

Lead

Lee County Utilities (LCU) is committed to providing a safe, reliable water supply as possible. To ensure that your water meets all state and federal safety standards, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires the monitoring of a wide range of contaminants, including lead.

A common material used in water systems until the 1950s and in household plumbing into the 1980s, lead is a powerful toxin that poses a serious health risk, particularly to developing fetuses, infants and children.

The water leaving the treatment plant and traveling through water mains is almost always free of lead. Lead can be present in some pipes that connect older homes to the water system and in home plumbing. LCU adjusts the water's chemistry at the treatment plant to reduce the possibility of lead dissolving into the water. This process is known as corrosion control.

LCU also conducts Lead and Copper testing in accordance with state and federal rules. We sample water at homes considered to be high risk in order to ensure our corrosion control remains effective. Although corrosion control can reduce risks, the best way to assure your home is safe from lead exposure through water is to remove the potential sources of lead.

If you believe your home may have lead pipes or plumbing, there are immediate steps you can take to reduce exposure. They include running the tap for several minutes before use, using only cold water for cooking or drinking, cleaning faucet aerators and purchasing a home filter certified for lead removal.

Information about testing results and your water quality can be found at www.leewaterquality.com.