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The City of Quincy recently reported an elevation in measured lead level results in some homes in Quincy. The following is an excerpt from a letter we received from the City of Quincy, MA. “ **We are providing this information to you because our most recent monitoring for lead indicated that 3 of the 19 homes that we tested this year had lead levels above the EPA Action Level of 15 parts per billion (ppb) and because we believe that broad outreach is critical to ensuring public health protection, particularly for young children.** It is important to note that one home tested at 15.5 ppb had a re-test of 2.4 ppb following the removal of the home’s lead service line. As you may be aware, Mayor Koch directed the DPW to work with homeowners in Quincy to have lead service lines replaced and thus reduce the risk of lead exposure in homes that have such lines. There are steps that you can take to reduce lead exposure related to tap water. They include:

- Most importantly – Flush the tap until after the water feels cold before use. The flushing of your tap ensures the best quality water.
- Never use hot water from the faucet for drinking or cooking, especially when making baby formula.
- Never boil water to remove lead. Boiling water for an extended time may make the lead more concentrated.
- Check your plumbing to make sure it is not adding lead to your water.

The only way to determine the level of lead in drinking water is to have the water tested by a state certified laboratory. If you have any questions or if you are in need of any additional information, please visit our website <http://www.quincyma.gov/government/PDW>, or call Water/Sewer Operations Manager Paul Della Barba at 617.371.1406 or Senior Engineer Peter Hoyt at 617.376.1912”.