



News Release

Stoughton Utilities

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Latest Round of Testing Shows All Samples Below Lead Exceedance Levels

Each year, Stoughton Utilities collects water samples from local homes and tests those samples to determine the amount of lead and copper that is present in those homes' drinking water. Although no level of lead is considered completely safe, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) set a level of 0.015 mg/L (15 parts per billion).

In 2019, six of thirty drinking water sites tested returned samples that contained elevated concentrations of lead prompting Stoughton Utilities to replace all of the known lead service lines in the City of Stoughton, replacing a total of 703 lead service lines.

The most recent samples taken in October 2022 did not find elevated levels of lead in any of the 60 homes sampled. 95% of the water samples detected less than 0.005 mg/L (5 parts per billion), and all of the samples were below the 0.015 mg/L exceedance level.

Lead is not a naturally occurring groundwater contaminant in the City of Stoughton, and is not sourced by the utility's groundwater wells or water towers. Rather, lead finds its way into homes' drinking water when traveling through plumbing materials that contain lead. Although all of the water lines in the city are now lead free, some homes could still have materials that contain lead in their interior plumbing.

If you believe that your home contains lead plumbing materials, you can reduce your risk of exposure by running the cold water for a few minutes to flush out the water lines after it has been sitting for long periods of time before using it for drinking or cooking.

Visit stoughtonutilities.com/lead for more information on our 2021 lead service line replacement project and how to reduce your lead exposure.

Founded in 1886, Stoughton Utilities serves electric customers in Stoughton and the surrounding area, and wastewater and water customers in Stoughton.