



Cranford Public School District

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Dear Cranford School District Community,

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, Cranford Public Schools tested its drinking water for lead.

Results of our Testing

Following instructions given in technical guidance developed by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, we completed a plumbing profile for each of the schools. Through this effort, we identified and tested all drinking water and food preparation outlets. Of the 149 samples taken, 138 met the standards established by the US Environmental Protection Agency for lead in drinking water (15 µg/l [ppb]).

The table below identifies the 11 drinking water outlets that tested above the 15 µg/l action level for lead, the actual lead level, and what temporary remedial action has been taken to reduce the levels of lead at these locations.

School/Location	First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb)	Remedial Action
Hillside Avenue School Boys Locker Room	35.5 ppb	Disconnected outlet
Orange Avenue School Girls Locker Room	26.6 ppb	Disconnected outlet
Livingston Avenue School Room 1	21.0 ppb	Disconnected outlet
Livingston Avenue School Room 3	33.5 ppb	Disconnected outlet
Livingston Avenue School Room 11	22.2 ppb	Disconnected outlet
Livingston Avenue School Room 15	18.5 ppb	Disconnected outlet
Livingston Avenue School Room 18	15.4 ppb	Disconnected outlet
Bloomington Avenue School Room 1	57.5 ppb	Disconnected outlet
Bloomington Avenue School Room 5	24.2 ppb	Disconnected outlet
Bloomington Avenue School Kindergarten	64.0 ppb	Disconnected outlet
Walnut Avenue School Room 11	31.7 ppb	Disconnected outlet

Remedial Action

In accordance with Department of Education regulations, Cranford Public Schools **implemented immediate remedial measures** for any drinking water outlet with a result greater than the action level of 15 µg/l [ppb]. As soon as the results were received, these 11 outlets were disconnected. These water sources will either be replaced or remain disconnected and access to water sources equipped with a filtering system will be provided. All replaced water outlets will be retested before additional use is permitted. This process will be completed prior to the start of the new school year.

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.

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

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 3:00 p.m. and are also available on our website at www.cranfordschools.org. For more information about water quality in our schools, contact Mario Cunha in the Facilities Department at 908-709-6200.

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, call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider.

Please be assured that we have taken and will continue to take all necessary actions to ensure that the water quality throughout our facilities is safe for all.

Sincerely,



Dr. Scott Rubin
Superintendent of Schools