

Subject: **Reduction of Lead in Drinking Water Act Reminder**

Federal and state regulatory organizations are taking great efforts to reduce the amount of lead in drinking water by minimizing the amount of lead in drinking water components and all other devices that come in contact with potable water.

On January 4, 2014, the Reduction of Lead in Drinking Water Act, which is a federal law amending the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), will reduce the amount of lead permissible in plumbing products within potable water systems. This law mandates that permissible levels of lead in a wetted surface of pipe, pipe fittings, plumbing fittings, and fixtures cannot exceed a 0.25 percent lead weighted average. In addition, this law makes it illegal to sell or install pipes, fitting valves, and fixtures that are not Lead Free* in applications providing water for human consumption which exceeds the 0.25 percent weighted average for wetted surfaces. Minnesota Plumbing Code is currently under review by the Minnesota Plumbing Board for revisions to conform to the new Lead Free* definition of the SDWA. In order to help assist and guide the transition to meet Lead Free* standards, below is a link of drafted frequently asked questions compiled by the EPA: <http://goo.gl/5tp4Ag>.

Only products complying with the new Lead Free* requirements shall be used starting January 2014. Products bearing a certified mark such as NSF-61-G, NSF pw-G, NSF-372, NSF ≤ 0.25 percent Lead, and NSF ≤ 0.25 percent Pb are third party certified for Lead Free* compliance. However, there is no industry standard regarding the markings of Lead Free* products. If the lead content is unknown, please call the manufacturer directly. To prepare for complying with the Lead Free* requirements in January 2014, it is recommended that water systems remove products that are not Lead Free* from their inventories, dispose these products properly, or use these items for non-potable purposes. Detailed information on Lead Free*, low lead water products, and product certifications can be found at: <http://goo.gl/h7WRv2> and <http://goo.gl/ZYxG1Z>. Failure to comply with the Reduction of Lead in Drinking Water Act can result in fines or lawsuits.