

## TEXAS COMMISSION on ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

### Lead Copper Rule for Community Water Systems Form 20681a

#### Lead Exceedance Education

**The Orangefield Water Supply Corporation** found elevated levels of lead in drinking water in the buildings or residences during the **September 2017**. 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.

This notice is being sent to you by **The Orangefield Water Supply Corporation**, Texas State Water System ID# **1810186** on Dec 1, 2017

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and **The Orangefield Water Supply Corporation** are concerned about lead in your drinking water. Although most sinks had low levels of lead in the drinking water, some had high lead levels above the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) action level of 15 parts per billion, or 0.015 milligrams per liter of water (mg/L).

Please note, this is not a violation under federal or state law, it does however, prompt The Orangefield Water Supply Corporation to post Lead Public Education and if found to have a high level reading in subsequent sampling. Then this program may include adding corrosion control treatment, source water treatment, and if necessary replacing lead service lines. Should you have questions about how we are carrying out the requirements of the lead regulation, please call **409-735-9422**. This document explains the simple steps you can take to protect you and your family by reducing your exposure to lead in drinking water while in the Orangefield WSC homes.

#### **Health Effects of Lead**

*Lead can cause serious health problems if too much enters your body from drinking water or other sources. It can cause damage to the brain and kidneys, and can interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to all parts of your body. The greatest risk of lead exposure is to infants, young children and pregnant women. Scientists have linked the effects of lead on the brain with lower IQ in children. Adults with kidney problems and high blood pressure can be affected by low levels of lead more than healthy adults. Lead is stored in the bones and can be released later in life.*

*receives lead from the mother's bones, which may affect*

and in the environment. Drinking water is one possible  
e main sources of lead exposure are lead-based paint,  
oil, and some plumbing materials. In addition, lead can be  
ery, pewter, brass fixtures, food and cosmetics. Other  
the work place and exposure from certain hobbies (lead  
shoes). Lead is found in some toys, some playground  
an's metal jewelry.

*ugh rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning can significantly  
d exposure, particularly the exposure of infants who drink  
fed juices that are mixed with water. The Environmental  
timates that drinking water can make up to 20 percent or  
posure to lead. Lead is unusual among drinking water  
n occurs naturally in water supplies like rivers and lakes.  
rimarily as a result of corrosion, or the wearing away of  
the water distribution system and household plumbing.  
l-based solder used to join copper pipe, brass and chrome  
some cases, pipes made of lead that connect your house  
es). In 1986, Congress banned the use of lead solder  
lead, and in 2011 restricted the lead content of faucets,  
aterials to 0.25%. when water stands in lead for several  
dissolve into your drinking water. This means the first  
he morning, or later in the afternoon after returning from  
fairly high levels of lead.*

## **Reduce Exposure to Lead in Drinking Water**

**Flush out Lead.** Run water 15-30 seconds to flush

readily into hot water. Do not use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula.

3. **Do not boil water to remove lead.** Boiling water will not reduce lead content.
4. **Look for alternative sources or treatment of water.** You may want to consider purchasing bottled water or a water filter. Read the package to be sure the filter is approved to reduce lead. Be sure to maintain and replace a filter device in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to protect water quality. Contact NSF international at 800-NSF-8010 or [NSF website](#) for information on performance standards for water filters.
5. **Get your child's blood tested.** If you are concerned about exposure. Contact your local health department or healthcare provider to find out how you can get your child tested for lead.

### **What has happened and what is being done**

Routine sampling was completed in September 2017. Three samples exceeded the action level of 0.015 mg/L. Additional special sampling will be performed beginning November 2017 and continuing throughout 2018.

Thank you;

The Orangefield Water Supply Corporation

409-735-9422

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