

# A NOTICE TO PARENTS, GUARDIANS, and STAFF

*Cornwall Central High School*

## Lead Testing of School Drinking Water

*November 2, 2021; updated 4/13/2023*

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 being used, or could potentially be used, for drinking or cooking. If lead is found at any water outlet at levels above 15 parts per billion (ppb), which is equal to 15 micrograms per liter ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ ), the NYSDOH requires that the school take action to reduce the exposure to lead.

### 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?

<i>Location</i>	<i>Sampling Dates</i>	<i>Results PPB</i>	<i>Summary of Results</i>
<i>Bottle Filler A-Wing Main Lobby #1</i>	2/12/2021	1.00	
<i>Fountain A-Wing Main Lobby #1(left)</i>	TBA		Filter
<i>Fountain A-Wing Main Lobby #2(right)</i>	11/2/2021	1.00	
<i>Main Lobby Women’s Gang Bath Sink #1</i>	2/12/2021	1.00	
<i>Main Lobby Women’s Gang Bath Sink #2</i>	2/12/2021	1.00	
<i>Main Lobby Women’s Gang Bath Sink #3</i>	2/12/2021	1.00	
<i>Main Lobby Women’s Gang Bath Sink #4</i>	2/12/2021	1.00	
<i>Main Lobby Women’s Gang Bath Sink #5</i>	2/12/2021	1.00	
<i>Main Lobby Men’s Gang Bath Sink #1</i>	2/12/2021	1.00	
<i>Main Lobby Men’s Gang Bath Sink #2</i>	2/12/2021	1.00	
<i>Main Lobby Men’s Gang Bath Sink #3</i>	2/12/2021	1.00	
<i>Main Lobby Men’s Gang Bath Sink #4</i>	2/12/2021	1.00	
<i>Main Lobby Men’s Gang Bath Sink #5</i>	2/12/2021	1.00	
<i>Kitchen Hand wash Sink by Lockers</i>	<b>Tempered Outlet</b>		
<i>Kitchen Prep Sink by Electrical Panels</i>	2/12/2021	1.00	
<i>Kitchen Island Prep Sink in Front of Stove</i>	2/12/2021	1.00	
<i>Kitchen Pot Filler at Kettle next to Steamer</i>	2/12/2021	2.62	
<i>Kitchen Pot Filler next to Stand Mixer</i>	2/12/2021	11.3	
<i>Kitchen Pot Filler Large Kettle</i>	2/12/2021	21.8	Results fails NYS standards
<i>Kitchen Serving Area Sink by Coolers</i>	2/12/2021	1.00	
<i>Kitchen Serving Area Back Corner Faucet</i>	<i>Hand Washing Only</i>	<i>Posted</i>	
<i>Kitchen Ice Machine</i>	2/12/2021	1.00	
<i>Kitchen Dish wash Sink 1</i>	2/12/2021	1.72	
<i>Kitchen Dish wash Sink 2</i>	2/12/2021	1.98	
<i>Kitchen Dish wash Sink 3</i>	2/12/2021	1.80	
<i>Kitchen Dish wash Sink 4 Sprayer</i>	<i>Hand Washing Only</i>	<i>Posted</i>	
<i>Kitchen Sprayer at Dishwasher Machine</i>	2/12/2021	9.38	
<i>Kitchen Hand wash Sink by Dishwashing</i>	<i>Hand Washing Only</i>	<i>Posted</i>	
<i>Bathroom Sink outside Kitchen</i>	2/12/2021	1.00	
<i>Snack Bar Coffee Pot</i>	2/12/2021		
<i>Snack Bar Hand Wash Sink</i>	<b>Tempered Outlet</b>		
<i>Drama Department Closet Bathroom Sink</i>	2/12/2021	1.00	

Band Room Classroom Sink	2/12/2021	1.78	
Ice Machine A-Wing Athletic Entrance	2/12/2021	1.00	
Bottle Filler A-Wing Locker Room Hallway #1	Installed 4/12/23	1.00	2/21 (Filtered)
Fountain A-Wing Locker Room Hallway #1(left)	Installed 4/12/23	1.00	11/21 (Filtered)
Bottle Filler A-Wing Locker Room Hallway #2	Installed 4/12/23		(Filtered)
Fountain A-Wing Locker Room Hallway #2(Right)	Installed 4/12/23		(Filtered)
A-Wing Girls Team Locker Room Sink	TBA		Out of Service
A-Wing Boys Team Locker Room Sink	2/12/2021	2.06	
A-Wing Women's Hallway, Locker Room Sink	2/12/2021	1.00	
A-Wing Men's Hallway, Locker Room Sink	2/12/2021	1.10	
Nurse's Main Area Office Sink	2/12/2021	1.00	
Nurse's Exam Room Sink	2/12/2021	1.00	
Nurse's Bathroom Sink	2/12/2021	1.00	
A-Wing A3 Conference Room Sink (Filtered)	2/12/2021	54.40	Results fails NYS standards
Room A15 Bathroom Sink (OU/BOCES)	2/12/2021	1.00	
Main Office Kitchenette Sink	2/12/2021	1.00	
Main Office Women's Faculty Bathroom Sink	2/12/2021	1.00	
Main Office Men's Faculty Bathroom Sink	2/12/2021	1.00	
Fountain B7-Weight Room #1(left) High	4/4/2023	Filter	None Detected
Fountain B7-Weight Room # 2(right) Low	4/4/2023	Filter	None Detected
Fountain B-Wing Pool Area #1(left) High	4/4/2023	Filter	None Detected
Fountain B-Wing Pool Area # 2 (right) Low	4/4/2023	Filter	None Detected
B-Wing Girls' Locker Room Sink	2/12/2021	1.00	
B-Wing Boys' Locker Room Sink	TBA		Out of Service
B-Wing Coach's Office Bath Sink #1 (Left)	2/12/2021	1.00	
B-Wing Coach's Office Bath Sink #2 (Right)	2/12/2021	1.00	
Room B1 Hand wash Sink	Hand Washing Only	Posted	Art/Technology Room
Room B1 Slop Sink	Hand Washing Only	Posted	Art/Technology Room
Room B2 Sink 1	Hand Washing Only	Posted	Art/Technology Room
Room B2 Sink 2	Hand Washing Only	Posted	Art/Technology Room
Room B4 Sink 1	Hand Washing Only	Posted	Art/Technology Room
Room B4 Sink 2	Hand Washing Only	Posted	Art/Technology Room
Room B5 Sink 1	Hand Washing Only	Posted	Art/Technology Room
Room B5 Sink 2	Hand Washing Only	Posted	Art/Technology Room
Room B5 Sink 3	Hand Washing Only	Posted	Art/Technology Room
Room B6 Sink 1	Hand Washing Only	Posted	Art/Technology Room
B-Wing Women's Gang Bath Sink #1	2/12/2021	1.00	
B-Wing Women's Gang Bath Sink #2	TBA		Out of Service
B-Wing Women's Gang Bath Sink #3	2/12/2021	1.00	
B-Wing Men's Gang Bath Sink #1	2/12/2021	1.00	
B-Wing Men's Gang Bath Sink #2	2/12/2021	1.00	
B-Wing Men's Gang Bath Sink #3	2/12/2021	10.6	
Fountain B-Wing near B4:Stairway 1- #1	11/2/2021	16.7	Results fails NYS standards
Fountain B-Wing near B4:Stairway 1- #2	11/2/2021	11.6	
Fountain C-Wing Center Lobby #1(left)	11/2/2021	1.21	
Fountain C-Wing Center Lobby #2 (right)	11/2/2021	4.48	
Room C7 Prep Room Sink 1	2/12/2021	1.00	
Room C7 Prep Room Sink 2	2/12/2021	1.00	
Room C18 Prep Room Sink	2/12/2021	1.00	
Room C19 Prep Room Sink	2/12/2021	1.00	
C-Wing: Library Office Sink	2/12/2021	1.00	
C-Wing: Guidance Kitchenette Sink	2/12/2021	1.00	
C-Wing Women's Gang Bath Sink #1	2/12/2021	1.00	
C-Wing Women's Gang Bath Sink #2	2/12/2021	1.00	
C-Wing Women's Gang Bath Sink #3	2/12/2021	1.00	
C-Wing Women's Gang Bath Sink #4	2/12/2021	1.00	

C-Wing Men's Gang Bath Sink #1	2/12/2021	1.00	
C-Wing Men's Gang Bath Sink #2	2/12/2021	1.00	
C-Wing Men's Gang Bath Sink #3	2/12/2021	1.00	
C-Wing Men's Gang Bath Sink #4	2/12/2021	1.00	
C-Wing: Bath Sink between C2 and C4	2/12/2021	1.09	
C-Wing: Women's Faculty Bath Sink	2/12/2021	1.00	
C-Wing: Men's Faculty Bath Sink	2/12/2021	1.00	
Fountain D-Wing Center Lobby #1(left)	11/2/2021	1.74	
Fountain D-Wing Center Lobby #2(right)	11/2/2021	1.59	
D-Wing Women's Gang Bath Sink #1	2/12/2021	1.00	
D-Wing Women's Gang Bath Sink #2	2/12/2021	1.00	
D-Wing Women's Gang Bath Sink #3	2/12/2021	1.00	
D-Wing Women's Gang Bath Sink #4	2/12/2021	1.00	
D-Wing Men's Gang Bath Sink #1	TBA		Out of Service
D-Wing Men's Gang Bath Sink #2	2/12/2021	1.00	
D-Wing Men's Gang Bath Sink #3	TBA		Out of Service
D-Wing Men's Gang Bath Sink #4	2/12/2021	1.00	
D-Wing: Women's Faculty Bathroom Sink	2/12/2021	1.00	
D-Wing: Men's Faculty Bathroom Sink	TBA		Out of Service
D-Wing Faculty Room Kitchen Sink	2/12/2021	1.00	
Fountain E-Wing Center Lobby #1(left)	11/2/2021	1.00	
Fountain E-Wing Center Lobby #2(right)	11/2/2021	1.00	
Room E2 Sink Classroom Sink	2/12/2021	1.00	
E-Wing Women's Gang Bath Sink #1	2/12/2021	1.00	
E-Wing Women's Gang Bath Sink #2	2/12/2021	1.00	
E-Wing Women's Gang Bath Sink #3	2/12/2021	1.00	
E-Wing Women's Gang Bath Sink #4	TBA		Out of Service
E-Wing Men's Gang Bath Sink #1	2/12/2021	1.00	
E-Wing Men's Gang Bath Sink #2	2/12/2021	1.00	
E-Wing Men's Gang Bath Sink #3	2/12/2021	1.00	
E-Wing Men's Gang Bath Sink #4	2/12/2021	1.00	
E-Wing: Women's Faculty Bathroom Sink	2/12/2021	1.00	
E-Wing: Men's Faculty Bathroom Sink	2/12/2021	1.00	
E-Wing Faculty Room Kitchen Sink	2/12/2021	1.00	
A-Wing Athletic Entrance Hose Bib	TBA		Out of Service
B-Wing Gymnasium Entrance Hose Bib	TBA		Out of Service
Yard Hydrant: Track (Lower)	6/4/2021	13.00	Out of Service
Yard Hydrant: Baseball Dugout	Out of Service	42.3	Results fails NYS standards
Yard Hydrant: Softball Varsity Dugout	Out of Service	TBA	Out of Service
Yard Hydrant: Softball JV Field	Out of Service	TBA	Out of Service

**Rule of Thumb:**

- 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
- **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.

**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>
<i>Kitchen Pot Filler Large Kettle</i>	<i>Faucets Posted for Handwashing 11/18/2016</i>	<i>Sink faucets will be replaced, and/or removed</i>  <i>approximate date: 12/15/2016</i>
<i>A-Wing A3 Conference Room Sink (Filtered)</i>		
<i>Fountain A-Wing Main Lobby #1(left)</i>	<i>Out of Service</i>	
<i>Areas which were not required to be tested</i>		
<i>Science/Art Lab Rooms Sinks Chemical Hygiene Program</i>	<i>Instruction to students</i>	<i>Lab Safety No Eating or Drinking</i>

Water Fountain and sink faucets requiring replacement and/or removal as part of the remediation plan will be retested after installation; all other locations will follow the Department of Health guidelines and are scheduled for retesting in the year 2025.



### 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](http://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.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).

*Rule of Thumb: 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 closet.*

***Science/Art sinks:** Classrooms in these settings prohibit eating and/or drinking. The sinks within these rooms are not used for drinking or cooking. "Handwashing Only, Not for Drinking" signs have been posted in the science labs and art rooms.*