



The Best of Oregon

CITY of BEAVERTON

NEWS RELEASE

Public Information Office

503-526-3737

publicinformation@BeavertonOregon.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 23, 2016

MEDIA ADVISORY: BEAVERTON DRINKING WATER SAFE

BEAVERTON, Ore. – Beaverton residents are advised that the city’s drinking water supply is safe and meets or exceeds state and federal standards. City officials want residents to know that today’s announcement from the Beaverton School District regarding Highland Park Middle School is related to the age of the pipes in the building.

Today, Beaverton School District officials announced that a certified industrial hygienist recently tested Highland Park Middle School’s water for lead, metals, and bacteria at five different locations in the school. The district received preliminary results last week indicating that two of the four drinking fountains tested revealed elevated levels of lead. There were also elevated levels of iron and turbidity (color and clarity) in several of the locations sampled. Water used in the kitchen for food preparation did not have elevated levels.

Here is some important information for Beaverton water customers to know:

- **Beaverton’s drinking water is safe.** The city’s water supply meets or exceeds state and federal standards. Information is available in the city’s 2016 City of Beaverton Water Quality Report, also known as the Consumer Confidence Report, which is available online at www.BeavertonOregon.gov/CCR.
- **Beaverton water is rated “outstanding performance” by Oregon Health Authority.** The City of Beaverton drinking water system was just surveyed/audited by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA)’s Drinking Water Program in April 2016. The OHA found the city’s water system facilities “to be well operated and maintained by knowledgeable and competent staff.” The City of Beaverton received an “outstanding performance” rating by OHA.
- **Highland Park Middle School pipes will be replaced.** Highland Park Middle School will receive repiping of the entire school, as part of the current school bond program which is scheduled to be completed in summer 2017. Highland Park Middle School has 50-year-old galvanized steel pipes and the water has been discolored due to rusting of the pipes.
- **City officials will monitor the neighborhood water supply.** The City Water Operations group plans to take add enhanced precautionary measures such as heightened water monitoring and other actions, such as flushing, for the Highland neighborhood. City staff are also coordinating closely with the Beaverton School District.
- **Testing shows Beaverton’s water supply well below federal concern levels for lead.** The city’s latest water quality report shows a lead level of seven parts per billion (ppb) in pipes in designated homes in Beaverton, which is well below 15 ppb

US EPA action level for drinking water. As per Oregon Health Authority drinking water rules specific to Beaverton, lead and copper samples taken from designated homes in Beaverton were not collected in 2015. The seven ppb value shown is the 90th percentile result of samples collected in 2013. The next round of samples will be collected in summer 2016 to be analyzed by the state-certified laboratory.