

## **JUNE 2025 PUBLIC NOTICE IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER**

**Burke Town School, VT0006658, is in violation of the Lead and Copper Rule.**

Our water system recently violated a drinking water requirement. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

Our Water System is required to continuously operate an orthophosphate corrosion control treatment system and maintain a 1.5 mg/L orthophosphate residual. This treatment helps prevent lead and copper within the pipes and plumbing fixtures from dissolving into drinking water. Our Water System is also required to test for orthophosphate as the water leaves the treatment plant to ensure the treatment is working correctly. Results from samples collected in **March, April, and May 2025** showed that the orthophosphate levels were significantly below the minimum allowable value of 1.5 mg/L leaving the treatment plant for more than nine days.

**The low orthophosphate results indicate that the orthophosphate treatment system was not being operated correctly at the time of sample collection.**

### **HEALTH EFFECTS OF LEAD**

*\*Lead can cause serious health problems if too much enters your body from drinking water or other sources. It can cause damage to the brain and kidneys and can interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to all parts of your body. The greatest risk of lead exposure is to infants, young children, and pregnant people. Scientists have linked the effects of lead on the brain with lowered IQ in children. Adults with kidney problems and high blood pressure can be affected by low levels of lead more than healthy adults. Lead is stored in the bones, and it can be released later in life. During pregnancy, the child receives lead from the mother's bones, which may affect brain development. Contact your local health department or healthcare provider for information on testing your child's blood for lead\**

### **STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO REDUCE YOUR EXPOSURE TO LEAD AND COPPER IN YOUR WATER**

You should have already received public education following lead action level exceedances explaining steps you can take to reduce exposure to lead until corrosion control treatment is installed. Listed below are some steps you can take to reduce your exposure to lead:

- **Run your water to flush out lead.** Run water for 15-30 seconds or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking. (The samples the water system is required to collect for testing must be taken after the water was sitting in the pipes for at least 6 hours, known as "first-draw" samples.)
- **Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula.** Lead dissolves more easily into hot water.
- **Do not boil water to remove lead.** Boiling water will not reduce lead.
- **Look for alternative sources or treatment of water.** You may want to consider purchasing bottled water or a water filter. FDA set a limit for lead in bottled water of 5 ppb. Not all water filters remove lead. Check the product for independent testing from a group such as NSF International (NSF.org, 800-673-8010) that verifies a specific model of filter removes lead.

*(Continued on next page)*

- **Test your water for lead.** Call us at the phone number below to find out how to get your water tested for lead by a laboratory. Results may differ between first-draw water and water collected after the tap has been flushed.
- **Identify and replace plumbing fixtures that contain lead.** The amount of lead allowed in plumbing solder and fixtures has been reduced by several state and federal laws over the last few decades.

**What happened? What is being done?** (water system see instructions)

Postings were hung labeling any faucets that were only for hand washing, parts replaced and testing is being repeated to monitor levels.

For more information, please contact:

Name Dylan Handy

Phone 802-467-3385

Mailing address: 3293 Burke Hollow Rd, West Burke, VT 05871


State Water System ID#: VT0006658

*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.*

### **CERTIFICATION - Burke Town School, VT0006658**

Method(s) of Distribution: posting and electronic delivery Date Distributed: 6/30/25  
(e.g. hand or direct delivery, posting<sup>1</sup>, television, radio)

I Sophie Branson Gill (print name) Certify, as the Responsible Person (or authorized representative) of the water system indicated above, that the public notice has been provided to customers in accordance with the delivery, content, and format requirements and deadlines in the Vermont Water Supply Rule (Chapter 21, Subchapter 21-10).

Signature: 

Date: 6/30/25

*Within 10 days of issuance of public notice to users, submit the notice to:  
Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Division, 1 National Life Drive – Davis 4, Montpelier, VT 05620-3521*