



Village of Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin

February 4, 2016

**Drinking Water Quality in the Village of Whitefish Bay**

The [North Shore Water Commission](#) was formed in 1957 and is a municipal entity that is responsible for supplying potable drinking water to its member utilities, including the Village of Whitefish Bay, Village of Fox Point and the City of Glendale. The source water used by the Commission and other local water utilities is Lake Michigan.

The Commission and its members are regulated by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and the United State Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) to ensure potable drinking water meets or exceeds all state and federal requirements. The Commission meets and exceeds all federal and state regulations regarding water quality.

Lead and Copper are two of the many constituents that are monitored by the Commission. Years of monitoring confirms that copper is not a constituent of concern in the Village of Whitefish Bay water system, as levels found are significantly below the regulated action level. Years of ongoing results from lead level testing in our water system are well below the regulated action level in accordance with WDNR and USEPA regulations.

In 2015 in the Village of Whitefish Bay, the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile lead level was found to be at 4.7 ppb (parts per billion) with the highest level detected in Whitefish Bay at 8 ppb. The USEPA action level for lead is 15ppb.

The Village is required to sample and test for lead in drinking water. There are a total of 4,659 total water services in the Village, of which not all are lead services.

In 2015	11 homes sampled with known lead services
In 2012	11
In 2009	11
2006	11

Results: All test results have been well in compliance with federal and state regulations.

Lead is not a contaminant commonly detected in Lake Michigan water and is not added to the drinking water during the treatment process. Rather, it is introduced into drinking water when lead-bearing plumbing fixtures and pipes release lead. The Village Water Utility oversees and is responsible for the delivery of drinking water up to the curb stop near your sidewalk in front of your home. The water service going into your home from the curb is owned by the homeowner.

For any additional questions you may have, feel free to contact:

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Email [J.Edlebeck@wfbvillage.org](mailto:J.Edlebeck@wfbvillage.org) or 414-962-6690 ext 114

Eric Kiefer, North Shore Water Commission Plant Manager,  
Email [EKiefer@northshorewc.com](mailto:EKiefer@northshorewc.com) or 414-963-0160.

Statement from the [North Shore Health Department](#) Statement February 3, 2016

Lead is a naturally-occurring toxic metal. Lead poisoning has been linked to delays in both mental and physical development. Children under the age of six are particularly vulnerable to elevated lead levels. The amount of lead in manufactured materials has been reduced in recent years due to health concerns, though it can still be found in a wide variety of products in and around our homes, including paint, ceramics, pipes and plumbing materials, solders, gasoline, batteries, ammunition, and cosmetics. Although lead rarely occurs naturally in water, if internal pipes contain lead, it can leach into water if the water is not treated correctly. The North Shore communities regularly test tap water for lead and the results are consistently below the EPA's action level of 15 ppb (parts per billion). The treatment plants that supply water to North Shore communities add corrosion control treatment to the drinking water. The treatment is designed to coat the interior of the pipes to help prevent the leaching of lead into the drinking water.

There are several simple ways to decrease the lead in residential water:

- Flush your plumbing by running cold water for three minutes
- Only use cold water for cooking
- Purchase a home filtration system
- Contact a certified plumber who can:
  - Tell you if your home has a lead service line;
  - Check for lead solders in your home's internal pipes; and
  - Look for fixtures containing lead.

If you have concerns about lead in your drinking water and want to test your water, contact the State Lab of Hygiene for a specific test kit. Residents can order the sample kit by calling (800) 442-4618.

To learn more about the drinking water in your community, you can visit the following websites for more information.

<http://www.northshorewc.com/> (Glendale, Whitefish Bay, Fox Point)

<http://www.ci.mequon.wi.us> (Bayside)

<http://www.villageofshorewood.org/499/Water-Utility> (Shorewood)

<http://www.browndeerwi.org/departments/water-utility/> (Brown Deer)

A one-stop answer to water quality questions is here: [Milwaukee.gov/water](http://Milwaukee.gov/water)

[List of Water Filters to Remove Lead](#) / [Filtros de agua para remover Plomo](#)