

# Richwoods R-VII School District

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[www.richwoods7.org](http://www.richwoods7.org)

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Date: 4/26/24

Richwoods School District Families:

Richwoods School District would like to provide an update on our efforts to reduce potential exposure to lead from school drinking water. The District Lead in Drinking Water Sampling and Testing Plan details the steps that include testing for lead in drinking water on our campus and sharing the sampling results. The initial water sample tests have been completed and the results are below.

As required by the *Get the Lead Out of School Drinking Water Act*, you are receiving this communication because at least one source of drinking water in your child's school has lead concentration level in excess of 5 parts per billion (ppb). This new law sets a much higher standard than currently required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which is 15 ppb. When a lead sample is detected at or above this level, we take immediate steps to address the source of lead to protect children and staff.

An independent testing company, Environmental Works, conducted lead water testing on 38 potential drinking water sources across Richwoods School District. This included drinking water fountains, bathroom sinks, and all kitchen faucets. Preliminary results indicate that 8 of the 38 sources tested at Richwoods School exceed the required level. Below are the results for the testing of water sources that tested 5 ppb or more:

Sample #	Location	Source Under Test	Test Type	Lead Result (ppb)
02-01-DNR-HB-P-015	5-8 Maintenance	Utility DNR Tap #15	First Sample	6.24
02-01-RR-HW-P-016	Nurse Restroom	Faucet #16	First Sample	8.61
02-01-RR-HW-P-021	5-8 Boys Restroom	Faucet #21	First Sample	6.42
02-01-CR-CF-P-023	7th Grade Class Restroom	Faucet #23	First Sample	342
02-01-CR-CF-P-024	Science Room	Faucet #24	First Sample	9.92
02-01-KIT-KF-P-030	Kitchen	Faucet #30	First Sample	10.5
02-01-KIT-KF-P-031	Kitchen Restroom	Faucet #31	First Sample	14.5
02-01-GYM-HB-P-036	Rear of Gym	Outside Hydrant #36	First Sample	23.2

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In response to the sample results, we are taking immediate action on the outlets that showed lead levels at/above 5 parts per billion (ppb). These fixtures have been identified with signage, while more permanent measures are underway.

The following corrective actions for the 8 water outlets will be taken:

- Water sources will be turned off and/or signage will be posted not to drink the water from these fixtures until necessary corrective actions are completed.
- Faucets will be replaced.
- Filters will be installed on water sources, if necessary.
- “Not for drinking or cooking” signage will remain posted for other sources such as classroom sinks and other water sources not intended for drinking.
- Follow-Up testing will be conducted to ensure remediation efforts are effective.

*The district is pleased none of its water outlets intended for drinking or cooking purposes came back with an elevated level. All of these identified outlets are faucets on sinks or maintenance outlets. The district still plans to go above what is required to remediate and re-test all faucets identified for the safety of everyone.*

Information about the health effects of lead exposure is provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s website.

If you have specific questions about how lead exposure may affect your child, please contact your healthcare provider.

Detailed water test results for all schools and information and resources about the health effects of lead exposure may be viewed at <https://health.mo.gov/living/environment/get-the-lead-out-of-school/>

Sincerely,

Lindell Conway  
Chief Academic Officer