

May 9, 2016

Lynnwood Water Customers,

You may have heard news reports from around the country about unsafe levels of lead in our drinking water. Please know that providing our residents with high quality water is a top priority of the City of Lynnwood. The City of Lynnwood's water originates in the City of Everett and we purchase water from the Alderwood Water District. The City of Lynnwood, the City of Everett and the Alderwood Water District meet all federal testing and lead level requirements. The Everett water supply including Lynnwood's distribution lines do not contain obvious sources of lead, as do some of the other regional and national systems highlighted recently in the news.

However, please be aware that especially older homes or businesses may have pipes or accessories that contain lead. In order to minimize risk, follow these recommended guidelines:

- If water has been standing in pipes for over 2 hours, flush out the pipes by running the tap for thirty seconds to three minutes. To save water, use the water you flush out for watering plants or doing dishes.
- Always draw drinking and cooking water from COLD water tap -- lead dissolves more quickly in hot water.
- Never make baby formula or other drinks or food for children from the HOT water tap. Start with water taken from the cold water faucet (after flushing) and warm it if necessary.
- If you are making plumbing changes, be sure to select low-lead or no-lead fixtures. As of January 2014, a new federal law is in effect, reducing the amount of lead in plumbing fixtures from 8 percent to 0.25 percent. Manufacturers are already offering faucets that meet the new standard.
- For information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure to lead, call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791 or visit www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

If a customer is interested in having their tap water tested for lead, Lynnwood is currently developing a process where the customer can sample and submit the sample to Lynnwood who will have the City of Everett perform the test. The cost to the customer will be \$36 + tax per sample.

Sincerely,



William A. Franz, P.E.
Public Works Director