

# Montgomery County Public Schools Lead in Drinking Water Testing Report

Lathrop E. Smith Center  
5110 Meadowside Lane  
Rockville, MD 20855

Report Date: April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022

## LEAD IN DRINKING WATER SAMPLE RESULTS SUMMARY

All Maryland public and nonpublic schools are required to sample all drinking water outlets for the presence of lead pursuant to the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR). Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) is required to remediate outlets where lead in drinking water concentrations exceed the Montgomery County Action Level (AL) of 5 parts per billion (ppb). A summary of the lead in water initial samples collected by SaLUT are presented in the table below.

Sampling Date	10/29/2021
# of Outlets Tested	19
# of Outlets $\geq$ 5 ppb	2

## NEXT STEPS

If an initial sample exceeds the AL (5 ppb), the outlet will be immediately shut-down, a follow-up sample collected, and a remedial plan of action developed for this outlet. No additional sampling or remedial actions are required for schools where all initial samples are below the AL.

## HEALTH EFFECTS OF LEAD

Lead can cause serious health problems if too much enters your body from drinking water or other sources. It can cause damage to the brain and kidneys, and can interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to all parts of your body. The greatest risk of lead exposure is to infants, young children, and pregnant women. Lead is stored in the bones and it can be released later in life. During pregnancy, the fetus receives lead from the mother's bones, which may affect brain development. Scientists have linked the effects of lead on the brain with lowered IQ in children. Adults with kidney problems and high blood pressure can be affected by low levels of lead more than healthy adults.

## **SOURCES OF HUMAN EXPOSURE TO LEAD**

There are many different sources of human exposure to lead. These include: lead-based paint, lead-contaminated dust or soil, some plumbing materials, certain types of pottery, pewter, brass fixtures, food, cosmetics, exposure in the work place and from certain hobbies. According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), 10 to 20 percent of a person's potential exposure to lead may come from drinking water, while for an infant consuming formula mixed with lead-containing water this may increase to 40 to 60 percent.

## **TO REDUCE EXPOSURE TO LEAD IN DRINKING WATER:**

1. Run your water to flush out lead: If water hasn't been used for several hours, run water for 15 to 30 seconds or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking.
2. Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula: Lead from the plumbing dissolves more easily into hot water.

*\*Please note that boiling the water will not reduce lead levels.*

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

1. For additional information, please contact Brian Mullikin, Environmental Team Leader, at 240.740.2324 or [brian\\_a\\_mullikin@mcpsmd.org](mailto:brian_a_mullikin@mcpsmd.org).
2. For additional information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's website at [www.epa.gov/lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead).
3. If you are concerned about exposure; contact your local health department or healthcare provider to find out how you can get your child tested for lead.

*Please refer to the attachment(s) for additional water sampling information.*

**Attachment(s)** A – Lead in Water Sample Results Table

**ATTACHMENT A**

**Lead in Water Sample Results Table**

## Sampling Results for Lathrop E. Smith Center

Fixture Barcode	Fixture Location	Fixture Type	Initial Results (ppb)	Pass/Fail	Follow up Results (ppb)	Status
LW03770	In corridor inside of White Oak	Drinking Fountain	<1	Pass	N/A	Testing Complete
LW03771	In corridor inside of White Oak	Drinking Fountain	<1	Pass	N/A	Testing Complete
LW07708	In hallway inside of Baltimore Checkerspot	Abandoned/Removed	145	Fail	Device Removed	Testing Complete
LW07707	In hallway inside of Baltimore Oriole	Drinking Fountain	5.6	Fail	Device Removed	Testing Complete
LW07698	In health room inside of White Oak hall	Nurses Office Sink	1.1	Pass	N/A	Testing Complete
M16355	In kitchen by kitchen ie. inside of White Oak hall	Ice Machine	<1	Pass	N/A	Testing Complete
LW07704	In kitchen inside of White Oak hall	Kitchen Sink	1.5	Pass	N/A	Testing Complete
LW07700	In kitchen inside of White Oak hall	Kitchen Sink	<1	Pass	N/A	Testing Complete
LW07701	In kitchen inside of White Oak hall	Kitchen Sink	1.6	Pass	N/A	Testing Complete
LW07702	In kitchen inside of White Oak hall	Kitchen Sink	1.5	Pass	N/A	Testing Complete
LW07703	In kitchen inside of White Oak hall	Kitchen Sink	3.5	Pass	N/A	Testing Complete
LW07699	In office inside of White Oak hall	Teachers Lounge Sink	<1	Pass	N/A	Testing Complete
M27233	In office inside of White Oak hall	Drinking Fountain	<1	Pass	N/A	Testing Complete
LW04114	Inside black-eyed susan	Drinking Fountain	<1	Pass	N/A	Testing Complete
LW11035	Inside black-eyed susan	Bottle Filler	<1	Pass	N/A	Testing Complete
LW11036	Inside Striped Bass	Bottle Filler	<1	Pass	N/A	Testing Complete
LW04113	Inside Striped Bass	Drinking Fountain	<1	Pass	N/A	Testing Complete
LW03866	White Oak Hall, in hallway of main office	Bottle Filler	<1	Pass	N/A	Testing Complete
LW11034	White Oak Hall, in hallway outside cafeteria	Bottle Filler	<1	Pass	N/A	Testing Complete



**MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
LEAD IN DRINKING WATER POST-REMEDATION FOLLOW-UP TESTING 2019**

November 13, 2019

**Executive Summary:**  
**Lathrop E. Smith Environmental Education Center**  
5110 Meadowside Lane,  
Rockville, MD 20855

<b>Round of Testing:</b>	<b>Post-Remediation Follow-up</b>
Sample Date	01/30/2019
# of Outlets Tested:	2
# of Outlets $\geq$ 5 ppb:	2
Low Value (ppb):	13.0
High Value (ppb):	26.6

**Project Status**

**Testing Complete:** Post-remediation follow-up testing completed for the following rooms:

Retriever Room Inside of White Oak Hall – Outlet (M27231) will have signage affixed.  
Retriever Room Inside of White Oak Hall – Outlet (M27232) will be removed from service.



November 13, 2019

Mr. Brian Mullikin  
Environmental Team Leader  
Montgomery County Public Schools  
8301 Turkey Thicket Drive  
Building A, First Floor  
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20879

Re: Lead in Water Post-Remediation Follow-up Testing Service

Location: Lathrop E. Smith Environmental Education Center  
5110 Meadowside Lane,  
Rockville, MD 20855

Dear Mr. Mullikin:

Intertek-PSI, Inc. is pleased to submit the following report to the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) for completion of post-remediation lead in water testing at Lathrop E. Smith Environmental Education Center, located at 5110 Meadowside Lane, Rockville, MD 20855.

**Scope of Services:**

Two (2) drinking water outlets were remediated at Lathrop E. Smith Environmental Education Center due to initial levels that exceeded the lead action level of 5 parts per billion (ppb). Intertek-PSI conducted lead in water post-remediation follow-up testing in accordance with the Maryland Code of Regulations (COMAR) 26.16.07- Lead in Drinking Water – Public and Nonpublic Schools.

Intertek-PSI visited the site on 01/30/2019 to collect post-remediation follow-up samples from 2 of the outlets that have been replaced. Samples were submitted to a laboratory for lead in water analysis using current US EPA methodology. The laboratory has been certified by the Maryland Department of the Environment to analyze drinking water for lead.

**Results:**

The initial, flush, and post-remediation follow-up results are highlighted in the summary table below:



Barcode ID	Room Number	Location	Notes	Equipment Type	Initial (ppb)	Flush (ppb)	Post-Remediation Follow-up (ppb)	Post-Remediation Follow-up Pass/Fail	Status
M27231		Retriever Room Inside of White Oak Hall		Faucet	79.8	6.1	13.0	Fail	Post-remediation follow-up testing complete. Outlet will have signage affixed
M27232		Retriever Room Inside of White Oak Hall		Faucet	148.0	5.3	26.6	Fail	Post-remediation follow-up testing complete. Outlet will be removed from service

\*ppb = parts per billion

**Discussion:**

Lead is a naturally occurring element that can be harmful to humans when ingested or inhaled, particularly to children under the age of six. Lead can adversely affect the development of children’s brain potentially leading to detrimental alterations in intelligence and behavior. Lead has been historically used in plumbing, paint and other building materials. Lead is released into the environment from industrial sources and fuel combustion. Lead may also be found in consumer products (imported candy, medicines, toys, dishes, etc.).

Most lead leaches into drinking water from contact with plumbing components such as faucets and valves made of brass or lead-containing solder. The physical and chemical interaction that occurs between the plumbing and water directly contributes to the amount of lead that is released into the water. Although plumbing components installed prior to the 1990’s could contain more lead than newer materials, the amount of lead in the drinking water cannot be predicted by the age of building. The purpose of this regulation is to establish a program to minimize the risk of exposure to lead in drinking water outlets at schools.

Simple steps like keeping your home clean and well-maintained will go a long way in preventing lead exposure. These steps include inspecting and maintaining all painted surfaces to prevent paint deterioration, using only cold water to prepare food and drinks, flushing water outlets used for drinking or food preparation, and cleaning around painted areas where friction can generate dust, such as doors, windows, and drawers. Wipe these areas with a wet sponge or rag to remove paint chips or dust, and wash children's hands, bottles, pacifiers and toys often.

Respectfully Submitted,

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE INDUSTRIES, INC.**

Nan Lin  
 Department Manager, Environmental Services  
[Nan.Lin@intertek.com](mailto:Nan.Lin@intertek.com)



## MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS DRINKING WATER TESTING 2018

July 24, 2018

**Executive Summary:**  
**Lathrop E. Smith Environmental Education Center**  
5110 Meadowside Lane,  
Rockville, MD 20855

Round of Testing:	Initial
# of Outlets Tested:	22
# of Outlets $\geq$ 20 ppb:	2
Low Value (ppb):	< 1.0
High Value (ppb):	148.0
Follow-Up Testing Required (Samples $\geq$ 20 ppb):	Retriever Rm. (79.8 ppb) Retriever Rm. (148.0 ppb)

Round of Testing:	Follow-Up – 30 sec draw
# of Outlets Tested:	2

### **Project Status** **Testing Complete: Remediation Plan**

Retriever Room – Replace fixture (M27231), in addition to supply line and valve located under sink  
Retriever Room – Replace fixture (M27232), in addition to supply line and valve located under sink