

Over the next several days, all Butler Water customers will be receiving a public notification in the mail for an issue of non-compliance for water quality parameter levels. The Butler Water Department would like to clarify the details of this public notice.

First, please understand that this public notification is mandatory by federal regulations but is only a precaution. **There is no lead in Butler's water.** The notice itself is a form letter which must be delivered with little modification. Water systems are only able to revise the "What is being done?" section to suit the system's individual situation. Please read this section carefully when you receive the notice as it is the description of our specific situation.

Second, the sections "What should I do?" and "What does this mean?" pertain specifically to lead and copper exposure. However, as it is stated in the notice, Butler **did not** have any lead or copper action level exceedances for the 2021 round of sampling.

And third, the current corrosion control program has been in use since 2012 and is part of our on-going daily treatment. It has been proven to be effective through multiple years of passing lead and copper sampling, including the most recent 2020 and 2021 rounds of sampling. We treat the water to the highest standards, and we will not change the treatment techniques currently in place.

The pH is a water quality parameter that is measured as part of our corrosion control program. This program includes the addition of a corrosion inhibitor at the treatment plant which carries into the pipes of the water mains throughout the Borough, and provides a coating to the inside walls of these pipes. The effectiveness of this corrosion inhibitor is **aided** by an optimal pH value of the water. However, a slightly less than optimal value **does not** mean the corrosion inhibitor is ineffective. An optimal value of 7.0 for pH was set by the NJDEP in 2020. At the time of non-compliance mentioned above, Butler's contracted laboratory reported pH values on 3/15/21 and 6/24/21 as less than the optimal value. This is in direct contrast to pH measurements made by our licensed operators, and neighboring water system who receives our water as a bulk customer, which indicate the pH values exceeded the optimal minimum value. It should also be stated again that Butler has completed routine lead and copper sampling in September of this year and **did not** have a water system exceedance for lead or copper.

According to recent samples taken within the system, the pH is still above the optimal value as we know it has been for all 2021. We will continue to run our corrosion control program as we have since 2012 given the success that it has provided in passing lead and copper sampling year after year, at a time when other water systems in our state have failed.