Protecting Children from Lead

How can children be exposed?
- Living in homes with lead paint, a lead service line, or brass faucets and fixtures
- Soil
- Drinking water/pipes and plumbing
- Industrial sites

How does lead affect children?
- Damage to brain and nervous system
- Hearing and speech problems
- Lower IQ
- Learning and behavior problems
- Slowed growth and development
- Decreased attention
- Risk of miscarriage
- Baby may be born too early or too small
- Damage to baby’s brain, kidneys, and nervous system

Who is most vulnerable?
- Children younger than 6 years old
- Pregnant women

Do not boil water:
- Boiling water does not remove lead from water

Simple steps you can take to reduce exposure:
- Remove shoes before entering the house
- Wash hands, bottles, pacifiers and toys often
- Use bottled water for baby formula
- Run faucet on cold for 3 minutes if water hasn’t been used for 6 hours
- Wet clean floors and window sills often
- Have your child tested for lead exposure
- Renovate safely
- Feed children meals high in calcium and iron
- Use cold water for drinking/cooking
- Use point of use filter NSF/ANSI standard 53 & claim of lead reduction

This is an important message about the Clarksburg Water Board, which has recently received test results that show a number of homes within Clarksburg’s water system are either above or near the EPA’s action level for lead in drinking water.

Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and children 6 years old and younger.

If you have a lead service line or don’t know what your service line may be made of, we recommend flushing your water at the tap for 3 minutes before consumption and using a filter certified to remove lead or using bottled water.

Customers needing guidance identifying their service lines or who have questions may contact the Clarksburg Water Board at 304-623-3711 or visit clarksburgwater.com.

For more information on how to protect your family from lead, visit www.epa.gov/lead.