

PUBLIC NOTICE
IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

**Winhall Stratton FD 1 (WSID 5305) Drinking Water Contains
Elevated Levels of Lead**

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.

We routinely sample water at consumers' taps to be tested for lead and copper. In August, 2022, results showed lead levels above the 15 parts per billion (ppb) action level in more than 10% of taps. Due to the action level exceedance, we are required to install additional corrosion control treatment beyond what we currently have installed. This treatment helps prevent lead within the pipes and plumbing fixtures from dissolving into the drinking water.

Corrosion control treatment was required to be installed by December 31, 2024.

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 women. 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:

- Call us at the number below to find out how to get your water tested for lead.
- If possible, identify and replace plumbing fixtures and components that contain lead.
- Run your water for 15-30 seconds or until it becomes cold before using it for drinking or cooking. This flushes any standing lead from the pipes.
- Don't cook with or drink water from the hot water tap; lead dissolve more easily into hot water.
- **Do not boil your water to remove lead.** Excessive boiling water makes the lead more concentrated – the lead remain when the water evaporates.
- If you choose to use a faucet filter device or pitcher filter device, make sure it is certified to remove lead (e.g., NSF/ANSI standard 53 or 58) and is maintained according to the manufacturer's instructions for filter replacement.

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

Corrosion control was installed over 20 years ago using orthophosphate to address any lead exceedances from past samples. We have been working with our engineers and the State of Vermont to design a pH adjustment system that will improve our water quality and meet both State and Federal requirements.

Please be aware that the District's water system contains no lead and that the source of the lead is most likely plumbing fixtures and pipe connections in affected units. Increasing the pH of the water that the District delivers helps to stabilize the lead in these plumbing fixtures and pipe connections therefore reducing the health risks to our customers.

For more information, please contact:

Name Winhall-Stratton Fire District #1
Phone 802-297-9590

Mailing address: PO Box 611, Stratton Mountain, VT 05155

State Water System ID#: VT0005305

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 – Winhall Stratton FD1
www.wsfdd.com

Method(s) of Distribution: Direct Delivery and website Date Distributed: 2/20/25
(e.g. hand or direct delivery, posting¹, television, radio)

I Margaret Dwyer (print name) Certify, as the Responsible Person (or authorized representative) of the water system listed above that this 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: Margaret Dwyer Date: 2/19/25

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

¹ - Community Water Systems may use posting as a second method, but must also use radio, television, or hand or direct delivery.