



**News Advisory**

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**MAWSS Seeks Participants for Annual Lead Testing**

Mobile Area Water and Sewer System (MAWSS) is seeking customers to take part in its annual lead testing program and is offering qualifying participants a \$5 credit on their water bill.

To ensure your safety, MAWSS tests annually for lead in the summer in homes built between 1981 and 1989, years when copper pipes were most likely soldered with lead. MAWSS provides kits and instructions specifying that a tap water sample be taken from the first cold water drawn in the morning after sitting undisturbed for 6 hours. MAWSS will pick up the sample and have it tested at a certified lab. Results of the testing are shared with the customer and reported to the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM).

Lead can be present in some pipes that connect older homes to the water system and in home plumbing. The use of lead and lead solder in plumbing was discontinued in 1986. However, some homes may still have lead connections or internal fixtures that contain lead. To keep drinking water safe, MAWSS adjusts the water's chemistry at the treatment plant to reduce the possibility of lead leaching into the water. MAWSS fully complies with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Lead and Copper Rule which is administered through ADEM.

If you live in a home built between 1981 and 1989 and would like to participate, please contact MAWSS at (251) 694-3165.