

FAQ – AAPS Testing for Lead in Drinking Water Program 2018

What drinking water sources are being tested in AAPS this fall?

All recommended drinking water sources including drinking fountains, sinks for food prep and classroom sinks are being tested.

What are the requirements for Michigan schools to test for lead in drinking water?

There are no requirements for schools in Michigan to test for lead in water. AAPS voluntarily began testing for lead in 2016 and has continued to expand the testing program annually.

What levels of lead are actionable?

For 2018 testing, AAPS has adopted an Action Level of >5 parts per billion (ppb) - the federal limit for lead content in bottled drinking water. The Environmental Protection Agency action level for municipal/public water providers is >15ppb.

How do I interpret the test results for my school?

FIRST DRAW RESULTS CHART



Ann Arbor Public Schools
Lead Drinking Water Analysis
Project Number: AE180861

Lakewood Elementary School							
Date of Sampling: 10/27/18							
Sampler: Amanda Peterson							
Sample #	Location	Type ¹	Time Collected	Internal Action Level (ug/L)	Lead Results (ug/L)	Aerator Present Y/N	Notes
Lakewood-36	Room D-4, Bubblers	C	4:23 PM	5	ND	N	First Draw. Discoloration Noted Around Bubblers.
Lakewood-37	Room D-4, Faucet	C	4:22 PM	5	2	Y	First Draw
Lakewood-38	Room D-5, Bubblers	C	4:21 PM	5	1	N	First Draw
Lakewood-39	Room D-5, Faucet	C	4:20 PM	5	ND	Y	First Draw
Lakewood-40	Room D-6, Bubblers	C	4:18 PM	5	ND	N	First Draw. Low Flow.
Lakewood-41	Room D-6, Faucet	C	4:19 PM	5	7	Y	First Draw
Lakewood-42	Room D-1, Bubblers	C	4:25 PM	5	ND	N	First Draw
Lakewood-43	Room D-1, Faucet	C	4:24 PM	5	ND	Y	First Draw
Lakewood-44	Room D-2, Bubblers	C	4:25 PM	5	ND	N	First Draw. Low Flow.
Lakewood-45	Room D-2, Faucet	C	4:26 PM	5	2	Y	First Draw
Lakewood-46	Room D-3, Bubblers	C	4:28 PM	5	ND	N	First Draw
Lakewood-47	Room D-3, Faucet	C	4:29 PM	5	ND	Y	First Draw
Lakewood-48	Outside Room D-1, Faucet	F	4:30 PM	5	1	Y	First Draw

¹ Type: B = Bubblers, BT = Bottle Filling/Drinks, WC = Water Cooler, C = Combination Sink, F = Faucet, WF = Washbasin, F = Ice Machine,
 W = Washbasin, WC = Washbasin
² ND = Not Detected at Reported Detection Limit of 1 ug/L
³ ND = Not Detected

Action Level >5ppb

This chart includes date, time, and location of each test completed as well as the results of each First Draw sample. It also indicates by shading any samples that were above the Action Level of >5ppb. In this case, one sample was above the AAPS action level at 7ppb which falls below the Environmental Protection Agency threshold of >15ppb.

What happens after the drinking water sources are tested?

The sources that remain below the AAPS action threshold of >5ppb are left in service for drinking consumption. Sources that test >5ppb are taken out of service. Appropriate remediation/mitigation/replacement activities are then completed. Further testing is done to ensure the new fixture tests below the threshold of >5ppb and then it is returned to service. If the sample remains >5ppb additional piping is replaced until the source tests below the AAPS threshold.

How is the testing conducted?

The AAPS lead in drinking water testing protocol is consistent with recommendations from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and the Environmental Protection Agency. A first draw sample of 250ml of water is taken from the fixture for testing after no less than 8 hours and no more than 24 hours of stagnation.

Who conducts the testing for AAPS?

Arch Environmental Group conducts the testing for AAPS. Arch provides similar services to over 45 school districts in Michigan and they are a Michigan Department of Environmental Quality D5 Waterworks systems Certified Operators. Lab tests are completed at certified testing laboratories.

When will the AAPS Lead in Drinking Water Program results for additional schools be published?

Testing is currently underway at additional elementary and K-8 schools and those results are expected to be complete in December. Results for middle school and high school buildings are anticipated in January.

What other agencies has AAPS worked with on our Testing for lead in drinking water?

Ann Arbor Public Schools has coordinated our efforts with the City of Ann Arbor Water Treatment Department, and the Washtenaw County Health Department's Nursing Division and Environmental Health Division. "Washtenaw County Health Department appreciates Ann Arbor Public School's voluntary lead testing and information sharing," said Kristen Schweighoefer, MPH, RS, Environmental Health Director with Washtenaw County Health Department. "We are supportive of their plans for complete follow up, which include testing all drinking water fixtures and using the >5 parts per billion threshold for action. They are following appropriate guidelines from the Environmental Protection Agency and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, and these are the most conservative guidelines I have seen."

What else is planned for the 2018 AAPS Testing for Lead in Drinking Water Program?

- 1) **Install filtered water bottle filling stations** in all our AAPS schools, a project which can be accomplished fairly quickly, and encourage students and staff to use these locations to obtain water for consumption.
- 2) **Continue the flushing of all water systems following school breaks**, such as summer, Thanksgiving, winter break, and spring break.

3) **Inventory** all water sources in the district. This is currently in process and is expected to be complete by January.

4) **Install signage in low priority locations**, such as custodial closets, etc. to remind everyone that water in these locations is not for consumption.

5) Add **Testing for Lead In Drinking Water Program Information** as an **Annual Report to the Board of Education** (as was done in 2016), to ensure the Board and community receive this information updated directly each year.

What other information is important for families to know?

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) has done extensive work on preventing Lead Poisoning in children. By far the most common exposure risk is in older homes with lead paint. The ingestion of paint chips and dust from renovation activities are the most common sources.

From the CDC:

Common Ways Children Can Come in Contact with Lead

Young children often put toys, fingers, and other objects in their mouth as part of their normal development. This may put them in contact with lead paint or dust.

One common way children can be exposed to lead are chips and particles of old lead paint. Children can be directly exposed to lead from paint if they swallow paint chips.

But exposure is more common from swallowing house dust or soil contaminated by leaded paint. This

happens when lead paint chips get ground into tiny bits that become part of the dust and soil in and around homes; for example, when leaded paint is old or worn or is subject to constant rubbing (as on doors and windowsills and wells). In addition, lead can be scattered when paint is disturbed during destruction, remodeling, paint removal, or preparation of painted surfaces for repainting.

Lead paint or dust are not the only ways children can come in contact with lead. Thirty percent of lead-poisoned children in certain areas across the United States may have been poisoned by other sources. These sources include:

- *traditional home health remedies such as azarcon and greta, which are used for upset stomach or indigestion in the Hispanic community;*



- *imported candies;*
- *imported toys and toy jewelry;*
- *imported cosmetics;*
- *pottery and ceramics;*
- *drinking water contaminated by lead leaching from lead pipes, solder, brass fixtures, or valves; and*
- *consumer products, including tea kettles and vinyl miniblinds.*

A variety of work and hobby activities expose adults to lead, including using an indoor firing range, making home repairs, remodeling a home, and making pottery. When adults whose jobs expose them to lead wear their work clothes home or wash them with the family laundry, their families can be exposed to lead. Families can also be exposed when adults bring scrap or waste material home from work