

**NOTICE OF TAP WATER RESULTS**  
**LEAD AND COPPER COMPLIANCE SAMPLING PROGRAM**

PWS Name: Carver Elementary School  
PWS ID: 4052007

Date: 9/19/2023

Dear Consumer:

As you may know, Carver Elementary School is also a public water system (PWS) responsible for providing drinking water that meets state and federal standards. This notice reports the lead and copper results from the samples collected at this facility on 9/8/2023.

☒ A total of 10 samples were taken, and compliance is based on the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile for all of these samples. See the attached analytical report for the lead and copper results for each location that was sampled. The 90<sup>th</sup> percentile lead and copper levels in your water system are as follows:

**LEAD: 0 parts per million (ppm).** This result is ☐ above/ ☒ below the Lead Action Level of 0.015 mg/l.

**COPPER: 4.82 parts per million (ppm).** This result is ☒ above/ ☐ below the Copper Action Level of 1.3 mg/l.

**What Does This Mean?**

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) set the **Lead Action Level<sup>1</sup> for lead in drinking water at 0.015 ppm (or milligrams per liter (mg/l)) and the Copper Action Level at 1.3 ppm (or milligrams per liter (mg/l))**. Because lead may pose serious health risks, the EPA and MassDEP also set a **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)<sup>2</sup> for lead of zero. The MCLG for copper is 1.3 mg/l.**

**If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children.** Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Our public water system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. More information on lead in drinking water and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at: <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

**We recommend the following tips to keep any potential lead and copper out of the water you drink:**

- Most importantly – Flushing your water is the simplest way to reduce exposure to lead. When your water has been sitting for several hours, flush the tap until the water feels cold before use.
- Use only cold, fresh water for drinking, cooking, and preparing baby formula. Run the water for at least 1 minute or until after it turns cold.
- Do not boil the water to remove lead or copper.

For more information on lead in drinking water visit:

- <https://www.mass.gov/guides/is-there-lead-in-my-tap-water>
- <https://www.mass.gov/lead-in-drinking-water>

For more information on copper in drinking water visit:

- <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/copper-and-your-health>

MDPH Lead and Copper in Drinking Water FAQ and Quick Facts:

- <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/sources-of-lead-besides-lead-paint>
- [Lead in Drinking Water FAQ \(https://www.mass.gov/media/1571266/\)](https://www.mass.gov/media/1571266/)
- [Copper in Drinking Water FAQ \(https://www.mass.gov/media/1571251/\)](https://www.mass.gov/media/1571251/)

CDC: <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/default.htm>.

USEPA: <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water>

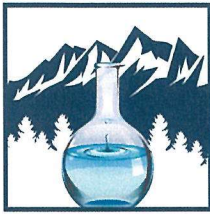
If you have any questions regarding lead or copper in drinking water or your lead or copper sampling results, please feel free to contact: *Small Water System Services, LLC* at 978-486-1008.

Sincerely,

**Carver Elementary School**

<sup>1</sup> The Action Level is the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

<sup>2</sup> The Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.



# NASHOBA ANALYTICAL

A DIVISION OF GRANITE STATE ANALYTICAL SERVICES, LLC

31A Willow Road Ayer, Massachusetts 01432  
Phone: 978-391-4428 | website: www.nashobaanalytical.com

## Laboratory Report

Small Water System Services  
P.O. Box 2014  
Littleton, MA 01460

Date Printed: 09/13/2023  
Work Order #: 2309-01782  
Client Job #: Carver  
Elementary  
School

Date Received: 09/11/2023  
Sample collected in: Massachusetts

Attached please find results for the analysis of the samples received on the date referenced above.

Unless otherwise noted in the attached report, the analyses performed met the requirements of the analyzing laboratory's Quality Assurance Plan, Standard Operating Procedures and State Accreditation. This certificate shall not be reproduced, except in full, without the written approval of the analyzing laboratory. The results presented in this report relate to the samples listed on the following pages in the condition in which they were received. Accreditation for each analyte is identified by the \* symbol following the analyte name. Location of our analyzing laboratory is identified by the code in the Analyst Column.

**A & L Laboratory:**  
*Identified by ME in Analyst Column*  
155 Center Street, Auburn, Maine 04210  
www.allaboratory.com

**Granite State Analytical Services LLC:**  
*Identified by NH in Analyst Column*  
22 Manchester Road, Derry, NH 03038  
www.granitestateanalytical.com

**Nashoba Analytical:**  
*Identified by MA in the Analyst Column*  
31A Willow Road, Ayer, MA 01432  
www.nashobaanalytical.com

### ANALYSIS RELATED NOTES:

- RL: "Reporting limit" means the lowest level of an analyte that can be accurately recovered from the matrix of interest.
- DF: "Dilution factor" means the ratio of the volume of the sample to the volume of the final (dilute) solution.
- MDL: "Minimum Detection Limit" means the minimum result which can be reliably discriminated from a blank with a predetermined confidence level.
- A & L Laboratory / Granite State Analytical Services LLC / Nashoba Analytical. accreditation lists can be found on our websites listed above.
- Subcontracted samples will be identified by the Accreditation number of the subcontract laboratory in the analyst field for each analyte and the appropriate laboratory will be listed here. **None**
- Data Qualifiers (DQ) Flags provide additional information in regards to the receipt, analysis or quality control of a sample. These are indicated under the DQ Flags Column on your report and listed here if necessary: **Data Qualifier (DQ) Flags: None**

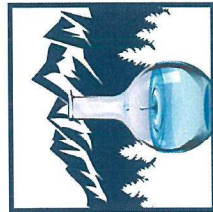
### SAMPLE STATE SPECIFIC NOTES:

Additional Narrative or Comments: **None**

We appreciate the opportunity to provide you with laboratory services. If you have any questions regarding the enclosed report, please contact the laboratory and we will be happy to assist you.

Erin Shaw  
Laboratory Director

A & L Laboratory: Accreditations: Maine ME00021, New Hampshire 2501, Maine Radon Registration ID # SPC20  
Granite State Analytical Services, LLC: Accreditations: New Hampshire 1015; Maine NH00003;  
Massachusetts M-NH0003; Rhode Island 101513; Vermont VT-101507  
Nashoba Analytical: Accreditations: Massachusetts M-MA1118



# NASHOBA ANALYTICAL

A DIVISION OF GRANITE STATE ANALYTICAL SERVICES, LLC

31A Willow Road Ayer, Massachusetts 01432

Phone: 978-391-4428 | website: [www.nashobaanalytical.com](http://www.nashobaanalytical.com)

DATE PRINTED:

09/13/2023

SYSTEM NAME: Carver Elementary School

SYSTEM TOWN: CARVER

SAMPLE CATEGORY: Routine Sample

SAMPLING AGENT: PWS Staff

SAMPLE AGENT #:

RECEIPT TEMP: 5.8° CELSIUS

## LEAD AND COPPER RESULTS

LAB ID#: M-NH003

EPA ID#: 4052007

WATER SYSTEM TYPE:

TEST UNITS:

METHOD:

MCL:

MDL (RL):

DATE & TIME RECEIVED: 09/11/2023 08:59AM

ANALYST: JLR-NH

Copper EPA 200.8 mg/L Lead EPA 200.8

Copper 1.3 mg/L, Lead 0.015 mg/L

Copper 0.001 mg/L, Lead 0.001 mg/L

Legend	
Passes	✓
Fails EPA Primary	✗
Fails EPA Secondary	⚠
Fails State Guideline	✗
Attention	⚠

SAMPLE LOCATION	DATE/TIME COLLECTED	LABORATORY SAMPLE ID#	CLIENT JOB #	LEAD *	Pass /Fail	DQ	DATE ANALYZED	COPPER *	Pass /Fail	DQ	DATE ANALYZED
ROOM 191- KITCHEN DOUBLE BAY SINK	09/08/2023 06:10AM	2309-01782-001	Carver Elementary School	<0.001	✓		09/12/23	0.947	✓		09/12/23
ROOM 100- CLASSROOM SINK	09/08/2023 06:08AM	2309-01782-002		<0.001	✓	✗	09/12/23	7.30	✗	✗	09/12/23
ROOM 112- CLASSROOM SINK	09/08/2023 06:10AM	2309-01782-003		<0.001	✓	✗	09/12/23	2.01	✗	✗	09/12/23
ROOM 132- PROJECT BUBBLER AREA	09/08/2023 06:12AM	2309-01782-004		<0.001	✓	✗	09/12/23	3.61	✗	✗	09/12/23
ROOM 241- CLASSROOM SINK	09/08/2023 06:24AM	2309-01782-005		<0.001	✓	✗	09/12/23	1.86	✗	✗	09/12/23
ROOM 232- PROJECT AREA BUBBLER	09/08/2023 06:18AM	2309-01782-006		<0.001	✓	✗	09/12/23	1.80	✗	✗	09/12/23
ROOM 227- PROJECT AREA BUBBLER	09/08/2023 06:20AM	2309-01782-007		<0.001	✓	✗	09/12/23	2.31	✗	✗	09/12/23
ROOM 212- CLASSROOM SINK	09/08/2023 06:16AM	2309-01782-008		<0.001	✓	✗	09/12/23	2.16	✗	✗	09/12/23
ROOM 263- MEDIA SPACE BUBBLER	09/08/2023 06:22AM	2309-01782-009		<0.001	✓	✗	09/12/23	2.73	✗	✗	09/12/23
ROOM 200- CLASSROOM SINK	09/08/2023 06:14AM	2309-01782-010		<0.001	✓	✗	09/12/23	4.82	✗	✗	09/12/23

*Erin Shaw*

Erin Shaw

Laboratory Director



# Copper in Drinking Water FAQ

This fact sheet answers frequently asked questions about copper and health, how copper may get into your drinking water, and what you and your family can do to avoid exposure. Copper is a naturally occurring and essential nutrient for good health in low levels. Exposure to high levels of copper can harm health. Parents of infants and young children, pregnant women, and people with Wilson's disease or liver disease should be aware of the possible health effects following exposure to high levels of copper and should take precautions to minimize their exposure.

## HOW DOES COPPER GET INTO MY DRINKING WATER?

In Massachusetts, most drinking water sources from reservoirs and groundwater do not contain elevated levels of copper. When copper is present in water, it is typically due to the water flowing through pipes or plumbing in homes with copper and brass parts. Service lines, which are the pipes that connect homes to the water main, could have copper in them. Inside your home, you may have copper pipes or brass fixtures. Copper levels are highest in water that has been sitting in pipes for several hours. The amount of copper in the water decreases after the water is run for 1 minute. Hot water causes copper to dissolve and enter water faster.

## HOW DOES COPPER GET INTO MY BODY?

You may be exposed to small amounts of copper in the air you breathe, the water you drink, the foods you eat, or from touching copper, particles attached to copper, or copper compounds. Copper can get into the body from drinking water or preparing food with water containing copper. Copper is not easily absorbed through our skin. Because copper is essential to good health in small "trace" amounts, everyone absorbs small amounts of copper every day. Our bodies have a natural mechanism to maintain the proper level of copper.

## HOW DOES COPPER MAKE YOU SICK?

Periodically drinking water that contains copper above the action level does not guarantee it will harm someone's health. Consuming high levels of copper may cause nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and stomach cramps. Some infants and children, people with liver disease, and people with Wilson's disease have trouble eliminating copper from their bodies and are more likely to experience negative health effects, such as kidney and liver damage.

## CAN MY CHILD HAVE A COPPER TEST DONE BY THEIR PEDIATRICIAN?

Copper is normally found in all tissues of the body. It can be measured in blood, urine, feces, hair, and nails. Testing blood, urine, hair, and nails can only show if a person has been exposed to higher than normal levels of copper. It cannot be used to predict the amount of the exposure, how long the exposure occurred, or potential health effects. Specific health questions about exposure to copper should be directed to your doctor or other health care provider.

## WHAT CAN I DO RIGHT NOW TO PROTECT MY FAMILY?

### 1. Run your water before using and use **COLD** water

Always use **cold** water for drinking and cooking. **Do not** use hot water for drinking or cooking. If you want hot water, run cold water from the faucet and warm it in the microwave or on the stove.

When mixing powdered baby formula with tap water, always use cold water and do not use hot water. Simply warm formula to serve. Bottled or filtered water should be used when mixing baby formula if copper levels are known to be elevated in tap water. Filters should be NSF-certified to remove copper.

Run the water for 1 minute before using it. This can reduce copper levels by flushing out the water that

has been sitting in copper pipes for several hours. Boiling water does not eliminate copper. If there is copper in your water, boiling may increase copper levels.

## **2. Test your drinking water**

If you have copper in the pipes inside your home or if you aren't sure if you do, consider testing your water. This is the best way to find out if you have elevated levels of copper in your water. Testing typically costs between \$20 and \$40 and should be done by a certified laboratory. Water samples may be mailed or dropped off. Be sure to follow the lab's sample collection instructions exactly. The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) provides a list of certified laboratories, which can be found here: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/certified-laboratories.html#1>. The US Environmental Protection Agency action level for copper in drinking water is 1,300 ppb (also reported as "1300 µg/L", "1.3 ppm", or "1.3 mg/L").

## **WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?**

### **For additional health information contact:**

Massachusetts Department of Public Health  
Bureau of Environmental Health  
Phone: 617-624-5757 | Fax: 617-624-5777 |  
TTY: 617-624-5286  
[www.mass.gov/dph/environmental\\_health](http://www.mass.gov/dph/environmental_health)

CDC Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease  
Registry  
Public Health Statement on Copper  
<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/ToxProfiles/tp132-c1-b.pdf>

### **For additional drinking water information contact:**

Massachusetts Department of Environmental  
Protection  
Drinking Water Program  
617-292-5770  
Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us  
<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/lead-and-other-contaminants-in-drinking-water.html#19> (and see sections on "Copper" and "Lead and Copper")

### **For a list of state-certified laboratories for drinking water testing:**

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/certified-laboratories.html#1> (click on Find MassDEP-Certified Laboratories)

### **For information on certified filters and bottled water:**

NSF International  
<http://www.nsf.org/>

### **NOTE FOR PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIERS:**

This FAQ does not fulfill the notification requirements of the Lead and Copper Rule 310 CMR 22.06B. Public Water Systems should contact MassDEP for specific Lead and Copper Rule requirements.

Massachusetts Department of Public Health  
Bureau of Environmental Health  
250 Washington Street, 7th Floor  
Boston, MA 02108  
Phone: 617-624-5757 | Fax: 617-624-5777 | TTY: 617-624-5286  
[www.mass.gov/dph/environmental\\_health](http://www.mass.gov/dph/environmental_health)

NOVEMBER 2016

