



## Milford Water Company

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### IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER FOR ALL MILFORD WATER COMPANY CUSTOMERS AND USERS

***Este relatório contém a informação importante sobre sua água bebendo. Tenha-o-por favor traduzido por um amigo ou por alguém que o compreende e o pode o traduzir para você.***

#### **Corrosion Control Treatment System Was Temporarily Off-line**

Milford Water Company (MWC) is required to provide corrosion control treatment to the drinking water it supplies to its customers to reduce the lead and copper levels at consumers' taps. On October 16, 2010 at MWC's Dilla Street Water Treatment Facility (WTF) one of the chemical feed systems used as part of the treatment to make the water less corrosive malfunctioned and was taken offline to make the needed repairs. MWC users continued to receive water from the Dilla Street WTF, but without all the required corrosion control treatment. On February 23, 2011 the repairs were completed and the corrosion control treatment was fully restored. Although the corrosion control treatment system at MWC's Godfrey Brook WTF continued to function during this time period, MWC did not provide all the required corrosion control treatment to the entire system. As MWC customers, you have a right to know what happened, what this means, what you should do, and what MWC is doing to correct the situation.

#### **What does this mean?**

During the time period this treatment system was offline at the Dilla Street WTF it is possible that the levels of lead and copper in the drinking water may have been elevated. Typically, lead and copper enter water system by leaching from home service piping, lead solder used in plumbing, and some brass fixtures when the water is corrosive. Even though the use of lead solder was banned in the USA in 1986, it still might be present in older homes. In addition some older homes may contain lead pipes. Your drinking water is more likely to contain high lead levels if water pipes in or leading to your home are made of lead or contain lead solder. Copper pipes are still commonly used in household plumbing. Homes that have copper pipes may notice some color changes (green staining) in their sinks, tubs, etc.

*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 doctor.*

#### **What should I do?**

Listed below are some steps you can take to reduce your exposure to lead and copper in drinking water:

- Find out whether your pipes contain lead or lead solder; most household plumbing contains copper.
- Run your water for 30 seconds or until it becomes cold before using it for drinking or cooking. This flushes any standing lead or copper from the pipes.
- Don't cook with or drink water from the hot water tap; lead and copper dissolves more easily into hot water.
- **Do not boil your water to remove lead or copper.** Excessive boiling water makes the lead and copper more concentrated – the lead and copper remain when the water evaporates.

If you are interested in knowing the lead and copper levels from your tap, call MWC at the number below to find out how to get your water tested for lead and copper. If you have any health concerns, please contact your physician with any questions.

#### **What is being done?**

As of February 23, 2011 the corrosion control treatment system at Dilla Street WTF was fully restored. MWC has collected lead and copper tap samples in the distribution system at its routine monitoring sites to ensure the treatment system is functioning properly. Sample results show that the lead and copper levels meet current drinking water standards and copies have been sent to MassDEP as well as posted on the MWC website at <http://www.milfordwater.com/>.

For more information, please contact David Condrey, General Manager of the MWC at 508-473-5110.

*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.*