

Use this guidance to help you navigate through the permanent remediation options.

First, be sure that immediate remediation actions have been taken. Taps that require remediation must not be used for consumption until permanent remediation and follow-up testing are completed and show the taps are safe for use.

A permanent remediation action must be taken **within 18 months** of receiving results for any tap with a first draw or flush sample with results at or above 4 ppb. Below is a list of permanent remediation actions. Keep in mind that the recommended remediation action depends on whether the results were elevated at the first draw, flush or both. If you are interested in discussing more options, contact the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) by email at ANR.DECSchoolLeadProject@vermont.gov or call 802-261-5603.

First draw result: at or above 4 ppb
Flush result: below 4 ppb
Permanent FIXTURE remediation actions

Fixture replacement: Replacing the problematic fixture with an **NSF-61 certified lead-free fixture** is a cost-effective option to remove the source of lead from your tap.

Point-of-use filter installation (after consultation with DEC): Point-of-use (POU) units are commercially available and can be effective in removing lead. Filters require routine maintenance to remain effective (for example, cartridge filter units need to be replaced periodically). When selecting a lead reducing POU filter, verify the product was tested and certified as **NSF/ANSI Standard 53** (for lead removal). A filter maintenance log will be shared with you to help keep track of filter replacement schedules.

Removal from service – no replacement: If the tap is not used regularly and you do not want to use it for consumption in the future, the tap can be permanently shut off (by capping the water supply line) or be physically removed/uninstalled.

Removal from service – new fixture installation in new location: Alternatively, you may choose to remove a fixture and install a new one in a new location (for example, centrally located bottle fill station installation).

First draw result: below 4 ppb
Flush result: at or above 4 ppb
Permanent PLUMBING remediation actions

Pipe replacement

Lead pipes within your property and portions of lead service lines under your and/or public water system's jurisdiction can be replaced. You can work with a professional plumber to replace any lead pipes within your building. Contact your public water system regarding the material of your service line.

Reconfigure plumbing

Depending on the location of the lead source, you can work with a professional plumber to modify the plumbing system to redirect water supplied for drinking or cooking to bypass sources of lead contamination.

Point-of-use filter installation (after consultation with DEC)

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Removal from service – no replacement

If the tap is not used regularly and you do not want to use it for consumption in the future, the tap can be permanently shut off (by capping the water supply line) or be physically removed/uninstalled.

Removal from service – new fixture installation in new location

Alternatively, you may choose to remove a fixture and install a new one in a new location (for example, centrally located bottle fill station installation).

Both First Draw and Flush results: at or above 4 ppb
Choose a permanent remediation action that will address problems in the FIXTURE and in the PLUMBING.

Removal from service – no replacement

If the tap is not used regularly and you do not want to use it for consumption in the future, the tap can be permanently shut off (by capping the water supply line) or be physically removed/uninstalled.

Removal from service – new fixture installation in new location

Alternatively, you may choose to remove a fixture and install a new one in a new location (for example, centrally located bottle fill station installation).

Point-of-use filter installation (after consultation with DEC)

Point-of-use (POU) units are commercially available and can be effective in removing lead. Filters require routine maintenance to remain effective (for example, cartridge filter units need to be replaced periodically). When selecting a lead reducing POU filter, verify the product was tested and certified as **NSF/ANSI Standard 53** (for lead removal). A filter maintenance log will be shared with you to help keep track of filter replacement schedules.

Helpful Tips

- Clean aerators (screens) a couple times per week. Unscrew the aerator from the bottom of the tap. Clean it using water or vinegar, rinse well and put the aerator back on the tap.
- Run cold water through new fixtures or plumbing for a **few minutes twice a day for three weeks**.
- Make sure **cold water is the last water to run through the fixture** the night before collecting samples.