

INTRODUCTION TO SEPTEMBER 2020 DRINKING WATER SAMPLING REPORTS

The following reports are from a sampling event in September 2020 where samples of drinking water were collected at representative fixtures throughout the Goodfellow Federal Center. A total of 134 samples, including duplicate samples, were collected from within 14 buildings. Samples were analyzed for lead and copper, as per the EPA Lead and Copper Rule. The testing was part of GSA's continual check for drinking water quality, which occurs at least twice a year.

Seven percent (7%) of the samples were above the established Action Levels. There were 8 samples that resulted in levels above the Action Levels for lead and 1 sample that resulted in a level above the Action Level for copper. These elevated samples were collected from a drinking fountain in Building 103, a drinking fountain in Building 105, a sink in Building 103D, and 6 sinks in the laboratories in Building 105. All of these sources were removed from service as soon as the sample results were available. The drinking fountain in Building 105 is scheduled for replacement. The sink in Building 103D and the drinking fountain in Building 103 have been permanently removed. Following cleaning and maintenance on the 6 sinks in the laboratories in Building 105, another round of sampling was performed at each of these locations. The results showed that the cleaning and maintenance was effective on only 1 sink. Subsequently, the other 5 sinks are scheduled now for replacement. Follow-up sampling of the drinking water will be performed after installation of the 5 sinks is completed.

All samples were collected as first draw samples throughout buildings in accordance with the Lead and Copper Rule (40 CFR Part 141 Subpart I). First draw samples represent 'worst case' conditions with water that has been stationary within the fixture for a minimum of 6 hours. Additionally, for the resampling of the 6 sinks in Building 105, second draw samples were collected after allowing the water to run consistently for approximately 2-3 minutes. These samples help to determine if the contamination is within the interior plumbing components. Results showed that the contamination is mainly in the fixtures. Corrosion of the building's plumbing may occur during long periods of low or no water use, leading to potentially high levels of lead or other metals in the building's drinking water. It should be noted that during the sampling period the occupancy rate at the Goodfellow Federal Center was lower than normal.

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