

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT TAP WATER AT SOSA

## Southern Oregon Success Academy Water May Contain Higher Levels of Lead

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. This is a treatment violation, but it does not mean there is lead in your drinking water. **Even though this is not an emergency, since you or your students occupy this building, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.**

We installed a corrosion treatment control system in September, 1999. This treatment system helps prevent pipes from corrosion by balancing the pH and reducing the potential for lead in pipes from dissolving into the water. We routinely sample water at SOSA Merlin taps for lead. During the last six-month period, we failed to consistently meet treatment technique requirements for our corrosion control system. Between July 01, 2021 - December 31, 2021, we failed to meet our minimum corrosion control pH of 7.3. (pH samples results were 6.93, 6.92, 7.17, 7.28, 7.09 and 7.13pH)

### What should I do?

- To limit exposure, staff, students and visitors to the SOSA campus should continue to use the free bottled water provided as drinking water.

Listed below are some steps you can take to reduce your exposure to lead:

- ⊕ Run your water for 15-30 seconds or until it becomes cold before using it for drinking or cooking. This flushes any standing lead from the pipes.
- ⊕ Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap; lead dissolves more easily into hot water.

### What does this mean?

Typically, lead enters water supplies by leaching from lead or brass pipes and plumbing components. New lead pipes and plumbing components containing lead are no longer allowed for this reason; however, many older schools may contain lead pipes. Your water is more likely to contain high lead levels if water pipes in or leading to your school are made of lead or contain lead solder.

*Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.*

### What happened? What is being done?

We have found our system is not as effective when water flows to the outer limits of our system. We are researching an improved delivery system for treatment throughout the building. We are also reviewing options for tying in a circulating line or installing an additional corrosion control system midway in our water lines to improve treatment results at the end of our lines. Free bottled water is available for use as drinking water.

**This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. Corrosion control treatment is now functioning properly and meeting all the requirements.**

For more information, please contact Three Rivers School District Maintenance Office at 541-476-6304 or 126 Ringuette St. Grants Pass, OR 97527.

This notice is being sent to you by Southern Oregon Success Academy. State Water System ID#: 91915  
Date distributed: February 23, 2022

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT TAP WATER AT SOSA

## Southern Oregon Success Academy Water May Contain Higher Levels of Lead

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. This is a treatment violation, but it does not mean there is lead in your drinking water. **Even though this is not an emergency, since you or your students occupy this building, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.**

We installed a corrosion treatment control system in September, 1999. This treatment system helps prevent pipes from corrosion by balancing the pH and reducing the potential for lead in pipes from dissolving into the water. We routinely sample water at SOSA Merlin taps for lead. During the last six-month period, we failed to consistently meet treatment technique requirements for our corrosion control system. Between January 1, 2022 - June 30, 2022, we failed to meet our minimum corrosion control pH of 7.3. (pH samples results were 6.93, 6.92, 7.17, 7.28, 7.09 and 7.13pH)

### What should I do?

- To limit exposure, staff, students and visitors to the SOSA campus should continue to use the free bottled water provided as drinking water.

Listed below are some steps you can take to reduce your exposure to lead:

- ⊕ Run your water for 15-30 seconds or until it becomes cold before using it for drinking or cooking. This flushes any standing lead from the pipes.
- ⊕ Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap; lead dissolves more easily into hot water.

### What does this mean?

Typically, lead enters water supplies by leaching from lead or brass pipes and plumbing components. New lead pipes and plumbing components containing lead are no longer allowed for this reason; however, many older schools may contain lead pipes. Your water is more likely to contain high lead levels if water pipes in or leading to your school are made of lead or contain lead solder.

*Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.*

### What happened? What is being done?

We have found our system is not as effective when water flows to the outer limits of our system. We are researching an improved delivery system for treatment throughout the building. We are also reviewing options for tying in a circulating line or installing an additional corrosion control system midway in our water lines to improve treatment results at the end of our lines. Free bottled water is available for use as drinking water.

**This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. Corrosion control treatment is now functioning properly and meeting all the requirements.**

For more information, please contact Three Rivers School District Maintenance Office at 541-476-6304 or 126 Ringuette St. Grants Pass, OR 97527.

This notice is being sent to you by Southern Oregon Success Academy. State Water System ID#: 91915  
Date distributed: March 1, 2022