

Public Notice

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Sampling shows elevated lead levels in 2 home(s) and/or building(s).

North Mohave Valley PWS found elevated levels of lead in drinking water in 2 home(s)/building(s). These results are specific to each home or building where the samples were taken and may be different from the results taken in other locations. Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Please read this information closely to see what you can do to reduce lead in your drinking water.

What Happened?

During **September 2025** we collected **13** samples and analyzed them for lead. The results of more than 10 percent of our samples exceeded the action level for lead.

The City of Bullhead City is focused on protecting the health of every household in our community; however, lead from service lines and lead plumbing and fixtures can dissolve or break off into water and end up at the faucet. This does not mean that every property that receives drinking water from our public water system has lead in the drinking water. It does mean that you should understand how to reduce your exposure to lead through water. Keep in mind that drinking water is not the only potential source of lead exposure, since lead can be found in air, soil, and paint.

Health Effects of Lead

Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney, or nervous system problems.

What Are the Sources of Lead?

The primary sources of lead exposure for most children are deteriorating lead-based paint, lead-contaminated dust, and lead-contaminated residential soil. Exposure to lead is a significant health concern, especially for young children and infants whose growing bodies tend to absorb more lead than the average adult. Lead is rarely found in source water but enters tap water through corrosion of plumbing materials as well as other sources of lead within the service line such as goosenecks or galvanized piping. Homes built before 1988 are more likely to have lead pipes, fixtures, goosenecks and solder. For more information on all sources of lead, visit <https://www.epa.gov/lead>.

What is an Action Level and Maximum Contaminant Level Goal?

The action level is the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers water treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. To check if corrosion control is working, EPA requires water systems to test for lead at the tap in certain homes, including those with lead service lines. Systems compare sample results from homes to EPA's action level of 0.015 mg/L (15 ppb). If 10 percent of the samples from these homes have water concentrations that are greater than the action level, then the system must perform actions such as public education, adjusting treatment, and lead service line replacement.

The action level is different from a maximum contaminant level, because it does not establish a strict limit for the levels of lead in your water. However, the EPA has established a maximum contaminant level goal, or MCLG, for lead at 0ppb. The MCLG is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no

known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Steps You Can Take to Reduce Your Exposure to Lead in Your Water

Below are recommended actions that you may take, separately or in combination, if you are concerned about lead in your drinking water. The list also includes where you may find more information and is not intended to be a complete list or to imply that all actions equally reduce lead from drinking water.

- **Use your filter properly.** Using a filter can reduce lead in drinking water. If you use a filter, it should be certified to remove lead. Read any directions provided with the filter to learn how to properly install, maintain, and use your cartridge and when to replace it. Using the cartridge after it has expired can make it less effective at removing lead. Do not run hot water through the filter. For more information on facts and advice on home water filtration systems, visit EPA's website at <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/home-drinking-water-filtration-fact-sheet> and EPA's [Consumer Tool for Identifying Drinking Water Filters Certified to Reduce Lead](#).
- **Clean your aerator.** Regularly remove and clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator). Sediment, debris, and lead particles can collect in your aerator. If lead particles are caught in the aerator, lead can get into your water.
- **Use cold water.** Do not use hot water from the tap for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula as lead dissolves more easily into hot water. Boiling water does not remove lead from water.
- **Run your water.** The more time water has been sitting in your home's pipes, the more lead it may contain. Before drinking, flush your home's pipes by running the tap, taking a shower, doing laundry, or doing a load of dishes. The amount of time to run the water will depend on whether your home has a lead service line or not, as well as the length and diameter of the service line and the amount of plumbing in your home. Residents may contact us at the details provided below for recommendations about flushing times in their community.
- **Learn what your service line material is.** Contact us at the details provided below or contact a licensed plumber to determine if the pipe that connects your home to the water main (called a service line) is made from lead, galvanized, or other materials. [Protect Your Tap: A quick check for lead](#) is EPA's on-line step by step guide to learn how to find lead pipes in your home (<https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/protect-your-tap-quick-check-lead-0>).
- **Learn about construction in your neighborhood.** Contact us at the details provided below to find out about any construction or maintenance work that could disturb your service line. Construction may cause more lead to be released from a lead service line if present.
- **Have your water tested.** Contact us at the details provided below to have your water tested and to learn more about the lead levels in your drinking water.

Get Your Child Tested to Determine Lead Levels in His or Her Blood

A family doctor or pediatrician can perform a blood test for lead and provide information about the health effects of lead. State, city, or county departments of health can also provide information about how you can have your child's blood tested for lead. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that public health actions be initiated when the level of lead in a child's blood is 3.5 micrograms per deciliter (µg/dL) or more. For more information and links to CDC's website, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water>.

What is Being Done?

The actions that we are taking are following Federal and State lead and copper regulations listed below.

In addition to the information mentioned above that we will provide to residents at locations we sampled, we will also be following up with additional public education to all our customers by **11/30/2025**.

We are working to determine which corrosion control treatment strategy would be most effective in addressing this situation. **Throughout the next year** we will be increasing our monitoring and testing of the source water and the water in the public water system, as well as adding additional homes to monitor and test.

We also plan to take the following steps:

- We are conducting additional lead and/or water quality monitoring of our water system supply.
- We are increasing our lead monitoring to determine the extent of the situation.
- Determining if corrosion control treatment is necessary based on the monitoring.

For more information, please contact **Nick Ekwall** at **928-763-9400**, **nekwall@bullheadcityaz.gov** or **2355 Trane Rd, Bullhead City, AZ 86442**. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk from lead in drinking water are available from EPA's website <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water>.

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 notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by **North Mohave Valley** State Public Water System (PWS) ID#: AZ0408068. Date distributed: **October 23, 2025**.