



THE CITY OF MALDEN, MASSACHUSETTS

Malden Government Center
Two Hundred Pleasant St.
Malden, Massachusetts 02148

Department of Engineering
Planning and Waterworks

Public Water Supply
3165000

Your water and sewer systems are provided to you through a collaborative effort between the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) and the Malden Waterworks Division. The City works closely with the MWRA on testing and monitoring these systems in order to assure that regulatory standards are met.

The Malden water and sewer systems have been serving the community since the late 1800s. The City of Malden is in the process of an ambitious reconstruction plan of a portion of Malden's water distribution system. This is part of Malden's lead reduction program. This year the city will be replacing approximately 5.5 miles of water main and 650 water services. Even with the expense of this construction Malden's combined water-sewer charge continues to be among the lowest of all the communities that participate in the MWRA system.

The Malden Water Department works with the MWRA to test water for lead levels in fifteen homes twice a year. During the 2011 sampling period, the results of these water tests showed our levels (known as the "90th percentile level") at 8.9 and 18.4 ppb (parts per billion). The results of this water test indicate that 2 out of the 15 homes tested did not meet the Action Level. However, a 2012 sampling has shown that Malden did reach the Action Level. Malden has taken the following steps to address lead in drinking water: (1) identified all lead service lines in the City to determine which are city-owned; (2) established a program to remove at least 200 of all of the identified city owned lead service lines on an annual basis; and (3) offered property owners the opportunity to participate in Malden's lead reduction program. The City in partnership with the Malden Redevelopment Authority (MRA) provides long-term low-interest loans to help homeowners finance the replacement of the private portion of lead service lines. For more information, please call Dennis at the MRA, 781-324-5720 or email dennis@maldenredevelopment.com

The water supply does not contain lead. However houses built prior to 1987 may have water-piping components, which may contain lead. This could elevate lead levels in the water in the house. Infants and children who drink water with lead levels in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure. Sources of lead in drinking water include corrosion of household plumbing systems. The City of Malden through its Engineering and Water Department offers a free water test to identify lead levels in any house constructed prior to 1985. For more information regarding water testing, or for copies of free educational brochures about the hazards of lead, persons should contact the Malden Engineering and Water Department at 781-397-7040, or email Gary at gstead@cityofmalden.org. Residents can also visit the MWRA's web site at mwra.com.