



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
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Division of Water Supply & Geoscience
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<http://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/>

PHIL MURPHY
GOVERNOR

SHEILA OLIVER
LT. GOVERNOR

RAY BUKOWSKI
Acting Commissioner

January 22, 2018

Re: Lead and Copper Rule Update – Materials Evaluation & Sampling Pool

In August 2016, the Division of Water Supply and Geoscience (Division) notified you of its ongoing evaluation and implementation of the Federal Lead and Copper Rule (Rule). Since then, the Division has requested lead and copper and water quality parameter sampling plans from over 500 water systems. The Division has developed a workplan based on a phased approach to request, review and approve the sampling plans for community and nontransient noncommunity water systems.

At this time, we are encouraging all water systems that have not yet been required to submit their sampling plans, to begin conducting the necessary materials evaluation of their water system.

When the Federal Lead and Copper Rule was first enacted, water systems were required to conduct a materials evaluation and develop a sampling pool of sites based on the most vulnerable locations. However, based on recent experience, many water systems do not have a thorough understanding of the materials within their distribution system; including the location of lead services lines and construction/interior plumbing of their customers' residences. Therefore, it is strongly recommended you take steps and allocate resources to begin evaluating your entire distribution system (not just those sample site locations you have used previously) and develop a detailed sampling pool based on the materials evaluation in accordance with the Rule. Undertaking this evaluation now, will assist you with being able to timely submit a complete plan once requested and will help to ensure that appropriate sampling is being conducted.

To assist you in this effort, the Division developed a website specifically for lead in drinking water for public water systems at <http://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/dwc-lead.html>. The website contains valuable resources including fact sheets, sampling plan guidance and templates, and forms. Specifically, a fact sheet regarding the materials evaluation and site selection may be found at <http://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/pdf/lead-me-site-selection-fs.pdf>.

If you need to update the Division's contact information for this water system, please complete the Systems General Contact Information Update Form available at <http://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/dws-sampreg.html> and submit it to the Bureau of Safe Drinking Water via email to watersupply@dep.nj.gov or fax to 609-292-1654.

Your continued attention to this matter is both necessary and appreciated. If you have any questions on the materials evaluation or sampling plans, please contact the Division's Lead Team at (609) 292-2957.

Sincerely,

<original signed by>

Patricia L. Gardner
Director, Division of Water Supply & Geoscience

cc: Division of Water Supply and Geoscience, Lead Team (via email)
NJDEP, Water Compliance and Enforcement (via email)
County Health Departments (via email)