

# Lead & Copper Rule Sampling Site Selection Guidance

The LCR established a “tier” system for selecting prioritizing sampling sites, and GA follows the same guidelines/regulations for sampling site selection.

## **Tier Criteria For Community Water Systems (CWS):**

**Tier 1** sampling sites are single family structures containing copper pipes with lead solder installed between 1/1/1983- 6/30/1988 or contain lead pipes and/or that are served by a lead service line.

**Tier 2** sampling sites consist of buildings, including multi-family residences containing copper pipes with lead solder installed between 1/1/1983- 6/30/1988 or containing lead pipes and/or that are served by a lead service line.

**Tier 3** sampling sites are single family structures w/ copper pipes having lead solder installed before 1983.

## **Tier Criteria For Non-Transient Non-Community Water Systems (NTNCWS):**

**Tier 1** sampling sites consist of buildings containing copper pipes with lead solder installed between 1/1/1983- 6/30/1988 or containing lead pipes and/or that are served by a lead service line.

**Tier 2** sampling sites consist of buildings with copper pipes with lead solder installed before 1983.

**Tier 3** Not applicable.

If a sufficient number of Tier 1 sites do not exist or are inaccessible, then Tier 2 sites should be used. And for CWS, if a sufficient number of Tier 2 sites do not exist or are inaccessible, then move to Tier 3 sites. Where there is an insufficient number (or none) of the tiered sampling sites that exist or that are available, then sites should be chosen throughout the distribution system that are representative of the type of plumbing used in the majority of the homes/buildings served by the water system.

Note: water systems should not monitor at sampling sites that have water softeners or point-of-use or point-of-entry devices for inorganic removal.

Once sites have been selected and monitoring begins, water systems should continue using the same sites originally selected for the required Lead/Copper monitoring, unless a site is no longer accessible or is otherwise no longer suitable or viable. Water systems on reduced monitoring on a less frequent basis and at a reduced number of sites should choose those sites from their original larger pool of selected sites.

# Lead and Copper Routine Tap Monitoring Sampling Protocols

Samples should be 1-liter volume and collected as "first draw" from an interior regularly used cold water kitchen or bathroom tap/faucet for CWS or for NTNC a tap/faucet from which water is typically taken for consumption on a regular basis. Samples are either collected by a water system representative or by individual residents/homeowners.

After the sample is drawn, acidification of the sample should be completed by laboratory personnel upon receipt of the sample, but in no case later than 14 days after sample collection.

The following is an excerpt from our GA EPD State Lab Lead/Copper sample collection form showing the exact sampling instructions provided:

"This sample is being collected to determine the contribution of faucet fixtures, household pipes and/or solder to the lead and copper levels in tap water. This sampling effort is required by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD), and is being accomplished through the cooperation of homeowners and residents.

A "first draw" sample is to be collected after an extended period of stagnant water conditions within the interior piping (i.e. no water use during this period). Due to this requirement, either early morning (i.e. upon waking) or evening (i.e. upon returning from work) is the best time for collecting the sample. The collection procedure is described in more detail below.

1. Prior arrangements will be made with the customer to coordinate the sample collection. Dates will be set for sample kit delivery and pickup by the Water Department staff. If you use any water treatment devices (carbon filters, water softeners, reverse-osmosis systems, and distillers) make sure the Water Department is aware of this when you are contacted.

2. To correctly collect a "first draw" water sample, you must allow sufficient time between the last time used and collection time. Federal regulations require that a "first draw" water sample be collected from water that has been sitting in the interior plumbing FOR AT LEAST SIX (6) HOURS. There should be NO WATER USAGE PRIOR TO SAMPLE COLLECTION. Do NOT intentionally flush the water line before the start of the 6 hour period.

3. Use a kitchen or bathroom cold-water faucet for sampling. Do NOT remove the aerator prior to sampling. Place the open one (1) liter sample bottle below the faucet and gently turn on the cold water tap. COMPLETELY FILL THE SAMPLE BOTTLE.

4. Tightly cap the sample bottle and place in the sample kit provided.

5. Place the sample kit outside the residence in the same location it was delivered for the Water Department staff to pick up. Do not mail the sample kit to the laboratory directly. This will be handled by the Water Department.

6. Water system, mail the sample kit to the following address:

EPD Laboratories  
5804 Peachtree Corners East  
Norcross, GA 30092

7. Results from this monitoring will be provided to participating customers when reports are generated by the Georgia EPD. Immediate notification will be provided when excessive lead and/or copper levels are found. If any plumbing repairs or replacement has been done in the home/building since the previous sampling or if you have any questions, notify the contact person listed."

Example of EPD Laboratory Lead & Copper Sampling Collection Form:

# Copper and Lead Sample Collection Form

608024


Compliance Period: 3Y2014-2016

Lot#:12345

Sample Collection Due Between: 6/1/2016 and 9/30/2016

Check for accuracy. Please make corrections as necessary.

Fill in completely. Please specify AM or PM when entering time.


System ID: 

System Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Operator: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Bottle ID:   
608024

Date Water Last Used: \_\_\_\_\_

Time Water Last Used: \_\_\_\_\_  
*\*must be at least 6 hours or more between last used and collection.*

Date Water Collected: \_\_\_\_\_

Time Water Collected: \_\_\_\_\_

Site Number: \_\_\_\_\_\*

\*Check here if this site has not been used before and call 404-651-6830 to provide an explanation.

I AFFIRM THAT THE DRINKING WATER SAMPLE(S) WERE COLLECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INSTRUCTIONS AND SAMPLING FORM(S) ACCOMPANYING THE BOTTLE(S), THE GEORGIA RULES FOR SAFE DRINKING WATER (CHAPTER 391-3-5 ET SEQ) AND THE GEORGIA SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT(O.C.G.A. SECTION 12-5-174 ET SEQ). Failure to collect the sample correctly and to completely and correctly fill out this form will invalidate this sample and require the sample to be recollected.

Print Sample Collector's Name

Sample Collector's Signature

Date

## Sampling Instructions

This sample are being collected to determine the contribution of faucet fixtures, household pipes and/or solder to the lead and copper levels in tap water. This sampling effort is required by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD), and is being accomplished through the cooperation of homeowners and residents.

A "first draw" sample is to be collected after an extended period of stagnant water conditions within the interior piping (i.e. no water use during this period). Due to this requirement, either early morning (i.e. upon waking) or evening (i.e. upon returning from work) is the best time for collecting the sample. The collection procedure is described in more detail below.

1. Prior arrangements will be made with the customer to coordinate the sample collection. Dates will be set for sample kit delivery and pickup by the Water Department staff. If you use any water treatment devices (carbon filters, water softeners, reverse-osmosis systems, and distillers) make sure the Water Department is aware of this when you are contacted.
2. To correctly collect a "first draw" water sample, you must allow sufficient time between the last time used and collection time. Federal regulation require that a "first draw" water sample be collected from water that has been sitting in the interior plumbing FOR AT LEAST SIX (6) HOURS. There should be NO WATER USAGE PRIOR TO SAMPLE COLLECTION. Do NOT intentionally flush the water line before the start of the 6 hour period.
3. Use a kitchen or bathroom cold-water faucet for sampling. Do NOT remove the aerator prior to sampling. Place the open one (1) liter sample bottle below the faucet and gently turn on the cold water tap.  
**COMPLETELY FILL THE SAMPLE BOTTLE.**
4. Tightly cap the sample bottle and place in the sample kit provided.
5. Place the sample kit outside the residence in the same location it was delivered for the Water Department staff to pick up. Do not mail the sample kit to the laboratory directly, this will be handled by the Water Department.
6. Water system, mail the sample kit to the following address:  
**EPD Laboratories  
5804 Peachtree Corners East  
Norcross, GA 30092**
7. Results from this monitoring will be provided to participating customers when reports are generated by the Georgia EPD. Immediate notification will be provided when excessive lead and/or copper levels are found. If any plumbing repairs or replacement has been done in the home/building since the previous sampling or if you have any questions, notify the contact person listed.

**For questions about sample collection/sample pick-up,  
call your local water operator !**

**For compliance-related questions contact the EPD Drinking Water Compliance Program at 404-463-1511.**

**For Laboratory related questions, call Metals Laboratory at 678-248-7440.**

Lab use only  
Acid Date: \_\_\_\_\_

UPS       US Mail  
 Fed Ex     Courier  
 Hand        Other

Lab use only  
Sample Label

**GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION  
SAFE DRINKING WATER REPORT**

5804 Peachtree Corners East, Norcross, GA 30092-3403  
(678) 248-7440

**Lead and Copper Sample Analysis Report**

TO:   Sample ID: System: WSID: Site Number:	Date Collected:  Time Collected:  Sample Collector:  Received By:  Date Received:  Reporting Date:
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ANALYTE	PARAMETER CODE	RESULT	UNITS	ANALYST	ANALYSIS DATE
Copper	01042	0	ug/L	SAM	9/4/2012
Lead	01051	0	ug/L	SAM	9/4/2012

Thank you for participating in the implementation of the "Lead and Copper Rule" as required by the US Environmental Protection Agency. The water sample you collected from your house has been analyzed for lead and copper content; the results are given above.

Lead and copper may be found in household plumbing fixtures such as service lines, pipes, solders and fluxes, and brass and bronze fixtures. Lead is found throughout the environment in the air, soil, water, and household dust, and in consumer products such as food, lead-based paint, pottery porcelain and pewter. Lead and copper enter drinking water primarily as a result of the corrosion, or wearing away of materials containing these metals. Lead can pose a significant risk to your health if too much of it enters your body. The greatest risk is to young children and pregnant women. The US EPA has established an "action level" of 15 ug/l for lead and 1300 ug/l for copper. If concentrations measured in your household water exceed these "action levels", you can minimize your exposure by:

- \* "flushing" the cold water faucet until the water becomes as cold as it will get; this removes the water that has stagnated in your home plumbing over several hours;
- \* using cold water for drinking or cooking;
- \* not cooking with or consuming water from the hot water faucet;
- \* not using hot water for making baby formula;
- \* using only "lead-free" solder, fluxes, and materials in new household plumbing and repairs.

For more information on reducing lead/copper exposure around your home, the health effects and primary sources of these contaminants, please visit the EPA's website at [WWW.EPA.GOV/LEAD](http://WWW.EPA.GOV/LEAD), call the National Lead Information Center at 1-800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider.

For more information contact your water supplier:

For other questions Contact EPD Drinking Water Program (404) 658-5660

ug/L: micrograms/liter	<b>Laboratory Contact:</b> Mark Tolbert (678) 248-7440
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# ATTENTION: REPORTING REQUIREMENT!!!!

Federal and State drinking water regulations for Lead and Copper require that water systems provide the customers with a 'consumer notice' that includes the lab results for the samples collected at their home/facility.

For each of the sampling sites used for Lead/Copper monitoring, within 30 days from when you receive all of your lead/copper sample results from the lab, you must provide a copy of the official lead/copper lab results report(s) to the customers served by that sampling site. Failure to provide this information to these customers will constitute a State and Federal violation!

Please complete this 'Consumer Notice Certification' form to verify and certify that you met this requirement and that the participating homeowners were given copies of their official lab results reports for their individual home's sample. The official lab reports contain not only the actual sample results but also required additional information/language that the customers must receive.

For non-transient/non-community water systems, you can meet this requirement by posting in a visible common area copies of the lead/copper results reports for all samples collected at that facility after each lead/copper sampling event.

Thank You for your efforts in achieving and maintaining compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Rules and Regulations!

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## Lead & Copper Consumer Notice Certification Form

Water System ID#: \_\_\_\_\_ Water System Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone :(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Monitoring period to which the notice applies (for example, June–Sept. 2015): \_\_\_\_\_

Copies of official lab results reports were provided to all customers who participated in this sampling event by: (Date) \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

### DELIVERY METHOD

The copies of the lab results reports were distributed by the following method, check all that apply:

By Direct Mail \_\_\_\_\_ By Hand Delivery \_\_\_\_\_ By Electronic mail \_\_\_\_\_

Other (e.g. posting, only applicable for non-community type water systems, results for all samples taken at that building/facility should be posted) \_\_\_\_\_

### Signature of Owner, Administrative Contact, or Official Custodian

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby certify that the lead & copper consumer notice/official lab results reports have been provided to the consumers served by each sampling site that was used for this sampling event.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Please email, fax, or mail this completed form to:  
GA EPD-Drinking Water Program-Compliance Unit (Attn: Tamara Frank or Kyle Stephens)  
2 MLK Jr. Dr., Floyd Towers-East 1152, Atlanta GA 30334

Email Address: [tamara.frank@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:tamara.frank@dnr.ga.gov) [kyle.stephens@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:kyle.stephens@dnr.ga.gov)  
Office FAX #:404-656-2453 Office phone#: 404-463-1511