

Drinking Water Notice Elevated Lead Levels

Town of Millsboro – Water Department | January 2026

Recent testing found elevated lead levels in drinking water in some homes/buildings.

What happened

Between July and December 2025, the Town collected 40 tap samples for lead. More than 10% exceeded the EPA action level for lead.

What is the action level?

The EPA action level for lead is 0.015 mg/L (15 ppb). When more than 10% of samples exceed this level, regulations require public education and a review of corrosion control.

Health information

Lead exposure can affect infants and children (development and behavior) and can pose risks during pregnancy. Adults may experience increased risk of high blood pressure, kidney, and nervous system effects. Pregnant women and families with young children should take extra precautions.

Steps you can take now

Use a filter certified for lead reduction and replace cartridges on time.
Use only cold water for drinking/cooking and baby formula (boiling does not remove lead).
Flush your plumbing before using water for drinking/cooking if water has been sitting in pipes.
Clean faucet aerators regularly; consider testing your tap water if concerned.
Ask your healthcare provider about a blood lead test if you are concerned (especially for children).

What the Town is doing

Lead & Copper samples were collected at both water treatment plants. Results showed absence of lead and copper at both plants.
Water Quality Parameters (WQP) - alkalinity (total), conductivity, calcium, and hardness - were also collected at both plants and at a location within the distribution system. Results were satisfactory.

The Town will collect additional lead and copper samples during the January-June 2026 monitoring period as required, provide public education to all customers and continue outreach to sampled locations, and evaluate corrosion control and increase monitoring as needed (Klenphos 300 has been used since August 2025).

Contact

Millsboro Water Department | 322 Wilson Hwy, Millsboro, DE 19966 |
Phone: (302) 934-8171
Public Water System (PWS) ID: DE0000622
For more information about reducing lead exposure, visit U.S. EPA and CDC lead-in-water resources.