

Follow-up to campus-wide wipe sampling

As a follow-up to the [June sampling event](#) throughout the complex, GSA resampled spaces that had elevated lead results in areas that are accessible to tenants and controlled by GSA. These areas were first re-cleaned by the janitorial contractor and then added to their normal routine. Wipe samples were then collected in 8 spaces to monitor the effectiveness of the cleaning. Although 5 out of the 8 resulted in lower concentrations of lead than the initial samples, only 2 out of the 8 samples had levels that were under the [HUD / EPA lead guideline](#) of 10 micrograms per square foot, and 1 sample was at the action level.

The majority of the spaces resampled are walked-on surfaces where there is daily foot traffic, as well as movement of equipment. Levels of contaminants may vary from day to day based on activities. Samples from the freight elevator thresholds showed the highest concentration of lead. There were 4 separate freight elevator thresholds sampled. These are porous surfaces that are original to the buildings. As a pilot deep cleaning test, the freight elevator threshold in Building 104, Second Floor at Column B45 was cleaned using a solution of tri-sodium phosphate and mechanical means. The subsequent wipe sample demonstrated that the level of lead was reduced by 77%, but still the resulting level was above the [HUD / EPA lead guideline](#). The next step in the pilot deep cleaning program is to seal this threshold with a coating that is abrasion-resistant. If the wipe samples of the coated surface meet the action level, then the other freight elevator thresholds will be sealed using the same coating.

If you have any questions concerning these data, please email r6environmental@gsa.gov, and GSA will provide responses from the appropriate experts.