**Lead and Copper Rule: Sample Collection Criteria**

Tier 1 sites are the highest priority. If systems cannot identify enough Tier 1 sites to meet their minimum sampling requirement, they must select Tier 2 sites, followed by Tier 3 sites, and then representative sites*. The number of sites depends on the size of the population served by the system.

### Tier 1

If you are a CWS

- Single Family structures**:
  - With Copper pipe and Lead solder installed after 1982 (but before the effective date of the state’s ban) or have Lead pipes, and/or
  - Are served by Lead Service Lines (LSL’s)

Note: For any systems with LSL’s, 50% of the samples must come from LSL sites, and 50% must come from sites with lead pipes or copper pipes with lead solder.

**Tier 1 samples can be collected from multifamily residences if they represent at least 20% of structures served by the water system.

### Tier 2

Collect samples from buildings including multifamily residences:
- With copper pipe and lead solder installed after 1982, or have lead pipes; and/or
- Are served by LSL’s

Note: For any systems with LSL’s, 50% of the samples must come from LSL sites, and 50% must come from sites with lead pipes or copper pipes with lead solder.

### Tier 3

Collect samples from single family structures:
- With copper pipe and lead solder installed before 1983

Acronyms:
- CWS = Community Water Systems
- NTNCWS = Non-transient, Non-Community Water Systems
- LSL = Lead Service Line

*Representative Sites:
If a CWS or a NTNCWS cannot collect enough samples from tiered sites, it must collect them from sites where plumbing is similar to that used at other sites served by the water system.