

Wright State University Consumer Notice of Tap Water Result

Wright State University is a public water system (PWS) responsible for providing drinking water that meets state and federal standards.

Wright State's University water system has found levels of lead in drinking water above the federal action level of 15 parts per billion (ppb) in 4 tap locations in 3 buildings. The level of lead reported at these locations was 20.3 to 140 parts per billion. 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.

The following table lists the lead content results for the thirty (30) tap water samples collected on September 26-28, 2020.

Table 1. Lead and Copper (LC) Sample Monitoring Plan (SMP) Results

#	SMP ID*	Tap Location*	Date	Cu, µg/L	Pb, µg/L	Was tap water lead content less than 15 ppb or µg/L?
1	LC268	CDC Lobby RR - Mens	9/26/20	<5	<0.50	Yes
2	LC213	Health Sci 120 RR	9/28/20	<5	<0.50	Yes
3	LC270	Health Sci 120 RR Womens	9/28/20	<5	<0.50	Yes
4	LC272	Health Sci 2nd Floor RR Right	9/28/20	<5	<0.50	Yes
5	LC271	Health Sci SOPP Dean's Office RR	9/28/20	<5	<0.50	Yes
6	LC260	CDC Sink 5 - East Rainbow Room	9/26/20	93.3	1.1	Yes
7	LC228	CD (Child Dev. Center) K sink	9/26/20	ND	1.2	Yes
8	LC266	CDC RR - Mens	9/26/20	59.4	1.2	Yes
9	LC259	CDC Sink 4 - East Purple Room	9/26/20	81.9	1.2	Yes
10	LC257	CDC Sink 2 - East Blue Room	9/26/20	97.5	1.4	Yes
11	LC258	CDC Sink 3 - East Red Room	9/26/20	76	1.4	Yes
12	LC274	Health Sci 2nd Floor DF	9/28/20	517	1.4	Yes
13	LC267	CDC RR - Womens	9/26/20	58.8	1.5	Yes
14	LC279	MM 2nd Floor RR	9/26/20	178	1.6	Yes
15	LC282	LX Basement Near 005 Mens RR	9/28/20	78.6	1.7	Yes
16	LC262	CDC DF 2 - East Blue Room	9/26/20	53.3	2.5	Yes
17	LC264	CDC DF 4 - East Purple Room	9/26/20	59.9	2.6	Yes
18	LC256	CDC Sink 1 - East Pink Room	9/26/20	85.2	2.9	Yes
19	LC263	CDC DF 3 - East Red Room	9/26/20	65.4	3.3	Yes
20	LC265	CDC DF 5 - East Rainbow Room	9/26/20	75.8	4.0	Yes
21	LC261	CDC DF 1 - East Pink Room	9/26/20	71	5.2	Yes
22	LC242	MM first floor restroom	9/26/20	223	5.4	Yes
23	LC248	Library Annex Basement RR	9/28/20	115	5.6	Yes
24	LC285	LX Basement Near FH DF	9/28/20	176	5.8	Yes
25	LC284	LX Basement Near FH Womens RR	9/28/20	103	6.4	Yes
26	LC273	Health Sci 2nd Floor RR Left	9/28/20	139	11.3	Yes
27	LC283	LX Basement Near 005 DF	9/28/20	199	20.3*	No
28	LC281	LX Basement Near 005 Womens RR	9/28/20	203	24.7*	No
29	LC275	Health Sci 1st Floor DF	9/28/20	487	79.3*	No
30	LC280	MM Near 230 DF	9/26/20	984	140*	No

Notes: * indicates the lead content for the individual sample was greater than the 15 µg/L threshold action level; "<" means less than; µg/L means micrograms per Liter; CDC means Child Development Center; MM means Math & Micro; LX means Library Annex; FH means Fawcett Hall; RR means rest room; DF means drinking fountain.

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What Does This Mean?

Under the authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established the action level for lead in drinking water at 15 µg/L. This means PWSs must ensure that water from taps used for human consumption do not exceed this level in at least 90 percent of the sites sampled (90th percentile value). The action level is the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a PWS must follow. In 2018, Ohio EPA established the threshold level for lead in drinking water at 15 µg/L. The lead threshold level is the concentration of lead in an individual tap water sample which, if exceeded, triggers additional notification requirements for those served by the tap sampled. Because lead may pose serious health risks, the EPA established a Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) of zero for lead. The MCLG is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

What are the 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. 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.

Where Can I Get Health Screenings and Testing of Blood Lead Levels?

Health Screenings and testing of blood lead levels are available through your personal health care provider. The Physician can determine if an exposure warrants testing and can be available to interpreting the results.

Assistance is available at:

Student Health Services
Wright State Physicians Health Center
725 University Boulevard
Fairborn, OH 45324
937-775-7200

Greene County Public Health, the Ohio Department of Health (<https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/know-our-programs/Childhood-Lead-Poisoning/about-lead/>) and the Ohio EPA (<https://www.epa.ohio.gov/pic/lead>) provide additional information about lead levels.

What Can I Do to Reduce Exposure to Lead if Found in My Drinking Water

- **Run your water to flush out lead.** If water has not been used for several hours, run water for thirty seconds to two minutes before using it for drinking or cooking. This helps flush any lead in the water that may have been leached from the plumbing.
- **Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula.** Do not cook with, drink water, or make baby formula from the hot water tap. Lead dissolves more easily in hot water.
- **Do not boil water to remove lead.** Boiling water will not reduce lead.
- **You may wish to test your water for lead at additional locations in your home.**
- **Identify if your plumbing fixtures contain lead and consider replacing them when appropriate.**

What are the Sources of Lead?

Lead is a common, natural, toxic, and often useful metal that was used for years in products found around the home. It can be found throughout the environment in lead-based paint, air, soil, household dust, and certain types of pottery, porcelain, and pewter. Although most lead exposure, especially in children, occurs when paint chips are ingested, dust inhaled, or absorbed from contaminated soil, the U.S. EPA estimates that 10 to 20 percent of human exposure of lead may come from lead in drinking water.

Lead is unusual among drinking water contaminants in that it seldom occurs naturally in water supplies like rivers and lakes. Lead enters drinking water primarily as a result of corrosion, or wearing away, of materials containing lead in the plumbing. Buildings built prior to 1986 are more likely to have lead pipes, fixtures, and solder. New buildings can also be at risk, since even legally 'lead-free' plumbing may contain up to 8 percent lead. The most common problem is with brass or chrome-plated brass fixtures which can leach significant amounts of lead into water, especially hot water.

For More Information

- Contact Marjorie Markopoulos, PhD, Director of Environmental Health and Safety at 927-775-2797 or ehs@wright.edu;
- Visit US EPA's Web site at www.epa.gov/lead;
- Call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD; or Contact your health care provider.