

Taking Steps To Protect Students From Lead in Drinking Water

Safe &
Healthy
Schools



Background Information:

In 2022, Missouri Legislation took a step forward in an additional effort to further reduce lead exposure in children by passing the Get the lead out of Schools Drinking Water Act (RSMo 160.077) which sets standards for lead concentrations in school drinking water. This Act requires schools to conduct inventory, sampling, remediation, and monitoring at all potable drinking water outlets used or potentially be used for drinking, food preparation, and cooking or cleaning utensils.

Lead Testing at Hillsboro R-3 Schools

Testing Timeline

- *December 28-29, 2023: Hillsboro R-3 School District hired St. John Environmental Consulting to complete the first draw on stagnant potable water sources in each of our buildings.*
- *January 24, 2024: Results were received on water draws, showing some lead counts over five parts per billion in areas.*
- *January 29, 2024: St. John Environmental Consulting conducted a second round of testing after purging the system.*
- *February 20, 2024: Test results from the second draw were received. 26 sources, or 5% of our water sources, came back over 5 parts per billion.*

Taking Action

- *Hillsboro R-3 took steps to contract with a leading environmental consulting firm to conduct lead testing as mandated by the State of Missouri.*
- *Sampling and testing procedures followed the EPA's 3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools and Child Care Facilities guidelines.*
- *Thirty-four percent of the first draws were recommended for a second draw. This was completed within 5 days of the initial results out of an abundance of caution.*
- *26 sources, or 5%, came back over five parts per billion after the retest. These sources were immediately removed to be replaced by new receptacles.*

For more information from the EPA about the effects of lead contamination and how to reduce exposure, scan the following QR code:



Questions?

Contact Dr. Clay LaRue, Senior Director of Operations about current testing and remediation efforts.
larue_clay@hsdr3.org