Municipal Authority

PO Box 345, 395 High Street Inside Town Hall | 814-382-9323 | macl@zoominternet.net

October 15, 2024

Dear Water Customer,

The Municipal Authority of Conneaut Lake (MACL) would like to inform you that the material of the water service line serving the building on your property has yet to be determined. Subsequently, the service line has been initially classified as **Lead Status Unknown**. This means that all or a portion of the service line may be made of lead or galvanized piping requiring replacement. Water supplied through a service line of unknown material has the potential to increase your risk of exposure to lead. Please note that nothing has changed regarding the quality of water provided to our customers. This letter is being provided to you as a result of new regulations of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PaDEP). For further information regarding your service line, our service line inventory is accessible on our website at www.conneautlakeborowater.gov or at the office of MACL, 395 High Street, Conneaut Lake, PA. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

What is a Service Line?

A service line is the piping that connects your household or building plumbing to the water main in the street. Ownership varies by water system but is typically split between the water system and the customer. MACL owns the section of the service line from the water main to the curb stop shutoff valve, while the section from the curb stop to and within the customer's building (except for the meter itself) is owned by the customer.

How Can I Determine My Service Line Material?

MACL is continuing service line identification and replacement. If your service line is found to contain lead or galvanized piping requiring replacement, you will receive a separate notice with information about service line replacement and financing opportunities. In the meantime, MACL representatives will continue efforts to determine which service lines do not contain lead or galvanized piping requiring replacement. These efforts may include observation by MACL personnel of the service line at the point it enters your building, or possibly excavations on your property to temporarily expose and observe the line.

What are the 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.

What Can I do to Reduce Exposure to Lead in Drinking Water?

- **Run your water to flush out lead.** If the water hasn't been used for several hours, run the water for 15-30 seconds to flush lead from interior plumbing or run the water until it becomes cold or reaches a

steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking. Only use cold water for drinking and cooking.

- **Do NOT use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula.**
- **Do NOT boil water to remove lead. Boiling water will not reduce lead.**
- **Look for alternative sources or treatment of water, such as use of a pitcher filter that is certified to remove lead and replace the cartridges on a routine frequency or use bottled water.**
- **Identify and replace premise plumbing fixtures containing lead**. Brass faucets, fittings, and valves, including those advertised as "lead free" installed prior to 2014, may contribute lead to drinking water because the law allowed fixtures with up to 8% lead to be labeled as lead free.
- **Regularly clean your aerators/screens on plumbing fixtures.** Sediment, debris, and lead particles can collect in your aerator. If lead particles are caught in the aerator, lead can get into your water.

For more information, call us at 814-382-9323. For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's website at http://www.epa.gov/lead or contact your health care provider.

Sincerely,

MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY OF CONNEAUT LAKE