

Lead and Copper Control at Bolton Point

In keeping with our mission of supplying high quality water and maintaining customer confidence in Bolton Point, we feel it is prudent at this time to inform our customers of measures taken to ensure our compliance with the EPA Lead and Copper Rule (LCR). We currently sample for lead and copper every three years at 30 sampling locations throughout our system as required by the LCR. Our sampling results continually comply with the standards of the LCR.

Most lead and copper found at the tap is caused by internal plumbing within the residence. Sources may include lead service lines, lead in solder, and plumbing fixtures. While much of this has been addressed in recent years, such as banning the use of lead solder in potable water piping, many older homes still contain plumbing with lead. To control the leaching of the lead into water, the pH of the water is carefully controlled at the treatment plant to minimize its corrosiveness. This produces water that is saturated with calcium carbonate, which protects leaching in two ways. It makes the water non-corrosive thus not allowing the lead to leach and it leaves a slight scale on the walls of the pipes serving as a barrier between the water and the lead or copper.

The final process to guarantee a supply of high quality water at Bolton Point is a highly trained and ethical staff. Our water treatment plant operators are all certified by the New York State Department of Health. The treatment process is continually monitored and sampled to ensure our customers receive a safe product.

With the recent events surrounding this issue in the media, I feel it is important to answer any questions or concerns our customers may have. You can contact me, Glenn Ratajczak, Bolton Point Production Manager at 607-277-0660 x241.