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## **Kingston Water Department**

PO Box 1537  
Kingston, N.Y. 12402

**May 10, 2016**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Kingston Water Department Provides Most Recent Water Testing Results; No Lead Detected in City's Water Source or Water Distribution System**

*Public Education Forum Scheduled for Tuesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at City Hall*

Kingston, N.Y.

The Kingston Water Department and Mayor Steve Noble are pleased to report that no lead has been detected in Kingston's water source or in its water distribution system, as has consistently been the case since testing began in 1993.

In addition to releasing a fact sheet about Kingston's drinking water, the Kingston Water Department has also shared the results of water samples from a number of residential homes in the City.

#### Residential Sample Testing Results

The Kingston Water Department tests the water for lead in 30 residential homes every three years, in accordance with NYS and EPA regulations. In Summer 2015, 32 samples were collected from homes with lead services. These samples were collected after water had been sitting in the homeowners' pipes for more than 6 hours, as is required by regulations. Of these samples, 90% were below 0.004mg/L, which is significantly lower than the limit of 0.015 mg/L. No water samples exceeded the limit. 17 of the 32 samples, or 53%, tested below the detection limits, which means that no lead was found.

#### Potential Sources of Lead

As noted in the attached fact sheet, lead in drinking water comes from the internal plumbing of homes and buildings or from their "service lateral", which is the pipe that brings water from the City water main into the property. Lead can dissolve from plumbing when corrosive water sits in contact with the plumbing materials for several hours. The Kingston Water Department has been practicing corrosion control for over 50 years at its Edmund T. Cloonan Water Treatment, which has minimized the likelihood that lead will be dissolved from customers' plumbing into tap water. In order to further reduce the possibility of lead in drinking water, customers should consider replacing service lines and internal plumbing that contain lead. If this is not possible, customers can flush the water in their systems prior to drinking it.

"Preserving public safety is one of the most important responsibilities of local government," stated Mayor Steve Noble. "The City will continue to provide clear and accurate information to the public about this essential utility."

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In an effort to provide further information to residents on these issues, the Kingston Water Department will be hosting a Public Education Forum on Tuesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at City Hall. The focus of this forum will be to educate homeowners on water safety within the home.

“The Kingston Water Department is eager to assist customers to learn more about our water source and water distribution system,” stated Judith Hansen, Superintendent of the Kingston Water Department. “We look forward to further educating the public about assessing the risk of lead within a house’s plumbing system at our upcoming Public Education Forum.”

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