



### Background:

Recently, form letters notifying organizations around NAS Patuxent River that a portion of the drinking water service line to select buildings are either constructed of an unknown material or are known to be a galvanized supply line. This notification is required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in compliance with the nationwide 2021 Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR), which directed an inventory of public water supply lines by 16 October 2024. The referenced “service lines” lines in this generic statement are external supply lines that service entire buildings from the water main, not the supply lines or fixtures inside our office spaces or housing.

While the form letter indicates that with an unknown there is a potential for absorbed lead in drinking water, **routine, historical testing shows no evidence that lead or copper levels throughout NAS Patuxent River’s drinking water system exceed Safe Drinking Water Act standards.**

### Why are we receiving this letter?

This notice does NOT mean there is an immediate health risk or that lead is present in the water. Instead, it is a precautionary measure of transparency in an effort to establish an inventory of potentially non-compliant water infrastructure; ensure mandated nationwide public awareness and transparency regarding potential risks associated with older infrastructure; and serves as an actionable list of water service lines that NAS Patuxent River will be inspecting for the possibility of near-term replacement.

### Is the drinking water at NAS Patuxent River safe?

**Yes, the drinking water at NAS Patuxent River meets all state and federal safe drinking water standards.**

NAS Patuxent River routinely tests its drinking water for potability, and at no point has found any contaminants that exceed EPA or Maryland Department of Environment safety thresholds. This information is published annually to the public and is available at <https://ndw.cnic.navy.mil/Installations/NAS-Patuxent-River/Operations-and-Management/Environmental/> . Previous years’ water surveys are also available at <https://ndw.cnic.navy.mil/Operations-and-Management/Water-Quality-Information/> . By law, any contaminants that exceed safe drinking water standards require public notice to the consumer.

### Questions?

Personnel and residents who have any questions on this or other environmental matters can contact the NAS Patuxent River Environmental Division at (202) 528-1733 or [jordan.f.sinclair2.civ@us.navy.mil](mailto:jordan.f.sinclair2.civ@us.navy.mil) .