

"Confused about Lead in East Moline's Drinking Water?"

We understand that this information is important and at times can be confusing. We would like to clarify that the City of East Moline has NOT issued a "do not drink" order. The water leaving our treatment plant and distribution system is safe for human consumption. We take this very seriously and have increased water quality monitoring both at the water treatment plant and throughout the distribution system. We have tested the water that is entering the distribution system for lead and the results were <1 part per billion (ppb). The Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) established by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is 15 parts per billion. We have no reason to believe that our equipment and water mains contain lead materials. We will continue to investigate if there is anything that we can do to improve this situation and if we determine that there is something that we can do we will inform you as soon as possible.

Our greatest concern with lead in drinking water is when the water flows from our City water mains into private homeowners' service lines and plumbing materials, which may contain lead, particularly within homes that were built before 1986. Like any product, lead service lines and plumbing materials degrade over time and when this happens lead can leach from those lead service lines and plumbing materials into the water within the homeowners' pipes.

We are continuing to conduct additional water quality testing to ensure that we are delivering safe non-corrosive water to homes and buildings within East Moline; however, we cannot control the various plumbing materials that were used during installation of private homeowners' and business' service lines and plumbing components. We encourage anyone who is concerned that they may have a lead service line or lead in other plumbing materials, such as water faucets, to have their water tested for the presence of lead and have a plumber inspect their service line and plumbing materials to identify if they contain lead components.

This is a great opportunity for the community to help us get the lead out and ensure that everyone can rest assured that they do not have lead in their plumbing materials. Please continue to look through the materials here on our website to learn more about what happened, how to get your water tested, and lead-free certified plumbing fixtures.