FLUSH AFTER THE BREAK

The Division of Drinking Water recommends that schools "flush" culinary water sources after any long break in use longer than a week.

How to "flush" your piping system

Remember that each drinking water outlet should be flushed individually; flushing a toilet will not flush your water fountains. All flushing should be recorded in a log submitted daily to the office, or person, in charge of this program.

- Locate the faucet furthest away from the service line on each wing and floor of the building, open the faucets wide, and let the water run for 10 minutes. For best results, calculate the volume of the plumbing and the flow rate at the tap and adjust the flushing time accordingly. This 10-minute time frame is considered adequate for most buildings.
- Open valves at all drinking water fountains without refrigeration units and let the water run for roughly 30 seconds to one minute, or until cold.
- Let the water run on all refrigerated water fountains for 15 minutes. Because of the long time period required, routinely flushing refrigerated fountains may not be feasible. It may therefore be necessary, and more economical, to replace these outlets with lead-free, NSF-approved devices.
- Open all kitchen faucets (and other faucets where water will be used for drinking and/or cooking) and let the water run for 30secconds to one minute, or until cold.

EPA 816-B-05-008 (2006) 3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools: Revised Technical Guide. Pg 55. Exhibit 5.1

HOW TO SAMPLE FOR LEAD IN DRINKING WATER

Step 1 — **Decide where to test**

- Sources frequently used for drinking and food preparation (don't forget ice-makers)
- Areas containing lead pipes or lead solder
- Recent construction or repairs in areas where lead plumbing is suspected
- Areas with older fittings and fixtures

Step 2 — **Request bottles**

- Test bottles can be obtained directly from an approved testing facility

Step 3 — **Taking a sample**

- Take samples from a source that has sat stagnant for a period of more than 6 hours but no more than 18 hours
- Do NOT allow the water to run for any length of time prior to catching the sample. This is important to ensure accurate test results.
- Sample from the cold water side of the faucet
- Collect 250 mL of water
- Fill the sample bottle to the line
- Tightly cap the sample bottle and fill out the label correctly

UTAH LABS THAT TEST FOR LEAD IN DRINKING WATER

Davis County

WEBER BASIN WATER QUALITY LAB
Brad Nelson
2837 East Highway 193
Layton, UT 84040
Phone No. (801) 771-4361

Iron County

SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY WATER LAB
Jory Ty Redd
351 West Center Street
Science Building, Room 206
Cedar City, UT 84720
Phone No. (435) 586-7914

Salt Lake County

AMERICAN WEST ANALYTICAL LAB, INC.
Kyle F. Gross
3440 South 700 West
Salt Lake City, UT 84115
Phone No. (801) 263-8686

CHEMTECH FORD LAB
David Gayer
9632 South 500 West
Sandy, UT 84070
Phone No. (801) 262-7299

UTAH DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH DIVISION OF LAB SERVICES (EPA cert.)
4431 South 2700 West
Taylorville, UT 84119-8600
Phone No. (801) 965-2400

COMMUNICATION

It is important to maintain clear and constant communication with students, parents, staff, and the larger community with regards to testing, results, and remediation efforts.

Let the Division Help

We can provide assistance in many ways:

- General guidance
- Presentations
- Training
- Sampling
- Public Notifications
- Remediation efforts
- And others

Health Issues Associated With Lead

Lead is a toxic metal and there is no known safe level. Children are particularly vulnerable to the effects of lead in the body. Increased lead blood levels cause damage to nearly every organ system in the body. Even at low levels, lead has been associated with learning disabilities, impaired growth, and hearing loss, ADHD, and behavior disorders.

What to do when a result is above the EPA's Published Action Level of 15 ppb (µg/L)

A single result above 15 ppb does not necessarily indicate a health risk. It just means further investigation is required.

Possible actions to consider

- Post a notice at the suspected delivery point indicating that it is not to be used
- Temporary/permanent removal of the delivery point
- A flushing plan to reduce the accumulation of lead in the pipes
- Removal of lead plumbing and or brass fixtures and fittings
- The Division will help you find a custom solution for your school

Additional Resources

- **EPA's 3Ts for reducing lead in drinking water in schools:**
  https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-09/documents/toolkit_leadschools_guide_3ts_leadschools.pdf
- **Utah Division of Drinking Water's Lead in Water site:**
  https://deq.utah.gov/drinking-water/lead-sampling-schools

CONTACT

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MWYCOFF@UTAH.GOV

UTAH LEAD COALITION .org

UTAH DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

UTAH DEPARTMENT of ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
DRINKING WATER

UFOMA
Utah Facilities Operation & Maintenance Association

Partnership *for Lead-Free Schools*

In order to reduce the risk of exposure to lead from drinking water in Utah's schools the Partnership for Lead-free Schools recommends that routine pipe flushing schedules and yearly testing schedules be established for culinary water sources. Lead is a toxic metal which is particularly damaging to the physical and mental development of children and adolescents. A 2017 pilot study conducted by the jointly by the Utah Department of Environmental Quality and the Utah Department of Health found the over 40% of Utah schools contained some level of lead in their water. Regular flushing has been shown to reduce the accumulation of lead in drinking water and annual testing helps to identify problems and maintain healthy water. Together flushing and testing help make Utah schools lead-free.

Recommendations for the 2018 School Year

Flush your school's piping prior to starting classes

Establish a schedule for testing lead in your school