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**From:** Burgess, Louis (MDE)  
**Sent:** Friday, November 13, 2015 4:55 PM  
**To:** Wurfel, Brad (DEQ); Eisner, Jennifer (DHHS); Tommasulo, Karen (DEQ)  
**Subject:** RE: School water testing guidelines

Thank you, I will pass this to Marty Ackley.

Louis Burgess

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**From:** Wurfel, Brad (DEQ)  
**Sent:** Friday, November 13, 2015 3:32 PM  
**To:** Eisner, Jennifer (DHHS) <EisnerJ@michigan.gov>; Burgess, Louis (MDE) <burgessl@michigan.gov>; Tommasulo, Karen (DEQ) <TommasuloK@michigan.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: School water testing guidelines

Generally, my understanding is that schools on community / municipal water supplies are covered by the existing regulatory framework for water issues, and if they want additional testing, they'd work through local community health departments to get water testing done.

If a school is on its own water source, they're already required to regular water testing, same as a municipal provider.

Right now, this issue is in the news because of extensive water testing that is being conducted in Flint by DEQ staff with the help of LARA plumbing experts.

Depending on who the reporter is, you're welcome to send them our way or (Jen's way).

b

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**From:** Eisner, Jennifer (DHHS)  
**Sent:** Friday, November 13, 2015 10:58 AM  
**To:** Burgess, Louis (MDE); Wurfel, Brad (DEQ); Tommasulo, Karen (DEQ)  
**Subject:** FW: School water testing guidelines

Hi Louis:

I'm looping in the comms director and PIO over at DEQ -- they're the go-to for testing questions.

Thanks!

Jennifer Eisner  
 Public Information Officer  
 Michigan Department of Health and Human Services  
 Office: 517-241-2112 or [EisnerJ@michigan.gov](mailto:EisnerJ@michigan.gov)  
 Cell: PPI

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**From:** Scott, Jackie (DHHS)  
**Sent:** Friday, November 13, 2015 10:50 AM  
**To:** Minicuci, Angela (DHHS) <[MinicuciA@michigan.gov](mailto:MinicuciA@michigan.gov)>; Eisner, Jennifer (DHHS) <[EisnerJ@michigan.gov](mailto:EisnerJ@michigan.gov)>  
**Cc:** Lixey-Terrill, Jennifer (DHHS) <[LixeyTerrillJ@michigan.gov](mailto:LixeyTerrillJ@michigan.gov)>; Wells, Eden (DHHS) <[WellsE3@michigan.gov](mailto:WellsE3@michigan.gov)>; Moran, Susan (DHHS) <[Moran5@michigan.gov](mailto:Moran5@michigan.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: School water testing guidelines

Angela or Jen,

Can you assist MDE (PIO?) so the message that goes out to the reporter is correct.

Thanks,  
Jackie

Jacqueline S. Scott, DVM, PhD  
Director, Bureau of EMS, Trauma & Preparedness  
Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services  
Office 517-335-8150  
Cell PPI  
[scottj14@michigan.gov](mailto:scottj14@michigan.gov)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Burgess, Louis (MDE)" <[burgessl@michigan.gov](mailto:burgessl@michigan.gov)>  
**Date:** November 13, 2015 at 10:24:17 AM EST  
**To:** "Lixey-Terrill, Jennifer (DHHS)"  
<[LixeyTerrillJ@michigan.gov](mailto:LixeyTerrillJ@michigan.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Thelen, Richard (DHHS)" <[ThelenR4@michigan.gov](mailto:ThelenR4@michigan.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: School water testing guidelines

Jennifer, we got a reporter question about responsibility for water testing at schools. Do you know anything about this? MDE wants to respond, but we want to make sure we get the info straight on responsibility.

Louis

Louis Burgess  
MDE Emergency Management Coordinator  
(517) 335-3672

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**From:** Walters, Kevin (MDE)  
**Sent:** Friday, November 13, 2015 9:40 AM  
**To:** Disessa, William (MDE) <[DisessaW1@michigan.gov](mailto:DisessaW1@michigan.gov)>  
**Cc:** Burgess, Louis (MDE) <[burgessl@michigan.gov](mailto:burgessl@michigan.gov)>; Dixon, Janice (MDE) <[DixonJ5@michigan.gov](mailto:DixonJ5@michigan.gov)>; Ackley, Martin (MDE) <[AckleyM@michigan.gov](mailto:AckleyM@michigan.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: School water testing guidelines

Bill

My experience is that all school buildings that serve food, including concession stands, are required to have health department testing. Some local city systems will also check water

quality in buildings (i.e. Drinking fountains) which I found was aligned with flushing or other water system operations. I do not recall off-hand whether specific lead testing was included in these, but certainly water testing is completed by other entities in school buildings.

Hope this helps.

Kevin

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**From:** Disessa, William (MDE)  
**Sent:** Friday, November 13, 2015 8:53:48 AM  
**To:** Walters, Kevin (MDE)  
**Cc:** Burgess, Louis (MDE); Dixon, Janice (MDE); Ackley, Martin (MDE)  
**Subject:** FW: School water testing guidelines

Hi Kevin,

Do county health departments have, or share, a responsibility for water testing at schools? The reason we ask: we want to know whether, per the draft statement below, to refer questions to the Genesee County's Health Department -- either in lieu of or in addition to the DEQ.

Bill

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**From:** Disessa, William (MDE)  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 12, 2015 3:56 PM  
**To:** Ackley, Martin (MDE) ([AckleyM@michigan.gov](mailto:AckleyM@michigan.gov))  
 <[AckleyM@michigan.gov](mailto:AckleyM@michigan.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: School water testing guidelines

Hi Marty,

Draft response:

Based on serious health concerns with Flint's water and the possibility of a similar problem happening elsewhere, the MDE agrees with the state DEQ's recommendation that all Michigan schools test their water. As the MDE has no statutory role in school water quality, however, we respectfully refer you to the DEQ for further comment.

Bill

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**From:** Biolchini, Amy [<mailto:amy.biolchini@hollandsentinel.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 12, 2015 3:39 PM  
**To:** Disessa, William (MDE) <[DisessaW1@michigan.gov](mailto:DisessaW1@michigan.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: School water testing guidelines

Hi Bill,

I'm writing a story about public schools' requirements for testing their water in light of the water crisis in Flint. Clearly, a different story here on the west side of the state, but I think there's some important issues.

-Are public schools in Michigan required to do any tap water testing on an annual basis?

-Earlier this year, the Department of Environmental Quality recommended that every school in the state test their water for lead, in light of what has happened in Flint.

(<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/life/wellness/2015/10/26/school-water/74606636/> )

Does the Michigan Department of Education share this sentiment?

My deadline is 2 p.m. Friday.

Best,

Amy Biolchini

Reporter, The Holland Sentinel

[amy.biolchini@hollandsentinel.com](mailto:amy.biolchini@hollandsentinel.com)

Desk: (616) 546-4219

Cell: PPI

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