
From: Wells, Eden (DHHS)
Sent: Wednesday, November 11, 2015 9:57 AM
To: Lasher, Geralyn (DHHS); Hertel, Elizabeth (DHHS)
Subject: Fw: [Flint Water Advisory Task Force] FW: [DEQ] Freeman Elementary water testing shows lead exposure limited to fixtures

sticking to water

From: Pete Levine <plevine@gcms.org>
Sent: Wednesday, November 11, 2015 9:54 AM
To: Lawrence Reynolds
Cc: Flint Water Advisory Task Force; Mona Hanna-Attisha; Kirk Smith; Laura Caravallah; Laura Sullivan; Wells, Eden (DHHS); Marc Edwards
Subject: Re: [Flint Water Advisory Task Force] FW: [DEQ] Freeman Elementary water testing shows lead exposure limited to fixtures

The message regarding lead paint from some in the City of Flint and the DEQ in yesterdays meeting was purely an effort to mitigate their sense of responsibility. We need to make sure that stops. It is not even remotely the truth.



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On Tue, Nov 10, 2015 at 3:12 PM, Lawrence Reynolds <lrey52@gmail.com> wrote:

If EBLLs are due to sources other than water, why did the frequency double only in Flint and not other areas in Genesee County. Why in wards where they were already high before the change in water source? Or did paint chips become more tasty on the inside of Flint only but not across the street on the fringes?

Is the DEQ working with MDHHS and local epidemiologists or just their chemists?

Why are BLLs not higher in the catchment areas for the schools with the higher WLLs?

Are there mitigating factors in the tested schools's student population?

Check out BLLs in children under 2 or three before BLLs decline and they start school

Does this mean lead in city water is ok?

We have repeatedly stated that the powder formula fed children under 6-12 months of age are at the greatest risk and the least tested. Add pregnant and breast feeding women with adults with decreased renal function or failure.

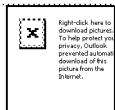
This appears to be an attempt to divert scrutiny or, at best, an answer to another question. The decision to not monitor schools until recently is in itself problematic. There has always been the school problem, which is a separate issue, perhaps exacerbated by water quality.

On Monday, November 9, 2015, Eric Rothstein <notifications@ohm.basecampHQ.com> wrote:

Reply ABOVE THIS LINE to add a comment to this message

Project: Flint Water Advisory Task Force

Company: Flint Water



Eric Rothstein posted a new message:

FW: [DEQ] Freeman Elementary water testing shows lead exposure limited to fixtures

FYI – provided by Madhu Anderson, MDEQ

From: Michigan Department of Environmental Quality [<mailto:MIDEQ@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>]

Sent: Monday, November 09, 2015 3:58 PM

To: Anderson, Madhu (DEQ)

Subject: [DEQ] Freeman Elementary water testing shows lead exposure limited to fixtures

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Freeman Elementary water testing shows lead exposure limited to fixtures

Experts release water testing results on schools and homes in Flint

Nov. 9, 2015

For More Information:

George Krisztian, [517-284-6719](tel:517-284-6719), krisztiang@michigan.gov

As part of Gov. Rick Snyder's action plan for Flint drinking water, the DEQ today released water testing data from nearly 400 homes and businesses in Flint as well as comprehensive sampling results from Freeman Elementary School.

Both sets of data indicate the problems with lead are localized to individual buildings or even individual faucets, rather than system-wide issues.

"The results from this data underline the need for water testing at all homes, businesses, schools and other buildings in Flint," said George Krisztian, the DEQ's Flint Action Plan Coordinator. "Problems with lead exposure appear to be localized to individual service lines or plumbing fixtures, and we want to

see all families in Flint take advantage of free water testing from the state.”

Freeman Elementary testing results

At Freeman Elementary, 31 faucets were tested using a series of four samples each. Twenty-two outlets did not show elevated lead exposure, but nine faucets came back with initially high results. Those nine outlets involve brass components, indicating the problem involves the fixtures or plumbing immediately surrounding the fixture. When the faucets and fountains were operated for several minutes, lead levels fell significantly, in some cases to non-detectable levels.

Additional testing designed to look deep into the school’s plumbing did not suggest larger, systemic issues.

Freeman Elementary has several options for remedying the issues at these nine faucets and fountains. The school can elect not to use those particular fountains, or implement a formalized flushing regimen. The sampling results indicate that for all but one tap, a 3- to 4-minute flushing period each morning would drastically reduce lead exposure.

For a permanent solution, the school should opt to replace the faucets and fountains of concern.

“The safety and health of our students are our primary concern at Flint Community Schools, so we will start work as soon as possible to replace faucets, aerators and other related components where high lead levels were detected,” FCS Superintendent Bilal Tawwab said. “Once those fixes have been made, the DEQ has offered to provide additional testing of the water at Freeman Elementary to ensure the water from every sample is safe for our students. Flint Community Schools appreciates the efforts by the DEQ, working with all stakeholders to make sure our water continues to be tested and that our students have access to safe, clean drinking water.”

For Freeman Elementary’s complete sampling results and more information about how sampling was conducted, visit www.michigan.gov/flintwater.

The DEQ and the DLARA also have conducted sampling at other Flint schools, and results will soon be available on the DEQ’s website. Additionally, the state will test every other school in the Flint Community Schools district, as well as any school or daycare in the city. Interested schools and daycare centers should contact George Krisztian at krisztiang@michigan.gov.

Homeowner and other customer-requested testing results

Results from the 381 samples from homes, businesses, schools and other facilities that took advantage of free water testing through the state showed similar, localized results. More than 75 percent of the samples analyzed demonstrated lead results of 5 parts per billion or less, and more than 91 percent demonstrated lead results of 15 parts per billion or less.

This data suggests that while some homes experience elevated lead level results due to lead service lines or in-home plumbing, many other homes experience little to no lead. This can make it difficult for homeowners and businesses to predict their lead exposure.

“Since it’s not easy to predict if an individual home’s water is at risk for lead, the best thing all residents can do is get their water tested,” Krisztian said. “It’s a free test that provides valuable information for families.”

Testing is available for free by contacting the Flint Water Plant at [810-787-6537](tel:810-787-6537) and pressing 1, or by emailing flintwater@cityofflint.com.

For more information about water samples received through the state’s free testing program, visit www.michigan.gov/flintwater.

How school sampling was conducted

To conduct this comprehensive sampling, the DEQ and Michigan Department of Licensing and

Regulatory Affairs began on Oct. 23 with a thorough plumbing assessment of the school to gain a detailed understanding of how water moves through the building and what types of plumbing materials are used. The assessment also identified 31 faucets or fountains in the school that provide water for drinking, cooking and/or food preparation.

On Oct. 24, the DEQ and DLARA took four, 125-milliliter samples from each of the 31 identified faucets and fountains. The first two samples were taken immediately after turning on the faucet, followed by a 30-second flush and then the third sample, followed by a 2-minute flush and then the fourth sample. These samples provided information on the impact of any lead sources in or around each specific faucet and fountain as well as its connecting plumbing.

On Oct. 31, the DEQ and DLARA took an additional 30 samples, 10 each from three sites in the school. These 1-liter samples were taken consecutively, and provided information about the impact of any lead sources deep in the building's plumbing.

For a video about these results, visit <https://youtu.be/Amy4cDW7RtA>.

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This message was sent to Chris Kolb, Dana Pulver, Deborah Higgins, Eric Rothstein, Ken Sikkema, Larry Reynolds, Matthew Davis, and Tracey Poteat.

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Lawrence Reynolds