



Ziad Shehady <zshehady@redbanknj.org>

Fwd: Top post: Resident Driven Water Sampling Aids in Red Bank's Lead Concerns

1 message

Kate Triggiano <ktriggiano@redbanknj.org>
To: Ziad Shehady <zshehady@redbanknj.org>

Tue, Jan 22, 2019 at 10:27 PM

Please advise. Thank you.

Kate L. Triggiano
Councilwoman
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KTriggiano@RedBankNJ.org

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Boris** <bkofman@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Jan 22, 2019 at 10:16 PM
Subject: Re: Top post: Resident Driven Water Sampling Aids in Red Bank's Lead Concerns
To: Kate Leigh Triggiano <ktriggiano@redbanknj.org>

Here's the text.

The NJDEP recently acknowledged that Red Bank Borough's tap water testing for lead was "deficient" with "smoking gun" evidence, but it has yet to divulge any action it has taken to enforce the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act. In addition, the borough has recently denied access to email communication it has with the NJDEP, such public access records that would bring transparency on an important public health concern, lead in drinking water.

POP Founder, Alberto Larotonda, who filed the enforcement complaint, views the ongoing lack of government openness at the expense of infants, young children and expectant mothers, who represent the highest risk people susceptible to lead poisoning. It also hides a pattern of unbalanced testing between economically depressed and affluent areas of Red Bank as environmental injustice.

Through an unofficial source, POP has learned that the Red Bank Water Department will add many new residential testing sites to its water sampling plan. However, under federal law, the sampling must include no less than 60 single family building sites for its population of roughly 12,000, leaving residents living in multifamily buildings, condos and apartments in the dark. The testing goal is to show if water treatment is preventing water service lines and home plumbing from dissolving lead into tap water. However, the results vary from home to home, and the department has yet to inform the public of why, how and when it will select new sites.

In a proactive approach, Larotonda has consulted Professor Marc Edwards, a national expert on drinking water and a civil engineering professor at Virginia Tech. Edwards has direct experience in the Flint, Michigan water crisis and has made labs at the university available to an alliance of citizen groups and non-profit organizations with a testing method developed that is more thorough than that required under the federal safe drinking water law. For interested households that were not selected for lead testing by their municipal or private water company, one alliance non-profit offers a do-it-yourself sampling kit for lead and other contaminants which is then processed through the Virginia Tech labs. The organization "Healthy Babies, Bright Futures", (HBBF.org) addresses

the risks of the youngest to lead, but its testing program applies to any home at only half the cost (\$60) of commercial labs, or even on a "pay what you can afford" basis. A brochure can be found [Here](#)

Aside from the minimal testing performed by the Red Bank Water Department, or an individual -paid program, POP demands Red Bank Borough to seek grant funding so that any qualified home can have lead testing to take action on safer drinking water by using the above program made possible by Virginia Tech University. POP may also organize the public educational efforts required if such grants are obtained.

Red Bank POP continues to demand government transparency and welcomes solution-minded people and organizations to join its efforts at RedBankPOP.org.

On Tue, Jan 22, 2019, 10:13 PM Kate Triggiano <ktriggiano@redbanknj.org> wrote:

Hi Boris,

I have not heard of anything regarding DEP becoming involved. I tried to read the article but cannot open it. I will ask Z if there is anything I am missing.

Kate L. Triggiano

Councilwoman

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KTriggiano@RedBankNJ.org

On Sun, Jan 20, 2019 at 4:08 PM Boris <bkofman@gmail.com> wrote:

Are you aware of this? And if so, is it true?

Boris

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From: **Nextdoor Weekly Digest** <no-reply@rs.email.nextdoor.com>

Date: Sun, Jan 20, 2019, 3:29 PM

Subject: Top post: Resident Driven Water Sampling Aids in Red Bank's Lead Concerns

To: <bkofman@gmail.com>

Nextdoor North Red Bank



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