



CITY OF PARK RIDGE

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Water Meter Replacement Information

Many water service lines in Park Ridge are older and constructed of lead pipe. Blended phosphate is added to the water during the treatment process. This chemical creates a coating on the inside of pipelines to prevent metals, such as lead and copper, from leaching into the water. During your water meter replacement, your home's plumbing system may be disturbed and may affect the lead content in your water supply. You can follow simple steps to reduce the potential exposure to lead in your drinking water after your water meter replacement.

Flush all of your faucets, bathtubs, and showers using these steps:

1. Remove faucet aerators from all water taps in the home.
2. Fully open all the cold water taps in the lowest level of the home.
(This could be the basement or the ground level depending on your home.)
3. Proceed to each level of the home and continue opening all the cold water taps.
4. Let the water run for at least 5 minutes at the last tap you opened on the highest floor.
5. Now turn off each tap starting with the taps in the highest level of the home.
6. Once this process is complete, clean and reattach all faucet aerators.

Do not boil water to remove lead.

Boiling water will **not** remove lead and may increase the concentration of lead in the water.

As a result of Illinois Public Act 099-0922 and requirements established by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, all Community Water Systems across the state, including Park Ridge, are required to provide the following information any time there is a water service disruption to a property served by a lead pipe. Lead levels may be elevated in the weeks, months, or years following the water meter replacement. Lead and other metals can dissolve in water whenever water sits in pipes for a few minutes. Park Ridge recommends running your cold water tap, each time there is no water use for several hours, until you notice a temperature change before using it for drinking or cooking. This indicates that fresh water from the water main is coming through the tap.

You may also want to consider using a water filter for drinking and cooking, particularly if you are pregnant or have children under six years of age.

Additional information regarding lead in drinking water and home filters can be found at:

www.parkridge.us/living_in_park_ridge/smart_water_meters.aspx

www.drinktap.org/water-info/whats-in-my-water/lead-in-water.aspx

Respectfully,

Don Mann
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