



LEAD IN DRINKING WATER

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

Lead is a toxic metal that can be harmful if ingested, especially to children and pregnant women. You can't see, taste, or smell it in water, but even low levels can be dangerous.



Environmental Protection Agency

KEY FACTS ABOUT LEAD:

- The water SBMWD provides meets state and federal regulations and we routinely monitors the water distribution system for lead.
- The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires action if levels exceed 15 parts per billion.
- Lead is most common in buildings built before 1986.
- Ingesting lead can affect brain, kidney, and nervous system health.

TEST AND TREAT YOUR WATER

To find certified labs for water testing, visit:

waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/labs/

For more detailed information about lead in drinking water, visit:

epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water

For more detailed information about the quality of water delivered by SBMWD, review Consumer Confidence Reports at: www.sbmwd.org or contact the Water Quality section at **(909) 384-5095**.

HEALTH RISKS:

Children:

- Learning difficulties
- Developmental delays
- Lower IQ
- Behavioral problems

Adults & Pregnant Women:

- High blood pressure
- Kidney problems
- Pregnancy complications
- Reproductive issues

WHERE DOES LEAD COME FROM?

Lead typically enters water through:

- Old pipes
- Outdated fixtures
- Corroded plumbing
- Lead in service lines

4 SIMPLE STEPS TO REDUCE LEAD EXPOSURE:

1. Run your water for 5 minutes
2. Install filters
3. Test your water
4. Replace old plumbing

SPECIAL GUIDANCE FOR SCHOOLS:

- Regular water testing is required
- Use alternative water sources when needed
- Utilize staff and parent notification systems
- Provide educational programs about lead safety