NOTICE OF TAP WATER RESULTS
LEAD AND COPPER COMPLIANCE SAMPLING PROGRAM

PWS Name: Cutchins Program for Children and Families
PWS Town: Belchertown
PWS ID: 1024023

Date: 11/9/2026

Dear Consumer:

As you may know, Cutchins Program for Children and Families is also a public water system (PWS) responsible for providing drinking water that meets state and federal standards. This notice reports the lead and copper results from the samples collected at this facility on *10/21/2026.*

☒ A total of 5 samples were taken, and the following table provides information on the tap location and the water sample result represented in parts per million (ppm):

Building Sampling Location	Lead (ppm)	**This result is above the Lead Action Level**	Copper (ppm)	**This result is above the Copper Action Level**
1. Learning Center Kitchen Sink	0.0012	☐	0.77	☐
2. Learning Center Downstairs Restroom Sink	0.00090	☐	0.44	☐
3. Home – Nurse's Office Sink	0.00012	☐	0.30	☐
4. Home – Single Bay Kitchen Sink	0.00016	☐	0.18	☐
5. Home – Two Bay Kitchen Sink	<0.000085	☐	0.11	☐

☒ A total of 5 samples were taken, and compliance is based on the 90th percentile for all of these samples. The 90th percentile lead and copper levels in your water system are as follows:

LEAD: 0.00105 parts per million (ppm). This result is ☐ above/ ☒ below the Lead Action Level of 0.015 mg/l.
COPPER: 0.605 parts per million (ppm). This result is ☐ above/ ☒ below the Copper Action Level of 1.3 mg/l.

What Does This Mean?

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) set the **Lead Action Level[1] for lead in drinking water at 0.015 ppm (or milligrams per liter (mg/l)) and the Copper Action Level at 1.3 ppm (or milligrams per liter (mg/l)).** Because lead may pose serious health risks, the EPA and MassDEP also set a **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)[2] for lead of zero. The MCLG for copper is 1.3 mg/l.**

There is no safe level of lead in drinking water. Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Some of the health effects to infants and children include decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can also result in new or worsened learning and behavior problems. The children of persons who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy may be at increased risk of these harmful health effects. Adults have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems. Contact your health care provider for more information about your risks**.** More information on lead in drinking water and steps you can take

[1] **The Action Level is the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.**
[2] **The Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (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.**

to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at: https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water.

We recommend the following tips to keep any potential lead and copper out of the water you drink:

- Most importantly – Flushing your water is the simplest way to reduce exposure to lead. When your water has been sitting for several hours, flush the tap until the water feels cold before use.
- Use only cold, fresh water for drinking, cooking, and preparing baby formula. Run the water for at least 1 minute or until after it turns cold.
- Do not boil the water to remove lead or copper.

For more information on lead in drinking water visit:

- https://www.mass.gov/guides/is-there-lead-in-my-tap-water
- https://www.mass.gov/lead-in-drinking-water

For more information on copper in drinking water visit:

- https://www.mass.gov/service-details/copper-and-your-health

MDPH Lead and Copper in Drinking Water FAQ and Quick Facts:

- https://www.mass.gov/service-details/sources-of-lead-besides-lead-paint
- Lead in Drinking Water FAQ (https://www.mass.gov/media/1571266/)
- Copper in Drinking Water FAQ (https://www.mass.gov/service-details/copper-and-your-health)

CDC: https://www.cdc.gov/lead-prevention/about/?CDC_AAref_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/default.htm

USEPA: https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water

If you have any questions regarding lead or copper in drinking water or your lead or copper sampling results, please feel free to contact: **Housatonic Basin Sampling & Testing at 413-248-4622.**

Sincerely,

Housatonic Basin Sampling & Testing Staff