

FAQs-Lead in Drinking Water

- 1. What is lead and how are people exposed to it?
 - Lead is a naturally occurring element. Lead has many industrial uses and has been found in water systems since the late 1800s. It is also present in soil, food and indoor dust.
 Over the past few decades, exposure to lead had significantly decreased due to restrictions in the use of gasoline, paint and solder.
- 2. How does lead get into drinking water?
 - Ontario'ssurface and groundwater generally does not contain lead. If lead does occur naturally, the concentrations are typically extremely low and below the drinking water quality standard for lead. Where there are concentrations of lead in drinking water above thestandard, the likely cause is from the lead pipes servicing the facility or

- 7. What is the procedure if test results indicate a high concentration of lead is present?
 - o If a drinking water test result indites that the provincial stndard for lead concentration of 10 parts per billionhas been exceeded le local Medical Officer of Health is notified, and will review and/or assign corrective action(s).
 - o These corrective actionsnay involve taking the fixture