

1. What is the process for water sampling?

DGS hires a contractor (SaLUT, Inc., Washington, DC) who employs Industrial Hygienists (IH) that hold a Certified Drinking Water Sampler Certificate. The IH visits the school the day before collection to coordinate with the custodian for early morning entry and identification of drinking water devices. Water samples are collected on school days before building occupants arrive to ensure that the water system has not been used at least 8 hours prior to testing.

Two 250 milliliter (ml) samples are collected from each device and labeled. The samples along with a chain of custody are delivered to a third party lab (AMA Analysis Inc., Lanham, MD) for analysis with a five-day turnaround. If any result is over 15 parts per billion (ppb), the device is immediately turned off, and a work order is entered for a lead filter installation. After the lead filter is installed, the device is re-tested. If the result is less than 15 ppb, then the device is returned to service. If the device does not pass retesting, it is kept out of service until it is replaced with a new unit and retested.

Note: Non-working devices are identified and work orders are submitted for repairs. The drinking water device cannot be tested until repaired, and only once the device passes testing is it returned to service.

2. How often are our water sources tested?

Annually during each school year.

3. When is our next water source test?

Approximately one year from this past March (last test date).

4. How will we be notified of water sampling results in the future?

In the past, custodial staff was notified of any devices that required remediation. To help assist with communication of efforts, we will also ensure that the principal and the school operation team at DCPS will also receive a notification for any devices that test over 15 parts per billion.

DOEE has handled posting test results to date; going forward test results will be uploaded to the DGS Website twice a month at this address: <http://dgs.dc.gov/page/water-sampling-results-district-schools>

5. What types of water sources are tested? Can you test all our water sources (fountains, sinks, outside) since our kids use sinks for daily lessons and activities, and our garden is used for fruits and veggies that students eat?

We currently test drinking water devices in hallways, classrooms, health suites, staff break rooms and kitchens.

We sampled all water sources inside the school at the request of the PTSO; results are expected on Wednesday, April 20, 2016.

6. What type of filters are used on our water fountains?

Halsey Taylor HWF172 Watersentry VII (<http://www.halseytaylor.com/pdf/HWF172-Filter.pdf>)

7. What do those filters filter? lead? What else?

This filter has been tested to the following NSF International standards: NSF/ANSI Standards 42 Chlorine, Particulate, Taste, and Odor, and NSF/ANSI Standard 53 for Reduction of Lead.

8. How often are the water filters replaced?

Annually; sometimes more frequently due to plumbing repairs in the building or work on the domestic water supply by DC Water.

9. Why weren't we notified about the August 20 2015 results?

We are working on improving communications beyond just posting sampling results online. We are coordinating with DC Public Schools (DCPS), Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE), and DC Water to accomplish that. As mentioned above, the school principal will be notified when a device tests higher than 15 ppb for lead in the future, so that information can be properly distributed to the school community.

10. Are there other environmental tests there were taken at CHML? If so, please provide those results.

Radon - See attached lab results which indicate that all areas tested below the EPA Action Level of 4 pCi/L

IAQ - See attached report from our Consultant, which indicates no further recommendations.

11. One more to add that I thought of - for the 5 sources that failed in August 2015, there is a notation that the filters were replaced. When did that take place and were the water sources retested before the March 2016 test?

To clarify, it was not five but a cluster of three devices which failed. These devices were clustered together in the annex where two samples were taken at each device. These three devices remained closed until March 2016; lead filters were installed in October 2015, but not retested until March and thus remained off until retesting was complete.

12. I wanted to see if DGS is able to provide us with responses to the questions we asked last week and also see when the water sampling results from last week's water tests will be available to us. We hope to have both of these prior to Wednesday's meeting with sufficient time for us to review what you send.

As mentioned, the results from last week's water testing should be available by Wednesday 4/20.