

Dear WDS Community,

On September 24, 2016, water samples were collected from our campus as part of our routine lead and copper testing that is completed quarterly on campus. Any water outlet that is currently or may be used for potentially cooking or drinking is to be tested for the presence of lead and copper.

In compliance with these regulations, Woodstock Day School sampled 10 water outlets in our school on September 24th. Of the 10 samples taken, two exceeded the .015 mg/L for lead, as follows:

4th Grade Building – Bathroom sink (results .021 mg/L)
Bridge Building – 1 Bathroom sink upstairs (results .016 mg/L);

One sample exceeded the 1.3 mg/L for copper, as follows:
Science Building – 1 sink (results 2.3 mg/L)

Please note that every classroom and building on campus is always supplied with unlimited bottled water from Leighton's Hudson Valley Spring Water.

Upon notification from the Health Department, we immediately posted signs in each of these locations stating that sinks can only be used for hand washing and a warning not to drink the water from these faucets. We have engaged the engineering firm of Praetorius and Conrad, PC to evaluate the faucets, fixtures, and plumbing of water outlets identified as exceeding Department of Health standards. Within the next thirty days, all appropriate replacements will be completed and the water will be re-tested for acceptable levels following the remediation.

The United States EPA requires the following mandatory language be provided to you regarding information on lead and copper exposure.

“Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Please read this information closely to see what you can do to reduce lead in your drinking water.

“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. 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. Lead is stored in the bones and it can be released later in life. During pregnancy, the child receives lead from the mother's bones, which may affect brain development.

“Lead is a common metal found in the environment. The main sources of lead exposure are lead-based paint and lead-contaminated dust or soil. Drinking water is also a possible source of lead exposure. Most sources of drinking water have no lead or very low levels of lead. Most lead gets into drinking water after the water leaves the local well or treatment plant and comes into contact with plumbing materials containing lead. These include lead pipes, lead solder (commonly used until 1986), as well as faucets, valves, and other components made of brass.”

To read the full report on the Woodstock Day School lead and copper testing, please click [here](#).

Please be assured that the Admin team and the Board of Trustees take seriously our responsibilities for the health, safety, and well-being of the children, staff members, and community members who utilize our facilities. Nancy Finelli is overseeing this work, and welcomes you to contact her if you have any questions: nfinelli@woodstockdayschool.org.

Sincerely,



Kara Stern
Head of School