



Melissa Velez-Morales

From: Masser, Michelle
Sent: Wednesday, March 09, 2016 4:10 PM
To: Harris, Laura
Cc: Gouveia, Susan; Melissa Velez-Morales
Subject: FW: NJDEP Press Release - Newark - Alternate Water Sources After Elevated Levels of Lead
Attachments: Newark Lead Release- P12.pdf

CORRESPONDENCE

Michelle Masser
Township Clerk
Mount Olive Township
PO Box 450
204 Flanders Drakestown Road
Budd Lake, NJ 07828
clerk@mtolivetwp.org
973-691-0900 X7291

From: Rogers, Joseph [mailto:Joseph.Rogers@dep.nj.gov] **On Behalf Of** Randazzo, Cindy
Sent: Wednesday, March 09, 2016 1:50 PM
To: Randazzo, Cindy <Cindy.Randazzo@dep.nj.gov>
Subject: NJDEP Press Release - Newark - Alternate Water Sources After Elevated Levels of Lead

Dear Municipal Clerk:

Please see the attached NJDEP Press Release concerning the Temporary Use of Alternate Water Sources after Lead was found in the water supply.

If you have any questions, please contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Cindy W. Randazzo
Director
Office of Local Government Assistance
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
401 E. State Street
P.O. Box 402
Trenton, NJ 08625-0402
Office: 609-633-7700
Cell – 609-575-3806
email: cindy.randazzo@dep.state.nj.us

www.nj.gov/dep/

NOTE: This E-mail is protected by the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, 18 U.S.C. Sections 2510-2521. This E-Mail and its contents may be Privileged & Confidential due to the Attorney -Client Privilege, Attorney Work Product, Deliberative Process or under the New Jersey Open Public Records Act. If you are not the intended recipient of this e-mail, please notify the sender, delete it and do not read, act upon, print, disclose, copy, retain or redistribute it.



DEP NEWS RELEASE

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

*Chris Christie, Governor
Kim Guadagno, Lt. Governor
Bob Martin, Commissioner*



IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 9, 2016

Contact: Bob Considine (609) 292-2994
Larry Hajna (609) 984-1795
Caryn Shinske (609) 984-1795

JOINT RELEASE FROM DEP AND NEWARK PUBLIC SCHOOLS ON TEMPORARY USE OF ALTERNATE WATER SOURCES AFTER ELEVATED LEVELS OF LEAD FOUND IN RECENT DISTRICT SAMPLING

(16/P12) TRENTON – The Department of Environmental Protection has advised the Newark Public Schools system to temporarily utilize alternate water sources in 30 district school buildings after recent testing found elevated levels of lead at various water taps.

The Newark Public Schools system acted immediately on the recommendation and this morning began notifying school officials, parents and students of the results. In close coordination with the State and with assistance from Essex County, the District has also identified and delivered alternate supplies of water for drinking and food preparation as classes continue.

Parents should have no concerns about students' water and food consumption at the school while the situation is addressed.

The DEP and the State Department of Health are working in partnership with the district in its efforts to resolve the issue. This includes a plan for immediate, coordinated sampling of all points of entry and taps for all public schools in the district, including charters.

The Newark Public Schools systems has temporarily shut off all drinking water fountains at the schools where elevated levels of lead were recorded. This will remain the case until further tests can be conducted. It is also posting notices in restroom facilities to not drink water from the faucets. Replacement drinking water, from water coolers and bottled water, is available at all impacted schools.

On Monday, March 7, DEP was notified by Newark Public Schools of the results of recent annual testing. A total of 30 school buildings recorded levels ranging from non-detect to above EPA's action level for lead, which is 15 parts per billion. The action level represents the threshold requiring additional testing, monitoring and remediation.

DEP has requested past test results from previous years from the school district to be able to do a complete analysis of the full data set. No building had more than four samples above the action level.

DEP has confirmed that lead has not been found within the Newark Water Department's source water. In the vast majority of cases where lead is found in drinking water, it enters through the water delivery system itself when it leaches from either lead pipes, household fixtures containing lead, or lead solder.

Drinking water alone is not typically associated with elevated blood lead levels. It is the buildup of lead from all sources over time that determines whether harmful health effects will occur.

Children can be given a blood test to measure the level of lead in their blood. If parents are concerned, they can have their children tested for lead at the Newark Health Department.

A New Jersey Department of Health fact sheet on lead in drinking water is available at http://www.nj.gov/health/ceohs/documents/dw_lead_factsheet.pdf.

For more information on lead in water, visit: <http://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/pdf/lead-water-faq.pdf>.

For a list of Newark Public Schools' most recent water sampling results, visit the What's New area of the DEP's Division of Water Supply and Geoscience page at: <http://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/>

###