

Minnesota State University Moorhead

Environmental Health and Safety

Plan for Lead Testing

Introduction

In Minnesota, licensed or certified childcare providers must test for lead in drinking water. For the purposes of Minnesota state testing requirements "licensed or certified childcare provider" means a childcare center licensed under Minnesota Rules, chapter 9503, or a certified license-exempt childcare center under chapter 245H. Additionally, MDH recommends that all childcare providers test for lead, including family childcare providers.

Purpose

This program is designed to assist MSUM in minimizing the exposure to lead in drinking water.

Scope

Per MN Statute 145.9273, this program includes testing every building that is serving as a licensed or certified childcare provider and all water fixtures used for consumption of water, including water used in food preparation. All taps must be tested at least once every five years.

Plan

Environmental Health and Safety will complete the following:

- **Inventory Water Fixtures:** Identify and list all drinking water sources in the Early Education Center, including fountains, sinks, and any other outlets.
 - a. **Review Past Data:** Check if there have been any previous lead tests conducted and review the results.
- The testing process, including initial testing and follow-up tests, will occur on a 5-year cycle (MN Statute 145.9273).
- Sample Collection will be completed by the Safety Administrator or via a water testing professional.
 - a. Ensure normal water usage the day before sampling.

- b. Collect samples from all identified sources following MDH guidelines.
Samples will be collected as recommended by the MDH Reducing Lead in Drinking Water [Document](#).
- Submit Samples: Send the collected samples to the lab for analysis. The lab shall be accredited by the Minnesota Department of Health.
- Review Results: Analyze the lab results to determine lead levels in the water. Compare the results with EPA standards (5 parts per billion) to assess the risk. Reference [Reducing Lead in Drinking Water Guide](#) to interpret results.
- Remediation Plan: If high lead levels are detected, provide alternative drinking water sources (e.g., bottled water) until the issue is resolved.
 - Long-term Solutions: Plan for remediation, which may include replacing pipes, installing filters, or other corrective measures.
- Communicate the results and any necessary actions to parents, staff, and relevant authorities.
- Schedule regular water testing to ensure continued safety.
 - Maintain detailed records of all tests and remediation efforts.

References

MDH Reducing Lead in Drinking Water [Document](#)

[Clay County Water Testing](#)

[RMB Water Sampling Instructions](#)

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