

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua potable. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

The Highlands Mutual Water Company Failed to Sample for Lead and Copper in 2019

Our water system failed to monitor our distribution system for lead and copper during 2019, as required by the California Code of Regulations. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did to correct the situation. Please share this information with other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly. You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or giving out copies by hand or mail.

What should I do?

You do not need to take any corrective actions at this time. This is not an emergency. If you have health concerns, you may wish to consult your doctor. General guidelines on regulated contaminants in drinking water are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

What happened?

We are required by state regulations to monitor our drinking water for lead and copper as directed by the Division of Drinking Water. Results of this routine monitoring are used to determine if the drinking water meets health standards. We did not complete the monitoring in 2019.

What does this mean?

Because we did not test for lead and copper during 2019, we cannot be sure of the quality of the drinking water during that time. Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level may experience delays in the physical or mental development. Children may show deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years may develop kidney problems or high blood pressure. Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time may experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years may suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their doctor.

What corrective actions have been taken by the Highlands Mutual Water Company to prevent this violation from occurring in the future? And when does Highlands Mutual Water Company expect to return to compliance?

Regular scheduled lead and copper sampling and reporting for August, 2019 was unfortunately overlooked during the period of the PG&E power outage crisis. However, required independent lab test samples for lead and copper of designated areas were completed as a conditional requirement on December 17th through December 19th of year 2019.

The results of testing under the 90th Percentile Level (mg/L) rule were shown to be under the action levels for lead and copper and detailed as per the following:

Action Level for Lead = 0.015 mg/L

Test Results for Lead were Nondetectible

Action Level for Copper = 1.3 mg/L

Test Results for Copper = 1.0 mg/L

Rigid scheduling of future test requirements has been implemented under the auspice and direction of the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water and Highlands Mutual Water Company will be working on further required sampling measures during the time period between June 1, 2020 to September 30, 2020 in order to comply with Citation No. 02_03_20C_001.

This notification of the public is being done in compliance with Sections 64463.4 and 64465, Title 22, of the California Code of Regulations, as a means of keeping the public informed.

Persons wishing more information should contact: Highlands Mutual Water Company
(name)
14580 Lakeshore Drive, Clearlake CA
(address)
(707) 994-2393
(phone number)

PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM NO. 1710003

Date: February 20, 2020

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this public notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

Secondary Notification Requirements

Upon receipt of notification from a person operating a public water system, the following notification must be given within 10 days [Health and Safety Code Section 116450(g)]:

- **SCHOOLS:** Must notify school employees, students, and parents (if the students are minors).
- **RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTY OWNERS OR MANAGERS** (including nursing homes and care facilities): Must notify tenants and employees.
- **BUSINESS PROPERTY OWNERS, MANAGERS, OR OPERATORS:** Must notify employees and customers of businesses located on the property.

This notice is being sent to you by the Highlands Mutual Water Company in collaboration with the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water.