

Dear parents, teachers and staff,

Last month, in compliance with House Bill 270, St. Paul Lutheran Church and School, had 28 water outlets tested for lead content.

The results reflect only one classroom sink faucet had a level higher than permitted. The sink is located in Classroom 204 (where we had 3rd and 4th grade last year), and has since been shut-off and posted as out-of-order.

Please note this was not a drinking fountain.

We are taking steps to run new lines, and then we will re-test. This will be completed before the new school year begins.

Attached is the MDE Notification Letter as required per House Bill 270.

Should you have any questions please contact Principal John Maxwell.

Sincerely,

John Maxwell

**Lead in Drinking Water - Public and Nonpublic
Schools**
**IMPORTANT NOTICE: ELEVATED WATER SAMPLE
RESULT(S)**
Saint Paul Lutheran School

ELEVATED LEAD WATER SAMPLE RESULT(S)

All Maryland public and nonpublic schools are required to sample all drinking water outlets for the presence of lead pursuant to the Code of Maryland Regulations. On June 8, 2018, 28 lead water samples were collected from Saint Paul Lutheran School. Of these lead water samples, one had levels of lead exceeding the action level of 20 parts per billion (ppb) for lead in drinking water in school buildings. The elevated lead results from the sample collected at Saint Paul Lutheran School is as follows:

24.0 parts per billion (ppb) Sampling ID Number ST P 204, which is the sink faucet within Room 204. Room 204 was the 3rd and 4th grade classroom last school year.

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ACTION LEVEL (AL)

The AL is 20 ppb for lead in drinking water in school buildings. The AL is the concentration of lead which, if exceeded, triggers required remediation.

HEALTH EFFECTS OF 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. Lead is stored in the bones and it can be released later in life. During pregnancy, the fetus receives lead from the mother's bones, which may affect brain development. Scientists have linked the effects of lead on the brain with lowered IQ in children. Adults with kidney problem and high blood pressure can be affected by low levels of lead more than healthy adults.

SOURCES OF HUMAN EXPOSURE TO LEAD

There are many different sources of human exposure to lead. These include: lead-based paint, lead-contaminated dust or soil, some plumbing materials, certain types of pottery, pewter, brass fixtures, food, and cosmetics, exposure in the work place and exposure from certain hobbies, brass faucets, fittings, and valves. According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), 10 to 20 percent of a person's potential exposure to lead may come from drinking water, while for an infant consuming formula mixed with lead-containing water this may increase to 40 to 60 percent.

IMMEDIATE ACTIONS TAKEN

The sink faucet feedlines are shut-off, and an "OUT OF ORDER" sign is posted.

NEXT STEPS

The initial plan is to replace the applicable feedlines to the sink faucet and to re-test. If this is not successful, the next option is to replace the faucet and install a point of use filtration system and then re-test.

TO REDUCE EXPOSURE TO LEAD IN DRINKING WATER:

1. Run your water to flush out lead: If water hasn't been used for several hours, run water for 15 to 30 seconds or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking.
2. Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula: Lead from the plumbing dissolves more easily into hot water.

Please note that boiling the water will not reduce lead levels.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information, please contact Principal John Maxwell at 410-747-1924. For additional information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's website at www.epa.gov/lead. If you are concerned about exposure; contact your local health department or healthcare provider to find out how you can get your child tested for lead.

John Maxwell

Principal
St. Paul Lutheran School

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