

## Why have I been given this Point Of Use Pitcher?

The City of Joliet, Public Utilities Department has identified your home has the potential for elevated lead levels due to the following reasons:

### Leak Repair:

During an emergency leak repair it was discovered that you have a lead service line.

### Meter Replacement:

During a meter replacement it was discovered that you have a lead service line.

### Elevated Test Results:

Your residence was recently tested by the Public Utilities Department and the test results were over the regulatory guideline of 15 parts per billion.

### Lead Service Line Replacement:

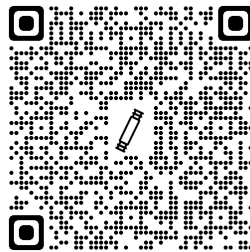
Your lead water service line was replaced.

\* If you need additional filters please contact 815-725-4230.

All Lead Water Service Information is available on the City of Joliet website at:

[www.Joliet.gov/GetTheLeadOut](http://www.Joliet.gov/GetTheLeadOut)

Important information about your drinking water



City of Joliet - Dept. of Public Utilities  
[www.joliet.gov/utilities](http://www.joliet.gov/utilities)  
150 W. Jefferson Street  
Joliet, IL 60432  
Phone: (815) 724-4230  
Email: [publicutilities@joliet.gov](mailto:publicutilities@joliet.gov)

# JOLIET

GET THE  
**LEAD OUT**



## Point of Use Pitcher Certified to Reduce lead



City of Joliet  
Department of Public Utilities  
[Joliet.gov/GetTheLeadOut](http://Joliet.gov/GetTheLeadOut)

## What do I need to know to use my point of use pitcher?

- ◆ **Step 1: Wash Hands**  
Wash your hands with soap and water and remove cartridge from the bag.
- ◆ **Step 2: Soak Cartridge**  
Soak the cartridge upright in cold tap water for 15 minutes. Your cartridge is packed dry to preserve the carbon freshness. Soaking activates the carbon and prepares the cartridge for use. You may need to use weights to keep the cartridge submerged during this step.
- ◆ **Step 3: Wash Pitcher**  
Hand wash the pitcher, lid and reservoir with mild soapy water and rinse well.
- ◆ **Step 4: Flush Cartridge**  
After the cartridge has soaked for 15 minutes, flush the cartridge by holding it upright under cold running tap water for 15 seconds.
- ◆ **Step 5: Drain Excess Water**  
Allow excess water to drain completely from the cartridge.
- ◆ **Step 6: Insert Cartridge**  
Insert the cartridge into the reservoir by lining up the notch in the cartridge with the rib in the reservoir. Fill the reservoir with cold tap water. It is normal for carbon particles to appear in the first few fillings. Use the first few pitchers of water to water plants, or simply discard.
- ◆ **Step 7: Fill Reservoir**  
Fill the top reservoir with cold tap water and allow it to drain into the pitcher. Do not filter hot water.
- ◆ **Step 8: Set Filter Life Calendar**  
Filters need to be replaced every two months. Do not attempt to use the filters longer than the recommended life.

### How does lead get into drinking water?

Lead is almost never present when water flows from the treatment facility, nor is it present in the water mains running beneath the streets. However, in some older homes lead may be present in the pipe connecting the home to the water system – known as a service line - or in the home plumbing. Lead in service pipes or plumbing can dissolve or break off into water and end up at the tap.

### How much lead in water is too much?

Lead can be harmful even at very low levels and can accumulate in our bodies over time, so wherever possible steps should be taken to reduce or eliminate your household's exposure. While risks vary based on the individual, circumstances and the amount of water consumed, no concentration of lead is considered "safe." Households with pregnant women, infants, or young children are most vulnerable to the harmful effects of lead at low levels.

### What can I do to reduce or eliminate lead from my drinking water?

The best way to remove risks of lead in water is to completely replace all sources of lead. Until that can be done, there are steps you can take right away.

- ◆ **Run the Tap Before Use** – Lead levels are likely at their highest when water has been sitting in the pipe for several hours. Clear this water from your pipes by running the cold water for several minutes– which allows you to draw fresh water from the main. Your water provider or certified plumber can help you assess the right length of time. You can use this water on house plants or to flush toilets.
- ◆ **Clean aerators** – Aerators are small attachments at the tips of faucets which regulate the flow of water. They can accumulate small particles of lead in their screens. It's a good idea to remove your aerators at least monthly and clean them out.
- ◆ **Use Cold Water for Cooking** – Always cook and prepare baby formula with cold water, because hot water dissolves lead more quickly, resulting in higher levels in water.
- ◆ **Filter the Water** – Many home water filters are effective at removing lead. If you purchase a filter, make sure it is certified for lead removal and that you maintain it properly. Find out more on filter certification at [www.nsf.org](http://www.nsf.org).



## For More Information

There are a number of resources available for more information about lead, water filtration systems and other related issues.

### CDC–Lead in Drinking Water

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has information on lead's health effects and tips for protection from water and other common sources of exposure. [www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead](http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead)

### Drinktap.org

A public service of the American Water Works Association, [drinktap.org](http://drinktap.org) was created to provide people information about a variety of water-related issues, from water quality to conservation.

### Epa.gov/lead

The federal agency responsible for the safety of America's drinking water, EPA hosts a comprehensive website that addresses all sources of lead in the home.

### NSF.org

NSF International provides consumer information about water filter capabilities, including claims to reduce lead. The NSF can also be reached at 800.NSF.8010.

### Joliet.gov/GetTheLeadOut

Learn more about lead in water and what the City of Joliet is doing about it.