

LEAD PREVENTION & MONITORING PROGRAM



As a drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater service provider, Capital Region Water's top focus is protecting public health. In light of the current crisis facing families in Flint, Michigan, Capital Region Water wants you, our customers, to know about our lead prevention and monitoring program.

What does Capital Region Water do to keep the lead out?

Lead is not present in the water Capital Region Water sends into the distribution system. It enters the water when there is corrosion of plumbing systems containing lead. To prevent the corrosion of pipes, Capital Region Water adjusts the pH of our water to near-neutral levels (not acidic or basic) and also adds a corrosion inhibitor (orthophosphate).

Does Capital Region Water test for lead?

Under strict state and federal regulations, Capital Region Water is required to test for copper and lead in its drinking water every three years. Samples for this testing are taken directly from customer faucets in areas with the oldest water mains and buildings which are more likely to contain lead in their indoor plumbing. Based on Capital Region Water's service area size, 30 samples are collected for each testing period. Capital Region Water last tested for lead in 2013 and will collect another 30 samples for testing in the summer of 2016.

What were the most recent results?

Out of the 30 samples collected, 29 samples were below detectable levels (less than 2 parts per billion) and one sample tested at 5 parts per billion (below the action level). Regulations require remedial action if 10% of the samples are above 15 parts per billion.

How do I know if I have lead in my water?

Customers can contract with a local environmental testing lab or purchase in-home test kits at their local hardware store. Capital Region Water cannot recommend or endorse any specific laboratory or in-home test kit.

What about other water contaminants?

Every year, Capital Region Water publishes a "Drinking Water Quality Report" that outlines the results of water quality testing for a number of contaminants. The report is available by request and on the "Customer Information" page of our website.

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Where does my drinking water come from?

Capital Region Water gets its drinking water from the DeHart Reservoir, a remote pristine lake about 20 miles north of Harrisburg that is almost completely surrounded by forest.

The DeHart Reservoir provides some of the highest quality drinking water in the country to Capital Region Water's Water Services Center which is staffed 24 hours a day to treat, test, and produce over 8 million gallons of safe drinking water every day.

Capital Region Water also maintains three storage reservoirs at Reservoir Park and over 200 miles of water mains to deliver safe drinking water to every home and business in its service area.

In 2015, Capital Region Water received the President's Award from the Partnership for Safe Drinking Water for exceeding all state and federal drinking water standards.