



Our school system is committed to protecting student, teacher, and staff health. To protect our community and be in compliance with the Department of Education regulations, Washington Township tested our schools’ drinking water for lead.

In accordance with the Department of Education regulations, Washington Township will implement immediate remedial measures for any drinking water outlet with a result greater than the action level of 15 µg/l (parts per billion [ppb]). This includes turning off the outlet unless it is determined the location must remain on for non-drinking purposes. In these cases, a “DO NOT DRINK – SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY” sign will be posted.

Testing Results

Following instructions given in technical guidance developed by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, we completed a plumbing profile for each of the buildings within Washington Township. Through this effort, we identified and tested all drinking water and food preparation outlets. Of the 617 samples taken, all but 35 tested below the lead action level established by the US Environmental Protection Agency for lead in drinking water (15 µg/l [ppb]). Upon re-sampling only 17 locations remain in need of remediation of which only 5 locations are used for drinking water. Please note no drinking fountains were open for consumption over the last two years due to pandemic regulations. All will be remediated prior to being turned back on.

The table below identifies the drinking water outlets that tested above the 15 µg/l for lead, the actual lead level, and what temporary remedial action Washington Township has taken to reduce the levels of lead at these locations.

Sample Location	First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb)	Remedial Action
Birches Elementary		
– Room 9 Sink	21.8	Point resampled 4/21/22. Re-sample reported below standard.
– Room 11 Sink	19.9	
– Corridor Fountain 4	248	
– Corridor Fountain 5	98.4	
– Room 46 Sink	39.7	
– Room 54 Sink	25.6	Point resampled 4/21/22. Sample remains above standard. Point taken out of service and will be addressed at a future time.

Sample Location	First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb)	Remedial Action
- Corridor Fountain 1	22.1	Point resampled 4/21/22. Re-sample reported below standard.
- Corridor Fountain 2	16.7	
Wedgewood		
- Nurse's Office	34.3	Point resampled 4/21/22. Re-sample reported below standard.
Orchard Valley		
- Kitchen Sink 3	18.1	Point resampled 4/21/22. Re-sample reported below standard.
- Kitchen Sink 5	211	
- Kitchen Steamer 1	96.6	Point resampled 4/21/22. Sample remains above standard. Point taken out of service and will be addressed at a future time.
- Kitchen Steamer 2	526	
- Corridor Fountain 22	639	
- Corridor Fountain 24	219	
- Room 210/211 Prep Sink	15.8	Point resampled 4/21/22. Re-sample reported below standard.
- Room 217/218 Prep Sink	108	
O'Brian Hall		
- Boys Center Locker Room Fountain 2	25.9	Point resampled 4/21/22. Re-sample reported below standard.
Thomas Jefferson		
- Kitchen Sink 6	29.2	Point resampled 4/21/22. Sample remains above standard. Point taken out of service and will be addressed at a future time.
Bunker Hill		
- Girls Locker Room Fountain 2	835	Point resampled 4/21/22. Sample remains above standard. Point taken out of service and will be addressed at a future time.
- Boys Locker Room Fountain 4	124	
- Room B-3 Sink	27.6	Point resampled 4/21/22. Sample remains above standard. Point taken out of service and will be addressed at a future time.
- Room C3/C5 Prep Sink	101	Point resampled 4/21/22. Re-sample reported below standard.
- Room C17.C19 Prep Sink	80.2	
Chestnut Ridge		
- Kitchen Sink 7	38.3	Point resampled 4/21/22. Re-sample reported below standard.
- Kitchen Steamer 1	500D	Point resampled 4/21/22. Sample remains above standard. Point taken out of service and will be addressed at a future time.
- Kitchen Steamer 2	96.9	
- Corridor Fountain 12	20.0	Point resampled 4/21/22. Re-sample reported below standard.
- Room 210/211 Prep Sink 14	18.5	
- Room 210/211 Prep Sink 15	48.4	
- Corridor Fountain 34	53.0	
- Room 217/218 Prep Sink 17	30.3	
Washington Township High School – Left Wing		

Sample Location	First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb)	Remedial Action
- Boiler Room POE	27.5	Point resampled 5/27/22. Sample remains above standard. Point taken out of service and will be addressed at a future time.
- Room A3 Fountain 28	106	Point resampled 5/27/22. Re-sample reported below standard.
- Corridor Near C1 Fountain 28	48.4	
- Girls Locker Room Fountain 10	572	Point resampled 5/27/22. Sample remains above standard. Point taken out of service and will be addressed at a future time.
- Weight Room Fountain 8	18.9	Point resampled 5/27/22. Re-sample reported below standard.
- Band Room Sink	59.1	
- Child Care Room Sink w/Bubbler	270	
- Hallway near E4, Fountain	38.4	
- Hallway near F4, Fountain	21.4	Point resampled 5/27/22. Sample remains above standard. Point taken out of service and will be addressed at a future time.
- CPR A25	249	
Washington Township High School – Center Wing		
- C26 Sprinkler	58.7	Point resampled 5/27/22. Sample remains above standard. Point taken out of service and will be addressed at a future time.
- Hall near G106 Fountain 6A	93.2	Point resampled 5/27/22. Re-sample reported below standard.
- Hall near G106 Fountain 6B	106	
- G111 Fountain 5A	728	
- G111 Fountain 5B	537	
- Hall outside G121 Fountain 4A	20.4	
Washington Township High School – Right Wing		
- Machine Room Point of Entry	47.4	Point resampled 5/27/22. Sample remains above standard. Point taken out of service and will be addressed at a future time.

### Health Effects of Lead

High levels of lead in drinking water can cause health problems. Lead is most dangerous for pregnant women, infants, and children under 6 years of age. 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. Exposure to high levels of lead during pregnancy contributes to low birth weight and developmental delays in infants. In young children, lead exposure can lower IQ levels, affect hearing, reduce attention span, and hurt school performance. At *very* high levels, lead can even cause brain damage. Adults with kidney problems and high blood pressure can be affected by low levels of lead more than healthy adults.

### How Lead Enters our Water

Lead is unusual among drinking water contaminants in that it seldom occurs naturally in water supplies like groundwater, rivers and lakes. Lead enters drinking water primarily as a result of the corrosion, or wearing away, of materials containing lead in the water distribution system and in building plumbing.

These materials include lead-based solder used to join copper pipe, brass, and chrome-plated brass faucets. In 1986, Congress banned the use of lead solder containing greater than 0.2% lead, and restricted the lead content of faucets, pipes and other plumbing materials. However, even the lead in plumbing materials meeting these new requirements is subject to corrosion. When water stands in lead pipes or plumbing systems containing lead for several hours or more, the lead may dissolve into the drinking water. This means the first water drawn from the tap in the morning *may* contain fairly high levels of lead.

#### Lead in Drinking Water

Lead in drinking water, although rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning can significantly increase a person's total lead exposure, particularly the exposure of children under the age of 6. EPA estimates that drinking water can make up 20% or more of a person's total exposure to lead.

#### For More Information

A copy of the test results is available in our central office for inspection by the public, including students, teachers, other school personnel, and parents, and can be viewed between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. and are also available on our [website](#). For more information about water quality in our schools, contact Robert Schoenfeldt at the Operations Building, (856) 589-9120.

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's Web site at [www.epa.gov/lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead), call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider.

If you are concerned about lead exposure at this facility or in your home, you may want to ask your health care providers about testing children to determine levels of lead in their blood.