

# Notice Notice Notice

## Arlington High School

Public Water System

Fed ID: NY1319317

### What Happened:

Water samples collected on September 25, 2021 exceeded the copper action level of 1.3 mg/L based on the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile in accordance with Section 5-1.40 of the New York State Sanitary Code. The 90<sup>th</sup> percentile was 1.38 mg/L. Because the samples exceeded the copper action level, water quality parameter samples were required to be collected by November 30, 2021. These samples were collected on December 20, 2021 and September 26, 2022, past the deadline. Due to the copper action level exceedance, Arlington High School was required to recommend optimal corrosion control treatment to the State by March 31, 2022. This requirement was not met.

All subsequent samples have met New York State and EPA standards. This includes subsequent lead and copper samples collected on June 25, 2022, September 3, 2022, September 11, 2022 and September 30, 2023 which resulted below the copper action level. **Your water continues to be acceptable for all uses.**

### The following steps are being taken to correct the problem:

Arlington High School returned to the standard sampling requirement for lead and copper of 20 samples every 6 months. After samples resulted below the lead and copper action levels in the 1<sup>st</sup> half of 2022 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2022, Arlington High School qualified for reduced sampling of 10 samples in 2023. Arlington High School intends on connecting to the nearby municipal water district in the future once the water district has capacity. Arlington High School has been directed to recommend optimal corrosion control treatment to the State by April 5, 2024. If future lead or copper samples exceed the action levels, the school water system must take steps towards corrosion control treatment and provide public notification for lead and copper violations.

### Health Effects Language:

Copper is a naturally occurring metal found in rock, soil, sediment, water and air. It is an essential element for humans and all other living organisms. Copper is used in the manufacture of wire, sheet metal, pipe, and other metal products. It gets into drinking water primarily through corrosion of the water distribution pipes of homes, buildings, and public water systems. While copper is needed for good health, exposure to too much copper can lead to adverse health effects. Drinking water or beverages with high concentrations of copper causes short-term gastrointestinal effects in humans, including nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and abdominal pain. The short-term gastrointestinal effects are typically reversible, that is, the effects diminish once exposure to elevated copper levels is stopped. However, individuals with Wilson's disease (a rare inherited disease that impacts the body's ability to remove excess copper) may consider consulting with their primary healthcare provider about their exposure to copper through drinking water.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency has set an action level of 1.3 milligrams per liter (mg/L) for copper in drinking water to protect against adverse health effects. Your water system contained copper concentrations that exceeded this action level. Consuming water at the detected levels could pose a small increased risk of short-term gastrointestinal effects in some people.

### Sources in Drinking Water:

Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

**Preventative Measures you can take:**

Run your water. If water hasn't been used for several hours, running the water before it is used may flush copper-containing water from the pipes. Or use an alternative source of water, such as bottled water.

*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.*

**For further information please contact:**

Arlington Central School District: 845-486-4977  
Dutchess County Health Department: 845-486-3404