

Annual Letter of Notification of Environmental Safety for PTSC Buildings

Porter Township School Corporation has had asbestos management plans prepared for all school buildings in the PTSC. These plans are available for your inspection Monday through Friday during regular school days and normal school hours at the School Corporation Office and with five days notice Monday through Friday at each school office. Quite often the local school office copy will be made available upon your request.

In April 2024, a periodic surveillance was conducted in each school building to inspect the condition of asbestos and note any changes in condition that require attention. A required third-year re-inspection of facilities was completed by Mr. Bill Ogle of Alliance Indiana, Inc. in July of 2023, and no problems were noted. Questions regarding the asbestos program can be directed to Mr. Bryan Busse at (219)477-5485.

SAFE DRINKING WATER

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Indiana Department of Environment Management (IDEM), and Porter Township Schools are concerned about the safety of your drinking water. The above listed regulatory agencies require periodic sampling of drinking water provided by well systems for a variety of contaminants. Porter Township School Corporation is committed in ensuring a safe water supply at all facilities. If you have any questions regarding the water sampling program, please contact Mr. Bryan Busse, Director of Facilities, at (219) 477-5485.

PEST CONTROL POLICY

Recognizing the potential harm that may occur from exposure to airborne pesticides and residue, Porter Township Schools has adopted a Pest Control Policy. This policy addresses the requirement to notify in advance those parents and staff members requesting information regarding impending pesticide use. Porter Township School Corporation has limited the use of spray applications and will continue to utilize paste or gel bait insecticides to reduce exposure to aerosols and residues. If you have any questions regarding this policy, please contact Mr. Bryan Busse, Director of Facilities at (219)477-5485.

PUBLIC EDUCATION FOR LEAD AT BOONE GROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), and Boone Grove High School are concerned about lead in your drinking water. Although most samples taken from this facility have very low levels of lead, Under federal and state law we are required to have a program in place to minimize lead in your drinking water. This program includes collecting water quality parameter samples, corrosion control treatment, source water treatment, and public education. All samples are below the action level(AL) of 15 ppb which is the threshold that triggers the additional requirements. Results are listed in the chart below. The maximum contaminant level goal (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. The MCLG for lead is 0. We will continue to monitor and test the water supply as required and work toward improvements toward the MCLG of 0.

Consumer Notice of Lead Result in Drinking Water

Water Supply Name: **Boone Grove Middle School** County: **Porter** Public Water Supply ID: **IN2640910** Sample Location: **Multiple**
Date Sampled: **August 8, 2024**

MS Kitchen sink	AL	MCLG	Your Result
Lead (ppb)	15	0	<1
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	<.0020
MS Office Bathroom	AL	MCLG	Your Result
Lead (ppb)	15	0	<1
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	<.0020
MS Library	AL	MCLG	Your Result
Lead (ppb)	15	0	<1
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	<.0020
Elementary Nurse Sink	AL	MCLG	Your Result
Lead (ppb)	15	0	<1
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	<.0020
7th Grade Restroom	AL	MCLG	Your Result
Lead (ppb)	15	0	<1
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	<.0020
MS Teachers Lounge	AL	MCLG	Your Result
Lead (ppb)	15	0	<1
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	<.0020
Elementary Room 7	AL	MCLG	Your Result
Lead (ppb)	15	0	<1
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	<.0020
Elementary Room 13	AL	MCLG	Your Result
Lead (ppb)	15	0	<1
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	<.0020
Elementary Teachers Lounge	AL	MCLG	Your Result
Lead (ppb)	15	0	<1
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	<.0020
Well Tap	AL	MCLG	Your Result
Lead (ppb)	15	0	<1
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	.0338

Key to Table

AL = Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow

MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.

ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter

ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter

This information is being provided to you as prescribed by law.

Health Effects of Lead

Lead is a common metal found throughout the environment in lead-based paint, air, soil, household dust, food, certain types of pottery, porcelain and pewter, and water. Lead can pose a significant risk to your health if too much of it enters your body. Lead builds up in the body over many years and can cause damage to the brain, red blood cells and kidneys. The greatest risk is to young children and pregnant women. Amounts of lead that won't hurt adults can slow down normal mental and physical development in growing bodies. In addition, a child at play often comes in contact with sources of lead contamination like dirt and dust that rarely affect an adult. It is important to wash children's hands and toys often, and try to make sure they only put food in their mouths.

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 infants who drink baby formulas and concentrated juices that are mixed with water. The EPA estimates that drinking water can make up 20 percent or more of a person's total exposure to lead. 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 that containing lead in the water distribution system and household plumbing. These materials include lead-based solder used to join copper pipe, brass and chrome plated brass faucets, and in some cases, pipe made of lead that connect houses and buildings to water mains (service lines). In 1986 Congress banned the use of lead solder containing greater than 0.2 percent lead, and restricted the lead content of faucets, pipes, and other plumbing material to 8.0 percent. When water stands in lead pipes or plumbing systems containing lead for several hours or more, the lead may dissolve into your drinking water. This means the first water drawn from the tap in the morning, or later in the afternoon if the water has not been used all day, can contain fairly high levels of lead.

Steps You Can Take in the Home (or anywhere else) to Reduce Exposure to Lead in Drinking Water

Let the water run from the tap before using it for drinking or cooking any time the water in a faucet has gone unused for more than six hours. The longer the water resides in the plumbing system the more lead it may contain. Flushing the tap means running cold water faucet until the water gets noticeably colder, usually 15-30 seconds. Although toilet flushing or showering flushes water through a portion of your home's plumbing system, you still need to flush the water in each faucet before using it for drinking or cooking. Flushing tap water is a simple and inexpensive measure you can take to protect your health. It usually uses less than one or two gallons of water. To conserve water, fill a couple bottles for drinking water after flushing the tap, and whenever possible, use the first flush water to wash the dishes or water the plants. Try not to cook with or drink water from the hot water tap. Hot water can dissolve more lead more quickly than cold water. If you need hot water, draw it from the cold tap and then heat it.

The steps described above will reduce the lead concentrations in your drinking water. However, if you are still concerned, you may wish to purchase bottled water for drinking and cooking.

You can consult a variety of sources for additional information. Your family doctor or pediatrician can perform a blood test for lead and provide you with information about the health effects of lead. State and local government agencies that can be contacted include:

- Mr. Bryan Busse at (219) 477-5485 can provide you with information about your facility's water supply.
- Indiana State Department of Health at (317) 233-1250 or the Porter County Health Department at (219) 465-3525 can provide you with information about the health effects of lead.
- For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit the U.S. 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.