What Are We Doing about the Issue?
At the end of July 2025 MCF Lino Lakes started adding LPC-4 Blended Orthophosphate Solution to solve specific water quality problems resulting from inorganic contaminants (iron, manganese, calcium, etc.) in ground water supplies and also to maintain water quality (inhibit corrosion, scale, biofilm, reduce lead and copper levels) in the distribution system.

As displayed above, MN Correctional Facility – Lino Lakes completed two rounds of investigative sampling to evaluate the effects of flushing and replacing faucets on lead in drinking water. The results of flushing the taps and replacing faucets showed that both were effective at reducing lead to non-detectable levels.

So far, MN Correctional Facility – Lino Lakes has replaced faucets in the living units and is working to secure funding for them to be replaced in the breakrooms.

Finally, MN Correctional Facility – Lino Lakes, will be collecting 20 lead/copper samples in December as part of their next round of compliance monitoring.

Sources of Lead
Lead is rarely found in natural sources of water such as rivers and lakes or underground aquifers. You may be in contact with lead through paint, water, dust, soil, food, hobbies, or your job. The most common way for Minnesotans to come in contact with lead is through lead-based paint found in homes built before 1978. Drinking, breathing, eating or touching food, water and other materials that contain lead can damage the brain, kidneys, and nervous system. Homes built before 1940 may have lead service lines that connect them to public water. Plumbing systems built before 1986 may have lead parts. New "lead free" pipes and plumbing parts may still contain 0.25% lead. Brass parts may also contain some lead. Note that many faucets are made of brass even if they do not have a "brass" color. The amount of lead that gets into in drinking water depends on many factors, such as the amount of lead in plumbing materials, water chemistry, and water usage.

How Can I Test My Child for Lead Exposure?
Routine blood lead tests are covered by insurance and medical assistance programs as a preventative health care service. Contact your child's primary health care provider to request a blood lead test. If your child does not have a primary health care provider or health insurance, there are several resources available. Visit Lead Information for Families - MN Dept. of Health https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/lead/families.html) for more information.
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Information on Service Lines
Learn what your service line material is.
Visit the Minnesota Lead Inventory Tracking Tool (LITT) to search for your service line material https://maps.umn.edu/LSL/.

How Can I Tell if my Drinking Water Has Too Much Lead?
There is no safe level of lead. If there is lead in your living environment, you should take steps to reduce your exposure. Many laboratories can test your water to see if it contains lead. Search for Accredited Laboratories (https://eldo.web.health.state.mn.us/public/accreditedlabs/labsearch.seam) to purchase a sample container and get instructions on how to submit a sample.

For More Information
For more information, call us at: 651-717-6100
Visit our website at: https://mn.gov/doc/facilities/lino-lakes/
Visit the Minnesota Department Health website: Lead in Drinking Water (https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/contaminants/lead.html).
For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit Lead (http://www.epa.gov/lead), or contact your health care provider

This notice is being sent to you by
MN Correctional Facility – Lino Lakes PWSID 1020015

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Important Information about Lead in Your Drinking Water

MN Correctional Facility – Lino Lakes
has found elevated levels of lead in drinking water in some homes/buildings.

Analyte	***System 90th percentile (ppb)***	*EPA Action Level (ppb)*
Lead	***64***	*15*
Copper	***1050***	*1300*

MN Correctional Facility – Lino Lakes collected investigative lead and copper samples following their action level exceedance. The results of these samples showed that after flushing all taps, lead results were reduced to levels below the action level (8/25/2025 Investigative Flushed Results). Additional first draw investigative sampling at the sites with new faucets showed that lead results were reduced to below the action level (9/04/2025 Investigative First Draw Results).

7/29/2025	**Compliance Samples (1 Liter)**
Site Address	Lead (ppb)
South Living B Unit Cell 221-222	65.6
South Living C Unit Cell 221-222	63.7
Mayo Living Unit Kitchen	22.7
West Living C Unit Cell 105-205	10.6
South Living A Unit Cell 221-222	< 2

8/25/2025	Investigative Flushed (0.5 Liter)
Site Address	Lead (ppb)
South Living B Unit Cell 221-222	< 1
South Living C Unit Cell 221-222	< 1
Mayo Living Unit Kitchen	< 1
West Living C Unit Cell 105-205	< 1

9/04/2025 (New Faucets)	Investigative First Draw (0.5 Liter)
Site Address	Lead (ppb)
South Living B Unit Cell 221-222	< 1
South Living C Unit Cell 221-222	< 1
Mayo Living Unit Kitchen	< 1
West Living C Unit Cell 105-205	< 1
South Living A Unit Cell 221-222	< 1

Mn Correctional Facility – Lino Lakes also installed new faucets that meet the lead-free classification at the living units and is working to obtain funding to install new faucets in the breakrooms.

Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children.
Please read this information closely to see what you can do to reduce lead in your drinking water.

What Are the Health Effects of Lead?

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.

How Can I Reduce My Exposure to Lead and Copper in Water?

Below are recommended actions that you may take, separately or in combination, if you are concerned about lead in your drinking water.

1. **Let the water run** before using it for drinking or cooking. If you have a lead service line, let the water run for 3-5 minutes. If you do not have a lead service line, let the water run for 30-60 seconds. The more time water has been sitting in your pipes, the more lead it may contain.
- You can find out if you have a lead service line by contacting your public water system, or by reviewing either of the following:
    - Minnesota Service Line Material Tool https://maps.umn.edu/LSL/
    - Find the lead pipes in your home https://apps.npr.org/find-lead-pipes-in-your-home/en/#intro
- Ways to let the water run before using it for drinking or cooking:
    - Do household tasks like showering or running the dishwasher first
    - Collect tap water for cleaning or watering plants
    - Make sure you let the water run from individual faucets for a short time before using them for drinking or cooking.
    - Consider keeping a container of drinking water in the refrigerator to reduce how often you need to let the water run.
2. **Use cold water** for drinking, making food, and making baby formula. Hot water releases more lead and copper from pipes than cold water. Boiling water does not reduce lead levels and may actually increase them.
3. **Clean your aerator regularly.** See EPA Lead in Drinking Water Outreach Resources https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/lead-drinking-water-outreach-resources for more information on how to clean your aerator.
4. **Test your water**. The only way to know if lead has been reduced by letting it run is to check with a test. If letting the water run does not reduce lead, consider other options to reduce your exposure. Search for accredited laboratories. https://eldo.web.health.state.mn.us/public/accreditedlabs/labsearch.seam
    - MN Correctional Facility – Lino Lakes will continue to test the water for lead levels. The next scheduled sampling will be in December 2025.
5. **Treat your water** or find an alternative source if a test shows your water has high levels of lead after you let the water run. You can learn more about water treatment options at https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/factsheet/hometreatment.html
    - MN Correctional Facility – Lino Lakes currently treats the water with a blended orthophosphate solution to prevent corrosion of the pipes from getting into the drinking water.

What Did We Find?

MN Correctional Facility – Lino Lakes analyzed tap water samples taken from a number of locations in the facility. Some of the samples were above the action level for lead. Based on the age of the facility, the likely source of lead in the drinking water is copper pipes that contain lead solder. Another potential source of lead was the previous faucets pre-dated 2014 where faucets do not meet the newer low lead standard. Faucets are currently being replaced to meet the lead-free classification (see above).

Is My Water Still Safe to Use?

Before drinking your water, make sure you follow the actions recommended in the "How Can I Reduce My Exposure to Lead in Water?" section of this brochure. You can safely use your water for cleaning, bathing, and other household uses.

Lead is everywhere in the environment. We recommend you take steps to minimize exposure to all sources of lead. Learn more at Lead in Drinking Water https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/contaminants/lead.html).