Ashford School

440 Westford Road (Rt. 89)
Ashford, CT 06278
School Web site: www.ashfordct.org

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September 20, 2017

Dear Members of the Ashford School Community;

Attached you will find the results of two water tests conducted on our school's tap water last August. The first test indicates that the water was marginally high in lead in a specific location in the building. The second test indicates that it is no longer high in lead in that same location. These tests were taken during our summer recess. The current water test indicates that the water is safe. and within state guidelines. The location that produced the abnormal result is highlighted in yellow, and reflects both the initial test result. and the reading from the required retest.

We have also attached the response to the Department of Public Health from Aqua Pump, our water systems management company, outlining its plan of action to reduce the chances of a recurrence of this nature when school is in session, as well as in the summer when use of tap water is marginal.

It is our understanding that these tests indicate that our water is safe, and within state standards. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

Sincerely,

James P. Longo, Ed.D
Superintendent of Schools

aqua pump co. inc.

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CONSUMER NOTICE OF TAP WATER RESULTS

Ashford Elementary School

Public water systems (PWS) are required to monitor the water provided to its consumers for a variety of contaminants. The purpose of this notice is to inform consumers with the results of the most recent lead samples. The individual site results and calculated 90th percentile are noted below.

SAMPLE POINT	RESULTS (mg/L)	DATE
Kitchen Bathroom	0.0061	8/16/17
Kitchen	0.0013	8/16/17
T Lounge	<0.0010	8/16/17
Office Bathroom	<0.0010	8/16/17
Bathroom 11	0.0012	8/16/17
Room 1 sink	<0.0010	8/16/17
Room 36	0.0061	8/16/17
Maint closet special wing	0.0020	8/16/17
Room 24	0.0096	8/16/17
Bathroom middle wing	**0.0158**	8/16/17
Room 24	<0.0010	8/31/17
Bathroom Middle wing	<0.0010	8/31/17
Kitchen bath	<0.0010	8/31/17

- 90th percentile BELOW action level

What does this mean? Under the authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act, the EPA set the action level for lead in drinking water at 15 parts per billion(ppb) or 0.015 milligrams per liter (mg/L) or parts per million (ppm). The results above are listed in mg/L. A PWS must ensure the water provided to its consumers does not exceed this level in at least 90 percent of the sites sampled (90th percentile result) If the water exceeds this limit at the 90th percentile, the PWS owner must take certain steps to correct the problem, starting first with increased monitoring. If those levels continue to exceed that limit, further steps and information will follow.

What are the 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. 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 can be released later in life. During pregnancy, the child receives lead from the mother's bones, which may affect brain development. If you are concerned about lead exposure at this site, you may want to ask your health care providers about testing children to determine levels of lead in their blood.

What are the sources of lead? Although most lead exposure comes from eating paint chips, inhaling dust, or from contaminated soil, the EPA estimates that 10 to 20 percent of human exposure to lead may come from drinking water. Lead is rarely found in source water, but enters tap water through corrosion of plumbing materials. Buildings built before 1986 are more likely to have lead pipes, fixtures and solder. However, new buildings are also at risk as "lead free" plumbing may contain up to 8 percent lead. The most common problem is with brass or chrome plated brass faucets and fixtures which can leach significant amounts of lead into the water, especially hot water.

What can I do to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water?

Run your water to flush out lead. If water hasn't been used for several hours, run the water 15-30 seconds or it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking. This flushes lead-containing water from the pipes. **Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula. Do not boil water to remove lead.**

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit the EPA's website at www.epa.gov/lead, call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider.

P.O. Box 43, 169 West Stafford Rd., Stafford Springs, CT 06076
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September 19, 2017

CT Department of Public Health
Drinking Water Section
410 Capitol Avenue, P.O. Box 340308, MS#12DWS
Hartford, CT 06134-0308

Attn. Mr. Dan Aubin Environmental Analyst 1

Dear Mr. Aubin:

This is a follow up response to the departments' request. The exceedance sample was taken during the summer and during that time the school had no student activities equating to a very low usage. The lower usage in the water supply can produce an increase in lead and copper results. The follow up samples dated 8/31/2017 were taken when classes were in session and are well below the action level.

Further actions to reduce the impact of lead and copper in the school shall be increasing the neutralizer from every year to every six (6) months. In addition, annual flushing of the school system shall occur during the summer months when students are not in school and the water usage is low in the school. The school shall continue sample for lead and copper as required by the State of CT DPH.

Regards,

Victor Nigro, Jr

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