

From: Commanding Officer Colonel Russel W. Savatt IV, Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow  
To: Drinking Water Consumer

Subj: Notice of Unknown Service Line Letter

1. Our public water system is focused on protecting the health of every person living and working in our facilities and housing (family and unaccompanied) on our installations. This notice contains important information about your drinking water. Please share this information with anyone who consumes water (drinking, showering, bathing, dishwashing, cooks, oral hygiene) at this location. In addition to the people directly served at this property, this could and should include people in barracks, family housing, military treatment facilities, schools, CDCs, and workplaces.

**Public Water System Name: USMC Yermo      PWS ID No.: 3610702**  
**Annex**  
**Service Line Location: USMC Yermo Annex**

2. We have determined that either a portion of, or the entire water pipe (called a service line) that connects your home, building, or other structure to the water main is made from **unknown material but may be lead**. Because your service line material is unknown, there is the potential that some or all of the service line could be made of lead or galvanized pipe that was previously connected to lead.
3. Galvanized service lines that have adsorbed lead can contribute to lead in drinking water.
4. People living in homes with a lead or galvanized pipe previously connected to a lead service line may have an increased risk of exposure to lead from their drinking water.
5. The Marine Corps water system is in compliance with USEPA lead and copper rule action levels, but we need to do some further investigation to determine if these lines require replacement. The action level for lead is 0.010 mg/L (10 ppb) for lead and 1.3 mg/L (1300 ppb) for copper.
6. If you have questions concerning any of the information provided in this notice, or if you have information that could help us better describe your service line, contact us via: Add Public Works Trouble Desk Line Contact information.
7. **Health effects of lead.**  
Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or worsen existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have an increased risk of these negative health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, and kidney, or nervous system problems.
8. **Steps you can take to reduce lead in drinking water.**  
Below are recommended actions that you may take, separately or in combination if you are concerned about lead in your drinking water. The list also includes where you may find more

information and is not intended to be a complete list or to imply that all actions equally reduce lead in drinking water.

- **Use your filter properly.** Using a filter can reduce lead in drinking water. If you use a filter, it should be certified to remove lead. Read any directions provided with the filter to learn how to properly install, maintain, and use your cartridge and when to replace it. Using the cartridge after it has expired can make it less effective at removing lead. Do not run hot water through the filter. For more information on facts and advice on home water filtration systems, visit EPA's website at <https://www.epa.gov/water-research/consumer-tool-identifying-point-use-and-pitcher-filters-certified-reduce-lead>.
- **Clean your aerator.** Regularly remove and clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator). Sediment, debris, and lead particles can collect in your aerator. If lead particles are caught in the aerator, lead can get into your water.
- **Use cold water.** Do not use hot water from the tap for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula as lead dissolves more easily into hot water. Boiling water does not remove lead from water.
- **Run your water.** The more time water has been sitting in pipes providing water to your home, the more lead it may contain. Before drinking, flush your home's pipes by running the tap, taking a shower, doing laundry, or doing a load of dishes. The amount of time to run the water will depend on whether your home has a lead service line or not, as well as the length and diameter of the service line and the amount of plumbing in your home. Flushing for at least 3 to 5 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking, especially if the water hasn't been used for several hours, is recommended. For water that has been sitting overnight, flushing for 5 minutes or longer is advisable.

9. **Get your child tested to determine lead levels in their blood.**

If you have any health-related questions or concerns about lead exposure or a blood lead test, you are encouraged to contact your health care provider, or if you are a TRICARE beneficiary, use the REGION Appointment Center to schedule an appointment with your primary care provider at 1-888-TRIWEST (874-9378).

State, city, or county departments of health can also provide information about how you can have your child's blood tested for lead. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Marine Corps recommend public health actions when the level of lead in a child's blood is 3.5 micrograms per deciliter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ ) or more. For more information and links to the CDC's website, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water>.

10. **For more information on reducing lead exposure** from your drinking water and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's website at <http://www.epa.gov/lead>.

To learn more about the quality of the drinking water on this installation, visit our Annual Consumer Confidence Water Quality Report at:

<https://www.mclbbarstow.marines.mil/Agencies/Environmental-Division/>

These notices can also be accessed at our Installation Drinking Water Webpage at:

<https://www.mclbbarstow.marines.mil/Agencies/Environmental-Division/>