



# BREWER WATER DEPARTMENT

223 Green Point Road  
Brewer, ME 04412

Telephone (207) 989-4214  
Fax (207) 989-2883

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## \*IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT LEAD IN DRINKING WATER\*

Dear Customer,

I understand you may have questions or concerns about lead in drinking water. I am writing in response to let you know all of us at Brewer Water Department and throughout the City of Brewer share in the goal of preventing lead exposure.

Hatcase pond, our water source is tested annually and found to be free of lead. Drinking water is lead free when it leaves our treatment plant. Brewer water uses piping and materials that do not add lead to our water.

Lead can enter drinking water from contact with interior plumbing containing lead. The following are some common sources of lead in drinking water:

- Lead Solder: Used to connect internal plumbing pipes- not allowed to be used in plumbing since 1987.
- Brass faucets, valves or fittings: Were allowed to contain up to eight percent lead prior to 2014.
- Drinking fountains with internal components containing lead or fittings with lead.
- Lead service lines-we have no lead service lines in our system.

In compliance with federal laws and drinking water regulations, Brewer Water Department collects samples from household taps and sends these samples for testing. Federal law requires that at least 90% of households tested have water testing below 15 parts per billion lead levels. These test show our water complies with federal lead standards.

Brewer Water understands lead levels may vary among households. We want you to be informed about potential lead sources and ways to protect your family to reduce exposure. Below are some recommendations to reduce lead exposure in drinking water:

- Please note these concerns are present with all housing regardless if using public water or well water.

- Prior to using water which has been sitting in older pipes and fixtures you can reduce exposure simply by flushing your cold water tap for 2-3.
- If you are concerned about lead in your water from your plumbing system you may wish to have it tested.
- You can reduce your potential exposure to lead by replacing components containing lead with “lead free” varieties.
- If replacing household plumbing is not an option, many water filters are effective in reducing lead. Be sure to check the label or contact the manufacturer to confirm the filter is certified for lead removal.
- For more information you may wish to go to the following link.  
<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/environmental-health/dwp/pws/leadInDrinkingWaterSchoolsParents.shtml#Resources>

If you have further questions or concerns please feel free to contact us at 989-4214.

Sincerely,

Brewer Water Department.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NO LEAD</b></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NO LEAD</b></p> 
<p>Hatcase Pond-our pristine source is lead free</p>	<p>Treatment Plant- Water is treated to minimize potential release of lead from household plumbing</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NO LEAD</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Possible Lead</b></p>
	
<p>Distribution System-Over 70 miles of pipe delivering lead free water to our customers</p>	<p>Internal Plumbing-Lead can enter your water if you have internal plumbing containing lead and the water is unused for several hours</p>