



# The Board of Education of Worcester County

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May 13, 2019

## **NOTICE OF LEAD IN WATER OUTLETS TESTING RESULTS – SNOW HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Maryland law (Chapter 386, 2017) requires all occupied public and nonpublic schools, serving children in prekindergarten to grade 12, that receive drinking water from a public utility to test for the presence of lead in all drinking water outlets.

Worcester County Public Schools began the water testing process in January 2019. On March 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Maryland Environmental Service collected water samples from forty-nine (49) water outlets at Snow Hill Elementary School.

On April 24, 2019, the testing laboratory, ALS Environmental, forwarded water sample test results to Maryland Environmental Service for the forty-nine (49) Snow Hill Elementary School samples taken on March 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

A total of five (5) water outlets tested above the compliance action level of 20.5 ppb (parts per billion). Listed below are the locations of the five outlets.

1. Classroom sink in Classroom 144 - Fountain (22.2 ppb)
2. Sink in Media Office 170 (104 ppb)
3. Classroom sink in Classroom 129, Right Faucet (29.4 ppb)
4. Classroom sink in Special Ed Classroom 183, Left Faucet (67.6 ppb)
5. Classroom sink in Classroom 131, Left Faucet (21.4 ppb)

Please be advised that these water outlet testing results DO NOT mean that there are elevated levels of lead in the drinking water servicing Snow Hill Elementary School students and staff. The results indicate that the actual water outlets (sink faucets) in the locations identified above are providing lead results above the compliance level.

In compliance with Maryland Department of the Environment regulations concerning lead in drinking water, Worcester County Public Schools has taken the following actions related to the five water outlets which tested above the compliance level:

1. Within 24 hours of receipt of test results, close access to each of the outlets.  
Completed 4/25/19.
2. Remove the existing outlet and replace with a new outlet.  
Completed 4/26/19.
3. Within 5 school days, conduct a follow-up lead test sampling at the new outlet.  
Completed 5/3/19.



4. Follow-up lead test sampling:
  - a. Results in levels less than 20.5 ppb, no further action required.
    - i. 3 of the 5 re-tested water outlets fell in this category – Classroom sinks in Classrooms 144, 183 and 131
  - b. Results in levels greater than 20.5 ppb, install signage indicating water outlet is to be used for hand-washing only or remove outlet from service.
    - i. 2 of the 5 re-tested water outlets fell in this category – Sink in Media Center Office and sink (right side faucet) in Classroom 129.
    - ii. Hand Washing Only signs have been installed at these outlets.
5. Within 10 school days, notify parent or legal guardian of each student attending the school of the school's receipt of the laboratory report.  
Completed 5/8/19. Note: Delayed due to delivery of laboratory results.
6. Within 10 school days, notify school teachers and other employees of the school's receipt of the laboratory report.  
Completed 5/8/19. Note: Delayed due to delivery of laboratory results.
7. Within 30 school days of the school's receipt of the laboratory report, notice shall be posted on the school web site.  
Completed 5/8/19. Note: Delayed due to delivery of laboratory results.

You may access additional information regarding the lead testing program at the Maryland Department of the Environment website:

[https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/water\\_supply/Pages/Testing-For-Lead-In-Drinking-Water-Public-and-Nonpublic-Schools.aspx](https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/water_supply/Pages/Testing-For-Lead-In-Drinking-Water-Public-and-Nonpublic-Schools.aspx)

For additional information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, please visit the Environmental Protection Agency's website: [www.epa.gov/lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead)

If you are concerned about your child's exposure to lead, please contact your local health department or health care provider to find out how to get your child tested for lead.