# Fact Sheet: Lead Consumer Notice, Lead Public Notice, and Lead Public Education Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What are lead CN, lead PN and lead PE?</th>
<th>Lead Consumer Notice (CN)</th>
<th>Lead Public Notification (LPN)</th>
<th>Lead Public Education (PE)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Results for individual tap samples given to the owner and persons served at the tap, along with information about lead. <strong>CN is required for all lead tap samples, both compliance and special purpose.</strong></td>
<td>An announcement to consumers that a PWS has a lead action level exceedance (ALE) according to samples submitted.</td>
<td>Information to consumers about lead in drinking water following the initial PN about having a lead ALE.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<tr>
<th>Who gets it?</th>
<th>Resident and owner if applicable whose tap was sampled or analyzed for any reason by PWS*</th>
<th>System-wide*</th>
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</tr>
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| When do I issue it? | ASAP but no later than 2 business days after receipt of sample result, regardless of result. | No later than 2 business days after receipt of the **daily** laboratory results show a lead ALE based on: - Schedule minimum - Total samples taken if above minimum. | **Within 30 business days** after a lead ALE is determined by Ohio EPA unless the system collects additional qualifying samples and falls below the action level. |

| When do I certify it to Ohio EPA? | Submit to **Central Office** at DDAGW_lead_CN@epa.ohio.gov no later than 5 business days after receipt of laboratory results. | Submit to **District Office** no later than 5 business days after receipt of laboratory results. | Submit to **District Office** within 5 business days of delivering PE. |

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<th>What are the acceptable delivery methods?</th>
<th>If lead result above 15µg/L: - Hand-delivery - Email - Documented phone calls followed by mailed notice</th>
<th>One or more of the following: - Broadcast media (e.g. radio, TV) - Social media - Hand-delivery - Email - Posting in conspicuous locations throughout area served by PWS - Other method accepted by the Director</th>
<th>Community Water Systems**: - Printed materials to all bill paying customers - Contact at-risk customers*** - “High lead levels...” notice in bills - Perform 3 public outreach activities***</th>
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<td></td>
<td>If lead result below 15µg/L: - Hand-delivery - Email - Mail - Phone calls</td>
<td></td>
<td>NTNC Water Systems: - Post informational posters - Distribute information to each person served</td>
</tr>
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</table>

* If your PWS is a school, daycare, nursing home, or correctional institution, then a legal guardian or power of attorney also needs to be notified by one of these methods and receive all content.

** A CWS may perform tasks outlined for a NTNC when the system is a facility where the population is not capable of or is prevented from making improvements to plumbing (i.e. prisons and hospitals) and the system does not separately charge for water consumption. See Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 3745-81-85 (G)(8) for more details.

*** A CWS serving <3,300 people may limit these requirements, see OAC 3745-81-85 (G)(9) for more details.

**NOTE:** A PWS may discontinue delivery of public education materials if the system does not exceed the lead action level during the most recent six-month monitoring period. The system must continue public education if it subsequently exceeds the action level during any monitoring period.
## Fact Sheet: Lead Consumer Notice, Lead Public Notice, and Lead Public Education Requirements

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<tr>
<th>What content is included?</th>
<th>Lead Consumer Notice (CN)</th>
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<th>Lead Public Education (PE)</th>
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| CN for all sample results must include the information outlined in OAC 3745-81-85 (A)(2). | All water systems must include the following in their LPN:  
- Results of tap monitoring (90th percentile and # of samples)  
- Explanation of lead health effects  
- Steps consumers can take to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water  
- Contact info for PWS | All water systems must include the information and statements outlined in OAC 3745-81-85 (G)(3) and (G)(5), as applicable. |
| If the sample result is above 15 µg/L, water systems must also provide information on the availability of health screening and blood lead level testing. | Note: If a system collects additional samples and does not fall below the action level, a second updated LPN needs to be issued at the end of the monitoring period. |  |

### Are there examples I can use?

Yes, Ohio EPA’s CN templates can be found at the weblink below and include all required language.

Yes, sample LPN language is included at the end of this fact sheet.

Yes, Ohio EPA’s PE templates can be found at the weblink below and include all required language.

### Are there any actions repeated?

CN must be issued with each sample result and is subject to Ohio EPA review. CNs with missing or incorrect information will be required to be reissued.

Community water systems must release LPN twice every 12 months the system exceeds the action level.

Community Water Systems  
Repeat every 12 months with ALE:  
- Printed materials to all bill paying customers  
- Contact at-risk customers  
- Perform 3 public outreach activities  
Repeat with every billing cycle (no less than quarterly)  
- “High lead levels...” notice in each bill

NTNC Water Systems  
Repeat every 12 months with ALE:  
- Post informational posters  
- Distribute information to each person served

### Visit DDAGW’s Lead and Copper Webpage for templates and verification forms:

https://epa.ohio.gov/ddagw/pws/leadandcopper
Sample Lead Public Notice (LPN) Language

Systems may choose the language used in their lead public notification as long as it meets the requirements in OAC Rule 3745-81-85, as outlined in this fact sheet. **Below are two examples that include the required information that your system may use to assist in drafting your LPN language.**

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**Anytown PWS Finds Lead in Drinking Water Distribution System**

In recent results, Anytown PWS detected lead in levels exceeding the federal action level. Samples were collected from August 1 through August 12, 2018. Lead can cause serious health problem especially for pregnant woman and young children.

Our 90th percentile (90% of sample results below this value) for lead was 18.3 micrograms per liter (µg/L). When the 90th percentile for lead samples results exceeds 15 µg/L, Anytown PWS is required to take action to correct the exceedance. Anytown PWS collected 10 lead samples and 2 results were above 15 µg/L, resulting in a 90th percentile of 18.3 µg/L.

Lead typically enters water primarily as a result of the corrosion, or wearing away, of pipes or materials containing lead in the water distribution system and household plumbing. There are steps the public can take to reduce their lead exposure, which include running the water for 30 seconds to 3 minutes (or until it is noticeably colder) before using it for drinking, cooking, or preparing baby formula. For more information on the health effects of lead, visit U.S. EPA’s website at www.epa.gov/lead.

Anytown PWS’s certified laboratory is Anytown Labs located at 0123 Ohio way, Anytown, OH 55555. Phone (555) 555-5551 and Fax (555) 555-5556. You can contact them on the availability of tap water testing.

In addition, do not hesitate to contact Brutus Buckeye, Operator of Record at (555) 555-5557 or email: 1234@email.com if you have questions or concerns.

Posted: August 30, 2018

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**Anytown Middle School Finds Lead in Drinking Water**

In recent test results, the Anytown Middle School has detected lead in levels exceeding the federal action level. Samples were taken on August 1, 2018. Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children.

The 90th percentile for lead at Anytown Middle School was 43.8 micrograms per liter (µg/L), which means 90% of the samples collected had lead levels below 43.8 µg/L. When the 90th percentile for lead sample results exceeds 15 µg/L, Anytown Middle School is required to take action to correct the exceedance. Anytown Middle School was required to take 5 samples this monitoring period and 4 of the 5 samples collected are above 15 µg/L.

Anytown Middle School is working with Ohio EPA to correct this issue. We have removed the fixtures that tested above 15 µg/L from service. We will also be testing the water for corrosivity and developing and implementing corrosion treatment.

Lead typically enters the water primarily as a result of corrosion, or wearing away, of materials containing lead in the water distribution system and household plumbing. There are steps the public can take to reduce their lead exposure, which include running the water for 30 seconds to 3 minutes (or until it is noticeably colder) before using it for drinking, cooking, or preparing baby formula. For more information on the health effects of lead, visit U.S. EPA’s website at: www.epa.gov/lead.

For more information about this lead exceedance, please contact Anytown Middle School at (555) 555-5559.

For more information about lead in drinking water, visit US EPA’s Web site at www.epa.gov/lead; call the National Lead Information Center at 1-800-424-LEAD; or contact your health care provider.

Posted: August 30, 2018