

# Public Notice: School Lead Water Sample Results

Information concerning the lead level results for drinking water samples taken at

Dawn F. Barnes Elementary School - Caswell  
name of school

Maine law requires schools to test all drinking water faucets that could be used for drinking or cooking purposes for the presence of lead. This law further requires that parents and staff are made aware of all of the sample results.

During the period of 2-22-22 to 2-22-22  
begin date end date

Water samples were collected from 19 water fixtures.  
# locations

*Any sites producing elevated levels of lead (exceeding 4 parts per billion, or ppb), and therefore the faucets of most concern, are listed in the table on the following page(s).*

**Results for all drinking water outlets tested can be viewed here:**

1025 Van Buren Rd. Caswell ME 04750  
Enter website address or physical location

Statewide test results for Maine schools can also be found the on Maine DWP website at: [www.medwp.com/schools.html](http://www.medwp.com/schools.html)

**How does lead get into the water?** When lead is present in water, it typically leaches, or dissolves, into water flowing through plumbing and fixtures *inside* a building from sources such as solder, pipes, or the faucets themselves. The school's well water or water provided by your local water district are unlikely sources of lead.

**What are the Health Effects of exposure to lead in drinking water?** Infants and children who drink water containing high levels of lead can experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink water containing excess levels of lead over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

**What level of lead is safe?** No level of lead is safe. Because of the potential serious health risks, both the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) agree that there is no known safe level of lead in a child's blood.

Please be aware that this sampling is done under conditions that are optimal for identifying lead in water. By having the water sit unused for many hours, lead that might be leaching from pipes or fittings is more easily discovered. However, *these levels are likely not the level of lead present in the drinking water throughout the school day.*

**What can I do?** Here are a few steps you can take to reduce the risk of your child being exposed to lead through school drinking water:

- Provide your child with bottled water or water from your home to reduce their usage of school drinking water outlets. Be sure to sample your home water for lead, too.
- Remind your child to let the water run for 30 seconds before drinking or filling a water bottle at school, which will lower any possible lead concentration.
- Consult your doctor if you have any specific health concerns.

# CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS FOR DRINKING WATER

**DATE PRINTED:** 03/08/2022  
**CLIENT NAME:** Dawn F Barnes Elementary Sch

Legend	
Lead Above 4 ppb	⬇
Lead Above 15 ppb	⊗

**CLIENT ADDRESS:** 1025 Van Buren Rd  
 Caswell, ME 04750

**METHOD:** EPA 200.8  
**EPA ACTION LEVEL:** 15 ppb  
**MAINE GUIDELINE:** 4 ppb  
**REPORTING LIMIT:** 1 ppb

**DATE AND TIME RECEIVED:** 02/24/2022 09:30AM  
**ANALYSIS PACKAGE:** Maine Schools-Lead  
**RECEIPT TEMPERATURE:** 19° CELSIUS  
**CLIENT JOB #:** 128

Sample ID #	Location	Sample Type	Outlet Type	Date - Time Water Sampled	Result	Test Units	Pass /Fail	DQ Flag	Analyst	Date - Time Analyzed
2202-03173-001	Water Fountain near main entrance	I	DWF	02/22/2022 08:30AM	3.3	ppb			DG-NH	03/07/2022 07:20PM
2202-03173-002	Employee bathroom sink	I	OT	02/22/2022 08:33AM	21.3	ppb	⊗		DG-NH	03/07/2022 07:24PM
2202-03173-003	Grade 6-8 sink	I	OT	02/22/2022 08:36AM	20.7	ppb	⊗		DG-NH	03/07/2022 07:28PM
2202-03173-004	Sink in art room	I	OT	02/22/2022 08:39AM	148	ppb	⊗		DG-NH	03/07/2022 07:31PM
2202-03173-005	Sink in grades 3-5	I	OT	02/22/2022 08:42AM	10.3	ppb	⬇		DG-NH	03/07/2022 07:35PM
2202-03173-006	Sink in town office bathroom	I	OT	02/22/2022 08:44AM	14.4	ppb	⬇		DG-NH	03/07/2022 07:38PM
2202-03173-007	Sink in playroom	I	OT	02/22/2022 08:48AM	38.2	ppb	⊗		DG-NH	03/07/2022 07:56PM
2202-03173-008	Sink in pre-k room	I	OT	02/22/2022 08:51AM	10.2	ppb	⬇		DG-NH	03/07/2022 08:00PM
2202-03173-009	Faucet in janitor room	I	OT	02/22/2022 08:54AM	152	ppb	⊗		DG-NH	03/07/2022 08:04PM
2202-03173-010	Sink in boys bathroom	I	OT	02/22/2022 08:57AM	27.3	ppb	⊗		DG-NH	03/07/2022 08:07PM
2202-03173-011	Sink in girls bathroom	I	OT	02/22/2022 09:03AM	43.7	ppb	⊗		DG-NH	03/07/2022 08:11PM
2202-03173-012	Water fountain in gym	I	DWF	02/22/2022 09:07AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	03/07/2022 08:14PM
2202-03173-013	Sink in kitchen	I	KF	02/22/2022 09:11AM	25.0	ppb	⊗		DG-NH	03/07/2022 08:18PM
2202-03173-014	2nd sink in kitchen	I	KF	02/22/2022 09:13AM	49.7	ppb	⊗		DG-NH	03/07/2022 08:22PM
2202-03173-015	Faucet in kitchen restroom	I	OT	02/22/2022 09:16AM	43.8	ppb	⊗		DG-NH	03/07/2022 08:36PM
2202-03173-016	Sink in dishwashing room	I	OT	02/22/2022 09:20AM	32.4	ppb	⊗		DG-NH	03/07/2022 08:40PM
2202-03173-017	Outside hose hook up at garage	I	OT	02/22/2022 09:26AM	31.9	ppb	⊗		DG-NH	03/07/2022 08:51PM
2202-03173-018	Outside spicket in front of office	I	OT	02/22/2022 09:33AM	37.4	ppb	⊗		DG-NH	03/07/2022 08:54PM
2202-03173-019	Faucet in garage	I	OT	02/22/2022 09:40AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	03/07/2022 08:58PM

**What is Being Done:**

To correct the problem(s), we have taken these actions:

Remediation Samples will be conducted in the next few months, updated results will be posted.

Future plans for the reduction of high lead levels in our drinking water include:

As the school system updates the school fixtures the internal pipes will be replaced if possible.

These actions are expected to be completed on: 7-1-2022 (Date)



## Information about Lead in Drinking Water for Students, Staff, and Parents



### Health Effects of Lead

If too much lead enters your body from drinking water or other sources, serious health problems can occur, including damage to the brain and kidneys and interference with the production of oxygen-carrying red blood cells.

The greatest risk of lead exposure is to infants, young children, and pregnant women: During pregnancy, the fetus receives lead from the mother, which may affect brain development. In children, the continuing effects of lead on the brain have been linked to lowered IQ. Furthermore, lead is stored in the bones and can be released later in life, so, adults who were exposed to high levels of lead earlier in life may still encounter kidney problems and high blood pressure.

### Sources of Lead

Lead can be found in many places; knowing the sources of lead can help limit your contact with it. Although most of the reported cases of lead poisoning in Maine have been a result of lead paint dust, exposure can also occur through drinking and cooking with water that has lead, as it can dissolve into water from solder or brass faucets, fittings, and valves. Exposure to lead can also come from jobs and hobbies that utilize materials containing lead, as well as from things you buy such as toys and antiques.

### How Lead Got into Your Water

The most likely source of lead in your water is leaching from lead solder on your pipes or out of brass plumbing materials found in faucets, fittings, and valves.

### Steps You Can Take to Protect Yourself from Lead in Drinking Water

- Run the water for at least 30 seconds or until it becomes noticeably colder before using it for drinking or cooking. The longer water sits in piping, the greater the chance that lead might leach in.
- Use cold water for drinking and cooking as well as for preparing baby formula. Hot water dissolves lead more quickly than cold water.
- Clean your faucet aerator (screen) regularly.
- Consider using bottled water or a water filter for drinking and cooking.

\* Remember: Boiling the water does *not* reduce lead levels.

### Find Out More

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's website at <http://www.epa.gov/lead>, or contact the Maine Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (866-292-3474) or your health care provider. Your doctor can answer questions about having your child tested for lead.