

# Small Water Systems Services, L.L.C.

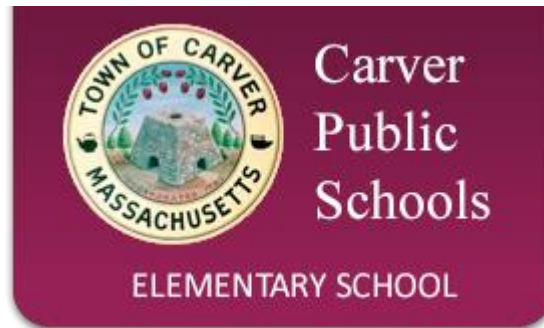
Complete Water & Wastewater Systems Operations and Maintenance Since 1995

## WBE Certified

PO Box 2014, Littleton, MA 01460

Phone: 978-486-1008; fax: 978-486-0971

[www.swss.biz](http://www.swss.biz)



September 19, 2023

To the Students, Families, and Staff of Carver Elementary School:

During recent lead and copper sampling, some water taps at our school exceeded the Massachusetts and federal Action Level for copper in drinking water at schools and early education and childcare facilities. MassDEP Action Level (AL) for copper in drinking water is 1.3 milligrams per liter (also known as parts per million). See results below:

Sampling Results			
Date Sample Collected	Location	Copper results in mg/L	Over Action Level
9/8/2023	Room 191 Kitchen Double Bay Sink	0.947	<input type="checkbox"/>
9/8/2023	Room 100 Classroom Sink	7.30	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9/8/2023	Room 112 Classroom Sink	2.01	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9/8/2023	Room 132 Project Bubbler Area	3.61	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9/8/2023	Room 241 Classroom Sink	1.86	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9/8/2023	Room 232 Project Area Bubbler	1.80	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9/8/2023	Room 227 Project Area Bubbler	2.31	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9/8/2023	Room 212 Classroom Sink	2.16	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9/8/2023	Room 263 Media Space Bubbler	2.73	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9/8/2023	Room 200 Classroom Sink	4.82	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

We would like to inform you about our plans to reduce potential exposure to copper in drinking water at our school. The following information describes what happened and the steps we are taking to address the issue of copper in the water.

### ***What happened and what we are doing:***

Lead and copper samples were collected from 10 taps at the Carver Elementary School on 9/8/2023 as part of routine testing. Upon analysis, 9 of the 10 samples exceeded the action level of 1.3 mg/l for copper. To safeguard students and staff, "Handwashing Only" placards have been affixed to the suspect taps to ensure they are only used for handwashing at this time. The quickest way to reduce copper levels is to let the tap run for a short period of time prior to use. To limit exposure, a flushing

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program has been implemented at the school consisting of daily flushing of water fountains and faucets. Additional copper testing will be conducted in early October. We believe the results will demonstrate the effectiveness of the flushing program. We will provide an update in the coming weeks to keep you informed of the progress of our efforts. In the meantime, please feel free to reach out to SWSS with any questions or concerns you may have.

**Copper:** The Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)<sup>1</sup> is 1.3 mg/l. When copper is present in water, it is typically due to the water flowing through service line or internal pipes or plumbing in buildings with copper and brass parts. *Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.*

**A Reminder:** The water system at the school is not unlike water systems found in other buildings. Older plumbing systems and fixtures, especially, can contain lead pipes or solder that can allow lead to enter tap water. Plumbing systems also contain copper. If you have questions about lead or copper in your home's water supply, and are using a private well, you can have your water tested. If you are receiving water from a public water system (i.e., if you pay a water bill) you can call your local water department for information or check the Consumer Confidence Report sent out by the public water supplier annually.

If you have any questions on this information please contact Kelly Boudreau with *Small Water System Services, LLC* at 978-486-1008.

Sincerely,

Carver Elementary School  
c/o Kelly Boudreau  
Program Coordinator  
*Small Water System Services, LLC*

Modified from EPA's "3T's for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools: Revised Technical Guidance"

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<sup>1</sup> The Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety. The Action Level is the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.