

A NOTICE TO PARENTS, GUARDIANS, and STAFF

Cornwall Central Middle School

Lead Testing of School Drinking Water

March 7, 2024

Safe and healthy school environments can foster healthy and successful children. To protect public health, the Public Health Law and New York State Health Department (NYSDOH) regulations require that all public schools and boards of cooperative educational services (BOCES) test lead levels in water from every outlet that is used, or could potentially be used, for drinking or cooking. Revisions effective March 22, 2022, reduce the lead action level in drinking water from 15 parts per billion (ppb) to 5 ppb. If lead is found at any water outlet at levels above 5 parts per billion (ppb)¹, which is equal to 5 micrograms per liter (µg/L), the NYSDOH requires that the school take action to reduce the exposure to lead.

Rule of Thumb²

- *Any outlet in a room or office within a school not used by students (pre-kindergarten through grade 12), for drinking or cooking, does not require sampling. An example is custodial storage closest dispensing cleaning chemicals*
- **Lavatory Sinks:** Toilet rooms and bathrooms are building environments that can present unique challenges to water portability. These challenges are reflect in various code provisions that prohibit the installation of drinking facilities, drinking fountains, water coolers, and water dispensers within toilet rooms and bathrooms. NYS DOH would not object to designating these outlets no applicable where controls (e.g., education and signage) exist to prevent the consumption of water. ``Handwashing Only, Not for Drinking" signs have been posted
- **Dishwashing outlets:** If an outlet is designate for dishwashing only and involves no opportunity for drinking or cooking including food preparation, the outlet does not require sampling.
- **Science/Art sinks:** *Classrooms in these settings prohibit eating and/or drinking. The sinks within these rooms are not for drinking or cooking. ``Handwashing Only, Not for Drinking" signs have been posted.*
- **Classroom sinks:** If the outlet is used for drinking and/or cooking, it must be sampled. However, if the school has controls in place to prevent the consumption of water, Superintendents or their designees have the discretion to exclude these outlets from sampling and include them in the Remedial Action Plan.

What is first draw testing of school drinking water for lead?

The “on-again, off-again” nature of water use at most schools can raise lead levels in school drinking water. Water that remains in pipes overnight, over a weekend, or over vacation periods stays in contact with lead pipes or lead solder and, as a result, could contain higher levels of lead. This is why schools are required to collect a sample after the water has been sitting in the plumbing system for a certain period of time. This “first draw” sample is likely to show higher levels of lead for that outlet than what you would see if you sampled after using the water continuously. However, even if the first draw sample does not reflect what you would see with continuous usage, it is still important because it can identify outlets that have elevated lead levels.

What are the results of the first draw testing? (108 Samples) Lead Testing of School

Location	Sampling Dates	Results PPB	Summary of Results
Kitchen Sink (Island by Refrigerator)	2/23/2024	5.3	<i>Passed EPA; Results fails NYS standards</i>
Kitchen Sink (Stand Alone Prep Sink)	2/23/2024	None Detected	
Kitchen Wall Sink by Office	2/23/2024	1.9	
Kitchen Prep Sink by Kettle	2/23/2024	None Detected	
Kitchen Pot Filler	2/23/2024	None Detected	
Kitchen Sprayer	2/23/2024	None Detected	
Bottle Filler: Cafeteria A	2/23/2024	None Detected	
Drinking Fountain: Cafeteria A	2/23/2024	None Detected	
Bottle Filler: Outside Cafeteria B - #1	2/23/2024	None Detected	
Bubbler: Outside Cafeteria B - #1	2/23/2024	None Detected	
Bottle Filler: Outside Cafeteria B - #2	2/23/2024	None Detected	
Bubbler: Outside Cafeteria B - #2	2/23/2024	None Detected	
Main Office Kitchen Sink	2/23/2024	1.2	

¹ Action Level lowered from 15 ppb to 5 ppb. Revisions to the Public Health Law (PHL) Section 1110 went into effect on December 22, 2022

² *New York State Department of Health Lead Testing in School Drinking Water Program Guidance Manual; November 6, 2023*

Nurse's Office Sink	2/23/2024	2.9	
Faculty Room Kitchen Sink	2/23/2024	1.3	
Bottle Filler: B9	2/23/2024	None Detected	
Drinking Fountain: B9	2/23/2024	None Detected	
Bottle Filler: B-17 - #1	2/23/2024	None Detected	
Bubbler: B-17 - #1	2/23/2024	None Detected	
Room B1 Sink	2/23/2024	1.8	
Classroom Sink Room B-2 #1	2/23/2024	1.9	
Classroom Sink Room B-2 #2	2/23/2024	2.3	
Bottle Filler: C15 (Across from Library)	2/23/2024	None Detected	
Drinking Fountain: C15 (Across Library)	2/23/2024	None Detected	
Fountain: D-Wing #1 – Outside D11	Not in Service		
Drinking Fountain: D-Wing #1 – D11)	Not in Service		
Bottle Filler: D-Wing #2 – Outside D11	2/23/2024	None Detected	
Drinking Fountain: D-Wing #2 – D11)	2/23/2024	None Detected	
Bottle Filler: E-Wing #1	2/23/2024		
Bubbler: E-Wing #1	2/23/2024	None Detected	
Bottle Filler: E-Wing #2	2/23/2024	None Detected	
Bubbler: E-Wing #2	2/23/2024	None Detected	
STEAM Room/PE Office Ice Machine	2/23/2024	None Detected	Food Services
Outside Track Hose Bin	Not in Service		
“Non-applicable outlets”			
Room B4 Teacher's Desk Sink Class Side	Hand Washing Only	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room B4 Teacher's Desk Sink Wall Side	Hand Washing Only	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room B16 Sink	Hand Washing Only	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room C4 Classroom Sink	Hand Washing Only	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room C9 Classroom Sink	Hand Washing Only	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room C10 Classroom Sink	Hand Washing Only	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room C11 Classroom Sink	Hand Washing Only	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room D3 Classroom Sink	Hand Washing Only	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room D4 Classroom Sink #1	Hand Washing Only	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room D4 Classroom Sink #2	Hand Washing Only	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room D4 Classroom Sink #3	Hand Washing Only	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room D5 Classroom Sink #1	Hand Washing Only	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room D5 Classroom Sink #2	Hand Washing Only	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room D5 Classroom Sink #3	Hand Washing Only	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room D6 Classroom Sink	Hand Washing Only	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Kitchen Coffee Pot	Tempered Outlets	N/A	
Kitchen Sprayer (Dish Wash Station)	Dishwashing outlet	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Kitchen Bathroom Sink	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Kitchen Dish wash Station Sink #1	Dishwashing outlet	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Kitchen Dish wash Station Sink #2	Dishwashing outlet	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Nurse's Bathroom Sink	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Faculty Bath Sink outside nurse's office	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Girls Locker Room Sink	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Girls PE Office Bathroom Sink	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room B5 Slop Sink	Science/Art sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room B8 Classroom Sink #1	Science/Art sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room B8 Classroom Sink #3	Science/Art sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room B8 Classroom Sink #4	Science/Art sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room B8 Teaching Station Sink	Science/Art sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room B9 Sink 1 Wall Side	Science/Art sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room B9 Sink 1 Aisle Side	Science/Art sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room B9 Sink 2 Wall Side	Science/Art sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room B9 Sink 2 Aisle Side	Science/Art sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room B9 Sink 3 Wall Side	Science/Art sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room B9 Sink 3 Aisle Side	Science/Art sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room B9 Sink 4 Wall Side	Science/Art sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room B9 Sink 4 Aisle Side	Science/Art sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only

Room B9 Sink 5 Wall Side	Science/Art sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room B9 Sink 5 Aisle Side	Science/Art sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room B9 Sink 6 Wall Side	Science/Art sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room B9 Sink 6 Aisle Side	Science/Art sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room B9 Teacher's Desk Sink Wall Side	Science/Art sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room B9 Teacher's Desk Sink Class Side	Science/Art sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Science Office Sink 1 (B7)	Science/Art sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Science Office Sink 2 (B7)	Science/Art sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Room B16 Storage Closet Sink	<i>Hand Washing Only</i>	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
B-Wing Women's Faculty Bathroom Sink	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
B-Wing Men's Faculty Bathroom Sink	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
C-Wing Girls Bathroom Sink #1	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
C-Wing Girls Bathroom Sink #2	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
C-Wing Girls Bathroom Sink # 3	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
C-Wing Girls Bathroom Sink #4	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
C-Wing Girls Bathroom Sink #5	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
C-Wing Girls Bathroom Sink #6	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
C-Wing Boys Bathroom Sink #1	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
C-Wing Boys Bathroom Sink #2	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
C-Wing Boys Bathroom Sink #3	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
C-Wing Boys Bathroom Sink #4	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
C-Wing Boys Bathroom Sink #5	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
C-Wing Boys Bathroom Sink #6	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Accessibility Bathroom Sink outside D15	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
D-Wing Women's Faculty Bathroom Sink	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
D-Wing Men's Faculty Bathroom Sink	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
D-Wing Girls Bathroom Sink #1	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
D-Wing Girls Bathroom Sink #2	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
D-Wing Girls Bathroom Sink #3	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
D-Wing Boys Bathroom Sink #1	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
D-Wing Boys Bathroom Sink #2	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
D-Wing Boys Bathroom Sink #3	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
E-Wing Girls Bathroom Sink #1	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
E-Wing Girls Bathroom Sink #2	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
E-Wing Girls Bathroom Sink #3	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
E-Wing Boys Bathroom Sink #1	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
E-Wing Boys Bathroom Sink #2	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
E-Wing Boys Bathroom Sink# 3	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Technology C-Lab Sink 1	Science/Art sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Technology C-Lab Sink 2	Science/Art sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Art Studio Sink 1	Science/Art sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Art Studio Sink 2	Science/Art sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Art Studio Sink 3	Science/Art sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Art Studio Back Hand wash Sink	Science/Art sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Production Lab Classroom Sink (Wood Shop)	Science/Art sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Faculty Men's Bath Sink (Outside Technology)	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Boys Locker Room Sink	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
Boys PE Office Bathroom Sink	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only
STEAM Room/PE Office Front Shower	Tempered Outlets		
STEAM Room/PE Office Back Shower	Tempered Outlets		
STEAM Room/PE Office Bath Sink	Lavatory Sinks	Posted	Posted: Do Not Drink; Hand wash Only

What is being done in response to the results?

Outlets that tested with lead levels above the action level (15 ppb) were removed from service, unless an outlet is a sink faucet needed for handwashing. In that case, a sign was posted at the outlet indicating that the sink is not to be used for drinking. Outlets that tested below the action level remain in service with no restrictions.

<i>Location</i>	<i>Immediate Action</i>	<i>Remediation</i>
Kitchen Sink (Island by Refrigerator)	<i>Handwashing Only</i>	Review
Fountain: D-Wing #1 – Outside D11	<i>Not in Service</i>	Test once repaired
Drinking Fountain: D-Wing #1 – D11)	<i>Not in Service</i>	Test once repaired
Outside Track Hose Bin	<i>Not in Service</i>	Test once repaired



What are the health effects of lead?

Lead is a metal that can harm children and adults when it gets into their bodies. Lead is a known neurotoxin, particularly harmful to the developing brain and nervous system of children under 6 years old. Lead can harm a young child's growth, behavior, and ability to learn. Lead exposure during pregnancy may contribute to low birth weight and developmental delays in infants. There are many sources of lead exposure in the environment, and it is important to reduce all lead exposures as much as possible. Water testing helps identify and correct possible sources of lead that contribute to exposure from drinking water.

What are the other sources of lead exposure?

Lead is a metal that has been used for centuries for many purposes, resulting in widespread distribution in the environment. Major sources of lead exposure include lead-based paint in older housing, and lead that built up over decades in soil and dust due to historical use of lead in gasoline, paint, and manufacturing. Lead can also be found in a number of consumer products, including certain types of pottery, pewter, brass fixtures, foods, plumbing materials, and cosmetics. Lead seldom occurs naturally in water supplies but drinking water could become a possible source of lead exposure if the building's plumbing contains lead. The primary source of lead exposure for most children with elevated blood-lead levels is lead-based paint.

Should your child be tested for lead?

The risk to an individual child from past exposure to elevated lead in drinking water depends on many factors; for example, a child's age, weight, amount of water consumed, and the amount of lead in the water. Children may also be exposed to other significant sources of lead including paint, soil and dust. Since blood lead testing is the only way to determine a child's blood lead level, parents should discuss their child's health history with their child's physician to determine if blood lead testing is appropriate. Pregnant women or women of childbearing age should also consider discussing this matter with their physician.

Additional Resources

For more information regarding the testing program or sampling results, contact John Pinckney at (845)534-8009, ext. 5228, or go to our school website: www.cornwallschools.com

For information about lead in school drinking water, go to:

http://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/lead/lead_testing_of_school_drinking_water.htm

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/facplan/LeadTestinginSchoolDrinkingWater.html>

For information about NYS Department of Health Lead Poisoning Prevention, go to:

<http://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/lead/>

For more information on blood lead testing and ways to reduce your child's risk of exposure to lead, see "What Your Child's Blood Lead Test Means":

<http://www.health.ny.gov/publications/2526/> (available in ten languages).