

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE DATE: January 22, 2016	Contact: Patricia M. Sweeney, JD, MPH, RN
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Health Recommendations for Village of Sebring Drinking Water Advisory *Pregnant Women, Infants and Children Recommended to Use Alternative Water Sources*

The Village of Sebring has recently issued a drinking water advisory for pregnant women, infants, and children because recent tests have revealed lead levels exceeding the federal action level of 15 parts per billion (ppb) in seven homes in the distribution system. The level reported was 21 ppb and additional testing is being done to determine if these elevated levels remain.

Children, infants, and pregnant women are especially vulnerable to the effects of lead exposure. Therefore, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends using bottled water or water from a filtration system that has been certified by an independent testing organization to reduce or eliminate lead for cooking, drinking, and baby formula preparation.

Other residents whose source of water is from the Village of Sebring are advised to reduce their potential lead exposure by running the water for 30 seconds to 2 minutes, until is it noticeably colder, before using it. Additional steps to reduce lead exposure include:

- Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap.
- Do not boil water to remove lead. Boiling water will not reduce lead levels.
- Periodically remove the strainers from faucets and flush by running water for 3 to 5 minutes to remove any loose lead solder or debris that has accumulated over time.

Parents may want to have their child's blood tested for lead, and pregnant women may want to be tested also. The Mahoning County District Board of Health encourages parents and pregnant women to contact their family doctor, pediatrician, OB/GYN or other healthcare provider for information about testing and health effects of lead.

If you wish to have your drinking water tested to determine if it contains excessive concentrations of lead, the Mahoning County District Board of Health has an Ohio EPA approved laboratory. The laboratory can be reached by calling 330-270-2841 or 1-800-873-MCHD (6243).



For Additional information:

U.S. EPA LEAD HOMEPAGE

<http://www.epa.gov/lead>

CDC LEAD HOMEPAGE

<http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/>

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