

BLUFFVIEW MONTESSORI SCHOOL POLICY 111 LEAD TESTING

I. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for testing and assessing Bluffview's drinking water for lead.

II. PROCEDURE:

A. Step 1- Sampling: Our program to assess and sample for lead in drinking water incorporates the following actions:

1. All drinking water faucets or taps serving as the point of access for people to obtain water for drinking or food preparation will be identified and listed for testing on a spreadsheet. A faucet/tap can be a fixture, faucet, drinking fountain or water cooler. Drinking water taps do not include bathroom taps, hose bibbs, laboratory faucets/sinks or custodial closet sinks; these should be clearly marked not for drinking.
2. All taps tested will be only the cold water taps.
3. Hot water taps should never/will not be used to obtain water for drinking water or food preparation.
4. All drinking fountains will be checked to ensure EPA has not identified them as having a lead lined tank under the LCCA. This list can be found at: [Lead in Drinking Water Coolers \(http://tinyurl.com/kr8kppf\)](http://tinyurl.com/kr8kppf) ;
 - a. If a drinking fountain within the school is found on this list, it should be removed from use immediately.
5. All taps used for drinking water or food preparation will be tested at a minimum of once every five years.
 - a. Bluffview will be testing all identified taps each fifth year, beginning in July of 2018.
 - b. If budget or resources do not allow all taps to be tested in the first year, it is suggested that taps be prioritized, with all high priority taps tested the first year, medium priority the second, and low priority the third. The fourth year should be used as a "make up" year, if needed.
 - c. Priority levels are:
 - High priority: taps used by children under the age of six years of age or pregnant women (e.g., drinking fountains, nurse's office sinks, classrooms used for early childhood education and kitchen sinks);
 - Medium priority: other taps regularly used to obtain water for drinking or cooking (e.g., Family and Consumer Science

sinks, classroom sinks, and teacher's lounges); and

- Low priority: other taps that could reasonably be used to obtain water for drinking but are not typically used for that purpose

6. BMS will be doing the collections, and sending them to an accredited laboratory in Minnesota for testing.
7. The Building Manager and Building & Grounds committee will oversee this process.

- a. A list of accredited laboratories may be found at:

[Accredited Laboratories \(http://www.health.state.mn.us/labsearch\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/labsearch)

B. Step 2- Conduct First Draw Tap Monitoring:

1. Sample site preparation and sample collection must be performed consistent with the following conditions to ensure "first draw" samples:
 - a. The day before sampling normal usage of the sampling tap should occur; if sampling is to be done in the summer as planned, all taps not in use will be flushed the day prior to sample collection.
 - b. The night before sampling the fixture will be secured from being used (e.g., hang a "Do Not Use" sign); and samples will be taken in the early morning before any activity or on a Saturday morning.
2. Sampling taps will not have been used for a minimum of six hours, not to exceed 18 hours per MDH recommendations.
3. Aerators or attachments will not be removed;
4. Samples will be collected following the directions/protocols given by the lab that will receive the samples, beginning with the taps closest to the main water source. Only cold water samples will be taken.

C. Step 3- Communicate Results:

1. As per Minnesota Statutes section 121A.335, subdivision 5, Bluffview will notify the public by making the results of the testing available to the public:
 - a. The Head of School will act as the designated person to contact;
 - b. Upon receiving the results, the Head of School/ Building Manager will contact the testing Lab to discuss results as needed.
 - c. An "allschool" email will be issued to notify the BMS community about the availability of the testing results within one month of receiving them. The results will also be posted on the school website.

D. Step 4- Corrective Actions:

1. If any action is required, the Building and Grounds committee will share specific activities pursued to correct any lead problems, and create a plan to mitigate exposure to lead in the water. Local health officials may be contacted to assist in understanding potential health risks, technical assistance and communication strategies. The guidance packet "Reducing Lead in Drinking Water" will be used as a resource as well.

Legal References: Statute 121A.335