



Katy Bedley
Principal

Cathy Baker
Administrative Assistant
Heather Odell
Clerical Aide

Conway Elementary School

160 Main Street
Conway, NH 03818-6164

(603) 447-3369
Fax (603) 447-6981

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Dear CES families,

We are writing to let you know that Conway Elementary School completed testing for lead in drinking water this spring. This is part of an ongoing effort related to New Hampshire's House Bill 1421, which requires school and child care facilities to test for lead in drinking water and to act when lead is found at levels at or above 5 parts per billion (ppb).

Lead is a toxic heavy metal that has a range of adverse health effects if inhaled or swallowed. Lead rarely occurs naturally in New Hampshire's drinking water sources (groundwater or surface water) and typically enters drinking water due to the wearing away of piping, faucets, fixtures and other plumbing materials.

Because lead is tasteless, odorless and colorless in drinking water, testing is the only way to learn whether lead is present. It is important to sample each faucet or water fountain that is used for drinking or food prep because test results can vary between locations.

During recent testing, we collected samples from all of the drinking water outlets (e.g., drinking fountains, classroom faucets, kitchen sinks), with 2 samples testing at or above 5 ppb, the level where action must be taken. The water refilling station that is most frequently used for drinking water consumption at school was not one of the ones that tested at or above 5 ppb. We removed access to the outlets in question immediately until the problem(s) were corrected. All of the flagged drinking water outlets have been fixed, retested, and cleared for use.

All sample results and additional resources from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) can be viewed at gettheleadoutnh.org.

Sincerely,

Katy Bedley

Principal - Conway Elementary School

