CUSTOMER NOTICE FOR
LEAD AND COPPER IN DRINKING WATER

_____.
(Water System Name)

is a public water system because we are responsible for providing you with water at this location and ensuring that the drinking water we provide to you meets state and federal standards. We recently collected drinking water samples for lead and copper. The results of this testing are as follows:

Sample Location	***Sample Date***	***Copper Concentration ppb***	***Lead Concentration ppb***

The 90th percentile copper concentration for our waterworks is _____ug/L (ppb). The 90th percentile lead concentration for our waterworks is _____ug/L (ppb).

What does this mean?
Under the authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) set the Action Level for lead in drinking water at 15 parts per billion (ppb). The action level for copper is 1300 ppb. This means utilities must ensure that water from the customer's tap does not exceed this level in at least 90 percent of the homes sampled (90th percentile value). The Action Level is the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Because lead may pose serious health risks, the EPA also set a Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) for lead of zero (0). The MCLG is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

For most people copper does not post a health risk, even at higher levels sometimes found in drinking water. However, for those with Wilsons Disease, a rare inherited disorder, high copper levels are a concern.

What are the health effects of lead?
When people come in contact with lead, it may enter their bodies and accumulate over time, resulting in damage to the brain and kidneys, and can interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to all parts of the body. The greatest risk of lead exposure is to infants, young children, and pregnant women. Lead in water can be a special problem for infants whose diets may be mostly liquids – such as baby formulas or concentrated juices mixed with water. Smaller bodies can absorb lead more rapidly than bigger ones, so amounts of lead that won't hurt an adult can be very harmful to a child. Scientists have linked the effects of lead on the brain with lowered IQ in children. During pregnancy, the child receives lead from the mother's bones, which may affect brain development. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

What are the sources of lead exposure?
The primary sources of lead exposure for most children are deteriorating lead-based paint, lead-contaminated dust, and lead-contaminated residential soil. Exposure to lead is a significant health concern, especially for young children and infants whose growing bodies tend to absorb more lead than the average adult. If concerned, parents should ask their health care provider about testing children for high levels of lead in the blood.