



August 23, 2023

White Settlement Water Customer,

On the following pages you will find information regarding a recent notice of violation that the City received from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). This information contains mandated language that can sound alarming. The violation that triggered this required notification is related to the installation of a corrosion control system that TCEQ mandated to be installed by May 2023. The City is in the process of installing the system; however, the May construction deadline was missed. Work has been underway on the planning, design, and engineering of this system since spring 2022. The system went out for bid in early 2023 and the White Settlement City Council awarded the project to a contractor who will begin construction as soon as possible (estimated January 2024). Corrosion control, and the necessary components, is estimated to be in place by December 2024. This violation will be resolved once the system is completed and installed. Meanwhile, it is important to note, **your water remains safe to drink and consume**. In fact, **TCEQ designates the City of White Settlement Water System as a Superior Water System**. The quality of your water is continually tested and monitored as required by the TCEQ and continues to meet all state and federal requirements for safety and quality. The following pages will mention lead and copper, but this is related to a 2017 violation. **Testing since 2017 has shown no lead and copper exceedances.**

What is a corrosion control system?

Corrosion control treatment is used to prevent pipe corrosion and the presence of metals in drinking water by placing an additive into the water. This system could be used to manage the pH of the water should that become necessary sometime in the future. It's important to note, this is a precautionary backup system and current water quality conditions do not call for its use.

Why is corrosion control important?

When the pH of water falls too low, it can become acidic and can result in metals leaching from piping, such as any lead or copper pipes (which are often found in older homes). When this occurs, lead and copper concentrations may increase. A corrosion control system provides protection of public water supplies by adding a means of pH adjustment should that be needed.

Are there lead and copper issues in the water system?

No. As stated above, there have been no lead and copper exceedances since 2017. In fact, lead and copper monitoring since 2017 has shown levels to be ten times **LOWER** than the TCEQ requirements.

What should I do if I have questions about my water?

Public Works is available year-round to answer any questions or concerns you may have about your water. A convenient web form is available for use at <https://www.wstx.us/207/Public-Works> that can be used to contact the department or you can call 817-246-4971 ext 265.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

City of White Settlement failure to install and/or operate approved corrosion control treatment and submit certification of treatment

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) sets minimum water quality standards for public drinking water. Our water system recently violated a drinking water requirement. Even though this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did (are doing) to correct this situation.

The list below has the corrosion control treatment actions which we did not complete, or properly complete, within the required time allowed by drinking water regulations.

- Failed to install and/or operate approved corrosion control treatment and submit certification of treatment

What should I do?

Listed below are some steps you can take to reduce your exposure to lead and/or copper:

- Call us at the number below to find out how to get your water tested for lead and copper.
- Find out whether your pipes contain lead, lead solder, or copper.
- Run your water for 15-30 seconds or until it becomes cold before using it for drinking or cooking. This flushes any standing lead and copper from the pipes.
- Don't cook with or drink water from the hot water tap; lead and copper dissolves more easily into hot water.
- **Do not boil your water to remove lead and copper.** Excessive boiling water makes the lead and copper more concentrated – the lead and copper remains when the water evaporates.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified **within 24 hours**. Typically, lead and copper enters water supplies by leaching from lead, copper or brass pipes and plumbing components. New lead pipes and plumbing components containing lead are no longer allowed for this reason. **However**, many older homes may contain lead pipes. Your water is more likely to contain high lead levels if water pipes in/or leading to your home are made of lead or contain lead solder.

**Infants and children who drink water containing lead 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
Children and adults who drink water containing copper in excess could experience stomach and intestinal distress as well as liver and/or kidney damage.**

Copper Health Effects

Short term exposure: Gastrointestinal distress, Long term exposure: Liver or kidney damage, People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor if the amount of copper in their water exceeds the action level

What is being done?

City of White Settlement began the process of designing and engineering the required Corrosion Control System in 2022. The system went out for bid in early 2023 and White Settlement City Council has awarded the project to a contractor who will begin construction in January of 2024. Corrosion control, and necessary components, will be in place by December of 2024.

For more information, please contact Larry Hoover at 817-246-4971 ext 265 or 214 Meadow Park Drive, White Settlement, Texas, 76108.

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.

This notice is being sent to you by City of White Settlement. State Water System ID#: 2200081.
Date distributed: 8/31/2023.