

How to Mitigate the Exposure to Lead in Drinking Water

Flush your Pipes

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Municipal Authority of Buffalo Township is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. To prevent wasting water, use the discarded water to water plants or keep a pitcher of water in the fridge to decrease the number of times needed to flush the pipes.

Only Cook with Cold Water

Lead dissolves more easily in hot water; therefore, do not use hot water from the tap for cooking, drinking or mixing baby formula.

Use a Water Filter

If you have lead plumbing or are concerned about lead exposure, the CDC recommends running your tap water through a filter certified by NSF for lead reduction. https://info.nsf.org/Certified/DWTU/listings_leadreduction.asp