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# Lead in Drinking Water CHECKLIST

## DOES YOUR SCHOOL HAVE A STRATEGY TO MITIGATE LEAD IN DRINKING WATER BEFORE THE SCHOOL SEASON BEGINS?

\*\*\**This information is also useful for addressing copper*\*\*\*

### BACKGROUND

Many facilities may shut down for vacations, extended periods or operated under reduced schedules during the year, resulting in decreased water use. When water is stagnant in building plumbing for long periods, lead or copper may leach into the water.

To reduce the likelihood of elevated lead or copper levels in your drinking water, the following is recommended:

### BUILDING CHECKLIST

- Flush all lines and fixtures before people use water from the facility if water has been stagnant for prolonged periods of time.  
**Remember Fresh Water is Best!**
- Before people use water from the facility, remove faucet screens and aerators and clean out any grit or debris. Continue to do this periodically. If aerators /screens are old and worn, replace them with new ones.
- Determine if your facility has a lead service line and work to replace it.

### MANAGEMENT CHECKLIST

- Develop and/or maintain your own lead and copper sampling and analysis program. See Resources section below for information on how to develop this plan.

- Keep an updated materials inventory of all fixtures in your schools and keep records of your sampling results.
- Conduct sampling in all fixtures used for drinking, cooking, and medical uses at least once every 3 years.
- Communicate all sampling results with parents and staff.

*Federal and MA state guidance for schools and early education and childcare facilities recommends that you identify and address all fixtures used for drinking, cooking, and medical purposes that have levels of lead over the recommended laboratory detection limit of 1 part per billion or copper over 1.3 parts per million.*

### RESOURCES

- Your facility's sampling plan should follow the protocol developed by MassDEP's LCCA Program available at [http://leadandcoppercontrolact.donahue-institute.org/LCCA\\_Framework\\_4.26.18/story\\_html5.html](http://leadandcoppercontrolact.donahue-institute.org/LCCA_Framework_4.26.18/story_html5.html).
- The lead and copper sampling result data, is now available through [The Energy & Environmental Affairs Data Portal \(EEA Data Portal\)](#). These results are collected via MassDEP's electronic data reporting system eDEP, and remediation actions data, collected via the LCCA Program Management Tool.