



July 24, 2017

Annunciation Catholic School
Tony Ertel
3545 Clifton Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45220

Dear Mr. Ertel,

Thank you for taking the responsibility seriously to protect the health of the children by voluntarily testing the water in your school for lead!

Attached please find the results of the lead analyses performed for Annunciation School by Greater Cincinnati Water Works (GCWW). The following comments speak to the process, samples analyzed and additional steps needed to help ensure the safety of all the students within the school.

Sampling Process and Results

The *USEPA 3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools: Revised Technical Guidance Document (3Ts Guidelines)* is the process and guidelines used for assisting schools with testing for lead.

In May, thirty-one (31) samples were collected from drinking fountains, cooking outlets and sinks throughout the school. The results show the following:

- 26 samples (83.87%), below the detection level (<1)
- 2 samples (6.45%), between 1ppb and 5ppb
- 2 samples (6.45%), between 5ppb and 10ppb
- 1 sample (3.23%), between 10ppb and 15ppb
- 0 samples (1.98%) greater than 15ppb.

One hundred percent (100%) of the sample results were below the detection level or below the federal action level.

Fifteen parts per billion (ppb) is the federal Lead and Copper Rule action level; desired results are below 15. The federal action level of 15ppb pertains to water utilities and the Greater Cincinnati Water Works review and comments are based on this action level. However, the USEPA 3Ts Guidelines document outlines practices for schools to put in place if samples are greater than 20 ppb.

While we strive to have results less than 15, we recognize that lead is a pervasive environmental contaminant, and no safe blood lead threshold has been identified in children or adults. Therefore, we provide recommendations to further reduce any lead levels discovered.

Next steps

GCWW has reviewed the results from your samples and provides some next-steps comments.

1. Except for one drinking fountain, all results for the fountains were below the detection level. For the exception, a low lead level was detected. To further reduce this lead level, flush the line (let the water run) before use. No further action is suggested for this location.



2. Four (4) sinks had lead detections. Based on the sample names, these are not drinking water or cooking outlets. Lead is not an issue for body contact such as bathing, showering, and washing hands.

We have known and learned from other schools (that are participating in this program) that cleaning the faucet and aerator may reduce the lead levels. This is due to the cleaning that removes trapped particles on the aerator. Consider cleaning the aerator and flushing after cleaning. Resampling and retesting can occur after cleaning; GCWW can assist with this.

3. Regarding the four sinks, if these sinks are not used on a regular basis, then the infrequent use may be contributing to the lead level. This might be the case for the Art Room. Post a sign above the location limiting the purpose of the sink ('hand washing only', 'work sink only', 'for art class only-not for drinking purposes', etc.). Posting a sign will deter students and staff from potentially using the sinks to fill a water bottle, etc.
4. *You might want to consider this after cleaning aerators and resampling (if the results are not reduced after the cleaning).*

Consider completing a plumbing profile to review the fixtures in the school as some fixtures may be contributing to the lead detections in samples. If the fixtures are the source of the lead, plan to replace them. The USEPA 3Ts Guidelines outlines a great approach to creating and implementing a remediation plan. A copy of the Guidelines can be found on our website <http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/water/assets/File/3T%20Guidance%20Manual%20for%20Schools.pdf>.

State funds are available through the new Lead Plumbing Fixture Replacement Assistance Grant Program established to provide reimbursement to eligible schools for the assessment and replacement of certain plumbing fixtures. The Program was established in House Bill 390 to provide \$12,000,000 in funding to eligible schools to reimburse for the sampling and replacement of drinking fountains, water coolers, plumbing fixtures, and limited connected piping. Schools built before 1990 can apply for reimbursement up to \$15,000 for sampling of eligible fixtures and the material costs to replace those fixtures if they are identified as being over the federal action level for lead. The program is open to traditional public schools, community schools, and chartered non-public schools. Program information can be found on the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) Services and Programs website <http://ofcc.ohio.gov/ServicesPrograms/LeadFixtureReplacementGrants.aspx>.

5. If it hasn't occurred already, a robust communications plan is suggested. Communications plan steps are outlined in the 3Ts Guidelines. This plan will inform the school community of the sampling work the school has done to date and the steps the school will take to correct any issues discovered. GCWW employees can assist with this plan and are available to attend any school meetings to help explain our lead program, the sample results and our partnership with your school. Suggestions for language and a letter template can be provided if needed. Sampling results will be posted on the GCWW lead.mycww.org website with other school sampling results.

Greater Cincinnati Water Works takes the presence of lead service lines and the removal of service lines in our system very seriously. In addition, minimizing the exposure of lead within our preschools, schools, and daycares is one of our highest priorities under our Enhanced Lead Program. We look forward to our continued partnership with your school. Our resources are available to assist in many ways. Please contact Jim Nelson at 591-6869 for further assistance.

Thanks again for your partnership with Greater Cincinnati Water Works and your work to further understand the water quality within your school. Your extra steps and care to keep the children in our community safe are appreciated!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cathy B. Bailey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "C" and a long, sweeping underline.

Cathy B. Bailey
Director/Greater Cincinnati Water Works

Cc: Dr. Marilyn Crumpton, Cincinnati Health Department
Dr. Camille Jones, Cincinnati Health Department
Chuck DeJonckheere, Hamilton County Public Health
Sheila Hill-Christian, City of Cincinnati
Verna Arnette, Greater Cincinnati Water Works
Jeff Swertfeger, Greater Cincinnati Water Works
Jason DeLaet, Greater Cincinnati Water Works

Cincinnati Archdiocese -Annunciation Catholic School - Lead Testing Results

SAMPLE #	SAMPLE DATE	SAMPLE TIME	SAMPLE	PARAMETER, CODE	AMOUNT	GCWW COMMENTS/REVIEW/RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING RESULTS
ACS1	5/23/2017	7:05:00	ACS-FL1-101ARTSTORE-SINK-ACS1	Lead, ppb	13.5	Lead detected; less than 15ppb action level. Review 3Ts Guidelines to understand options to further reduce the risk of lead.
ACS2	5/23/2017	7:06:00	ACS-FL1-BOYSRRNEAR101-LSINK-ACS2	Lead, ppb	<1	Less than detection level
ACS3	5/23/2017	7:07:00	ACS-FL1-BOYSRRNEAR101-RSINK-ACS3	Lead, ppb	<1	Less than detection level
ACS4	5/23/2017	7:08:00	ACS-FL1-GIRLSRRNEAR103-LSINK-ACS4	Lead, ppb	<1	Less than detection level
ACS5	5/23/2017	7:09:00	ACS-FL1-GIRLSRRNEAR103-RSINK-ACS5	Lead, ppb	<1	Less than detection level
ACS6	5/23/2017	7:10:00	ACS-FL1-HALLWAYNEAR105-DF-ACS6	Lead, ppb	<1	Less than detection level
ACS7	5/23/2017	7:12:00	ACS-FL2-HALLWAYNEAR207-DF-ACS7	Lead, ppb	1.21	Lead detected; less than 15ppb action level. Review 3Ts Guidelines to understand options to further reduce the risk of lead.
ACS8	5/23/2017	7:13:00	ACS-FL2-205STAFFWKRMRR-SINK-ACS8	Lead, ppb	<1	Less than detection level
ACS9	5/23/2017	7:14:00	ACS-FL2-204NURSERR-SINK-ACS9	Lead, ppb	<1	Less than detection level
ACS10	5/23/2017	7:15:00	ACS-FL2-HALLWAYNEAR202-DF-ACS10	Lead, ppb	<1	Less than detection level
ACS11	5/23/2017	7:17:00	ACS-FL3-301STAFFLOUNGE-SINK-ACS11	Lead, ppb	<1	Less than detection level
ACS12	5/23/2017	7:18:00	ACS-FL3-HALLWAYNEAR302-DF-ACS12	Lead, ppb	<1	Less than detection level
ACS13	5/23/2017	7:19:00	ACS-FL3-BOYSRRNEAR302-LSINK-ACS13	Lead, ppb	2.23	Lead detected; less than 15ppb action level. Review 3Ts Guidelines to understand options to further reduce the risk of lead.
ACS14	5/23/2017	7:20:00	ACS-FL3-BOYSRRNEAR302-RSINK-ACS14	Lead, ppb	<1	Less than detection level
ACS15	5/23/2017	7:21:00	ACS-FL3-GIRLSRRNEAR304-LSINK-ACS15	Lead, ppb	<1	Less than detection level
ACS16	5/23/2017	7:22:00	ACS-FL3-GIRLSRRNEAR304-MSINK-ACS16	Lead, ppb	<1	Less than detection level
ACS17	5/23/2017	7:23:00	ACS-FL3-GIRLSRRNEAR304-RSINK-ACS17	Lead, ppb	<1	Less than detection level
ACS18	5/23/2017	7:24:00	ACS-FL3-HALLWAYNEAR306-DF-ACS18	Lead, ppb	<1	Less than detection level

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SAMPLE #	SAMPLE DATE	SAMPLE TIME	SAMPLE	PARAMETER, CODE	AMOUNT	GCWW COMMENTS/REVIEW/RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING RESULTS
ACS19	5/23/2017	7:30:00	ACS-GYM-BOYSRR-FLSINK-ACS19	Lead, ppb	5.26	Lead detected; less than 15ppb action level. Review 3Ts Guidelines to understand options to further reduce the risk of lead.
ACS20	5/23/2017	7:31:00	ACS-GYM-BOYSRR-LSINK-ACS20	Lead, ppb	<1	Less than detection level
ACS21	5/23/2017	7:32:00	ACS-GYM-BOYSRR-RSINK-ACS21	Lead, ppb	6.67	Lead detected; less than 15ppb action level. Review 3Ts Guidelines to understand options to further reduce the risk of lead.
ACS22	5/23/2017	7:33:00	ACS-GYM-BOYSRR-FRSINK-ACS22	Lead, ppb	<1	Less than detection level
ACS23	5/23/2017	7:34:00	ACS-GYM-HALLWAY-DF-ACS23	Lead, ppb	<1	Less than detection level
ACS24	5/23/2017	7:35:00	ACS-GYM-GIRLSRR-FLSINK-ACS24	Lead, ppb	<1	Less than detection level
ACS25	5/23/2017	7:36:00	ACS-GYM-GIRLSRR-LSINK-ACS25	Lead, ppb	<1	Less than detection level
ACS26	5/23/2017	7:37:00	ACS-GYM-GIRLSRR-RSINK-ACS26	Lead, ppb	<1	Less than detection level
ACS27	5/23/2017	7:38:00	ACS-GYM-GIRLSRR-FRSINK-ACS27	Lead, ppb	<1	Less than detection level
ACS28	5/23/2017	7:39:00	ACS-KIT-HANDSINK-ACS28	Lead, ppb	<1	Less than detection level
ACS29	5/23/2017	7:40:00	ACS-KIT-3TUB-LSINK-ACS29	Lead, ppb	<1	Less than detection level
ACS30	5/23/2017	7:41:00	ACS-KIT-3TUB-MSINK-ACS30	Lead, ppb	<1	Less than detection level
ACS31	5/23/2017	7:42:00	ACS-KIT-3TUB-RSINK-ACS31	Lead, ppb	<1	Less than detection level