot water from the tap for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula as lead dissolves more easily into hot water. Boiling water does not remove lead from water.

- **Run your water.** The more time water has been sitting in your home's pipes, the more lead it may contain. Before drinking, flush your home's pipes by running the tap, taking a shower, doing laundry, or doing a load of dishes. The amount of time to run the water will depend on whether your home has a lead service line or not, as well as the length and diameter of the service line and the amount of plumbing in your home. Flushing System & Daily water usage improves better results
- **Use your filter properly.** Using a filter can reduce lead in drinking water. If you use a filter, it should be certified to remove lead. Read any directions provided with the filter to learn how to properly install, maintain, and use it and when to replace it. Using the filter after it has expired can make it less effective at removing lead. Do not run hot water through the filter. For more information on facts and advice on home water filtration systems, visit EPA's website at <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/home-drinking-water-filtration-fact-sheet> and EPA's Consumer Tool for Identifying Drinking Water Filters Certified to Reduce Lead.
- **Learn what your service line material is.** Contact us at 814-395-3621 or a licensed plumber to determine if the pipe that connects your home to the water main (called a service line) is made from lead, galvanized, or other materials. Protect Your Tap: A quick check for lead is EPA's on-line step by step guide to learn how to find lead pipes in your home.
- **Learn about construction in your neighborhood.** Contact us at 814-395-3621 to find out about any construction or maintenance work that could disturb your service line. Construction may cause more lead to be released from a lead service line if present.
- **Have your water tested.** Contact us at 814-395-3621 to have your water tested and to learn more about the lead levels in your drinking water.

Get Your Child Tested to Determine Lead Levels in His or Her Blood

A family doctor or pediatrician can perform a blood test for lead and provide information about the health effects of lead. State, city, or county departments of health can also provide information about how you can have your child's blood tested for lead. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that public health actions be initiated when the level of lead in a child's blood is 3.5 micrograms per deciliter (µg/dL) or more. For more information and links to CDC's website, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water>.

What is Being Done?

Flushing System & Daily usage

For more information, please contact Ed Nace Jr at 814-279-8408 or MAILING ADDRESS. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk from lead in drinking water are available from EPA's website <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water>.

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 Glenn Cameron.

PWS ID#: 4560383

Date distributed: 10/16/2025