

August 31, 2018

CONSUMER NOTICE OF TAP WATER RESULTS

Our school is committed to protecting student, teacher, and staff health. As operators of its own water system, Mercer County Career Center regularly tests our school’s drinking water for lead and copper to ensure its users are protected.

Understanding this Report.

The Action Level is the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. Action Level for Lead is 0.015 parts per million. Action Level for Copper is 1.3 parts per million (ppm). Because lead may pose serious health risks, the EPA set 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. The MCLG for Copper is the same as its Action Level of 1.3 parts per million.

Is Our School’s Drinking Water Safe?

Yes, our school’s water is safe. Mercer County Career Center regularly has our water tested by Environmental Services Laboratories, Inc. and reports its findings to DEP. Our system size requires 10 sampling sites. As long as our samples sites results are below Action Levels at 9 of those sites, MCCC does not need to take action.

June 22, 2018 Test Results

During our January 26, 2018 test, Lead was found to be non-detectable and below Action Level at all 10 sample sites. Copper was found to be below action levels at all ten (10) sample sites.

| June 22, 2018 | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Sample | Lead Result (PPM) | Copper Result (PPM) |
| 1 | <.005 | .04 |
| 2 | <.005 | .149 |
| 3 | <.005 | .07 |
| 4 | <.005 | .092 |
| 5 | <.005 | .243 |
| 6 | <.005 | .134 |
| 7 | <.005 | .114 |
| 8 | <.005 | .293 |
| 9 | <.005 | .328 |
| 10 | <.005 | .215 |

Why Test School Drinking Water for 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.

Why Test School Drinking Water for Copper?

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's disease (a genetic enzymatic disorder) should consult their personal doctor

What are the Source of Lead and Copper?

Although most lead exposure occurs when people eat paint chips and inhale lead-contaminated dust, or ingest lead-contaminated residential soil, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that 10 to 20 percent of human exposure to lead may come from drinking water. Lead and copper are rarely found in the source of a public water supply such as a river or creek. Rather, they enter tap water through the corrosion of a home's plumbing materials. Homes built before 1986 are more likely to have lead pipes, fixtures and solder. However, newer homes may also be at risk. Even legally "lead-free" plumbing may contain up to 8 percent lead. The most common problem is with brass or chrome-plated brass faucets and fixtures that can leach significant amounts of lead into the water, especially hot water. Corrosion of copper pipes in homes is the leading source of copper in drinking water.

What Can I Do to Reduce Your Exposure to Lead and Copper in Drinking Water?

- Run your water to flush out lead and copper.
- Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula.
- Do not boil water to remove lead or copper.
- Test your water for lead or copper.
- Identify if your plumbing fixtures contain lead.

How Can I Learn More?

For more information about water quality in our schools, please contact Administration at 724-662-3000. For information about water quality and sampling for lead at home, contact your local water supplier or state drinking water agency.