



## INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF GARDEN CITY

### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

351 STEWART AVENUE  
GARDEN CITY, NY 11530

## Lead Action Level Exceedance Notice

## DRINKING WATER WARNING

### Sampling shows elevated lead levels in some homes.

The Incorporated Village of Garden City found elevated levels of lead in drinking water in some homes. We may also have tested your home. If we did, you should receive or may have already received these results. These results are specific to your home and may be different from the results taken in other locations. If those results were non-detect for lead or you recently replaced your service line, this information does not pertain to you. Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Please read this information closely to see what you can do to reduce lead in your drinking water.

*As determined by routine sampling from the Village's ten water supply wells, the source water has not been found to contain lead. The most consistent source of lead in the Village's water is from lead service lines serving homes. If your home is serviced by a non-lead service line and your home has been previously sampled showing non-detect samples, the information in this notice does not pertain to you. Consistent with our previous notices, the Village continues to advise its residents that if you are either unsure about the material composition of your service line or lead levels, please refrain from drinking water directly from the tap and either use a filter certified to remove lead (NSF-53) or drink bottled water, until further notice.*

The Village recently completed a lead service line inventory based on the Village's historical records, sampling, and self-identification surveys for all residents within the Village. Please go to the Village's website at [www.gardencityny.net](http://www.gardencityny.net); browse to the 'Water and Sewer Services' and view the *Lead Service Line Inventory* tab to check the service line status of your home. If your home is serviced by a lead service line, the Village will waive all road opening permit fees for replacement of a lead service line.

### What is an Action Level?

The lead action level is a measure of the effectiveness of the corrosion control treatment in water systems. The action level is not a standard for establishing a safe level of lead in a home. To check if corrosion control is working, EPA requires water systems to test for lead at the tap in homes that are likely to have elevated levels of lead, including those with lead service lines. We compare sample results from those homes/buildings to the NYS and federal action level of 0.015 mg/L (15 ppb). If 10 percent of the samples from these homes have water concentrations that are greater than the action level, then the system must perform actions such as public education and adjusting treatment.

### What Happened/What is Being Done?

Between July 1, 2024, and December 30, 2024, we collected at least 60 samples from homes with lead service lines and analyzed them for lead. The results of more than 10 percent of our samples exceeded the action level for lead. The Village installed a corrosion control treatment system in November 2022 and continues to monitor the effectiveness of the system through water quality sampling at homes that have known lead service lines. Since installation of the system, lead levels within the Village for comparatively sampled homes have decreased, on average, by approximately 50%.

### Health Effects of Lead

*Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney, or nervous system problems.*



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### Steps You Can Take to Reduce Your Exposure to Lead in Your Water

1. **Use a water filter** that is NSF-53 certified to remove lead and can reduce lead in drinking water. Read any directions provided with the filter to learn how to properly install, maintain, and use your cartridge and when to replace it. Using the cartridge after it expired can make it less effective at removing lead. Do not run hot water through the filter. For more information on facts and advice on home water filtration systems, visit the EPA's website at <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/home-drinking-water-filtration-fact-sheet> and EPA's [Consumer Tool for Identifying Drinking Water Filters Certified to Reduce Lead](#).
2. **Use only cold water** for drinking, cooking, and preparing baby formula. Hot water dissolves lead more quickly. Boiling water does not remove lead from water.
3. **Flush your pipes** any time water has been unused for more than 4 to 6 hours. Lead levels are highest when water has been sitting in the pipe. Run your cold water for 3 to 5 minutes to ensure complete flushing.
4. **Get your water tested.** The Village offers **free** water quality testing for lead to all homeowners within the Village who are served water by the Village. You can scan the QR code to the right to submit a request for a sampling kit. The Village will drop off a water sampling kit for your use directly to your home with instructions on how to collect the water sample.
5. **Know about construction in your neighborhood**, contact us at (516) 465-4003 to find out about any construction or maintenance work that could disturb your service line. Construction may cause more lead to be released from a lead service line, if present.
6. **Clean your faucet screens (also known as an aerator)**. Sediment, debris, and lead particles can collect in your aerator. If lead particles are caught in your aerator, lead can get in your water.
7. **Get your child tested to determine lead levels in their blood.** Drinking water can be a source of childhood lead poisoning, you may wish to speak with a healthcare provider to see if your child's blood lead level is elevated and/or if there is a need for blood testing, if you are concerned about potential exposure. For more information on these actions, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water#getinto>



Call us at (516) 465-4003, email at [waterissues@gardencityny.net](mailto:waterissues@gardencityny.net) or visit our website at [www.gardencityny.net](http://www.gardencityny.net). For more information on lead in drinking water, contact the Nassau County Department of Health at (516) 227-9692 or by email at [DOHOffice@nassaucountyny.gov](mailto:DOHOffice@nassaucountyny.gov), or the New York State Department of Health directly by calling the toll-free number (within New York State) 1-800-458-1158, extension 27650, or out of state at (518) 402-7650, or by email at [bpwsp@health.ny.gov](mailto:bpwsp@health.ny.gov). General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk from lead in drinking water are available from EPA's website <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water>.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by the Incorporated Village of Garden City

State Public Water System (PWS) ID#: NY2902824

Date distributed: December 9, 2024