

SAFE DRINKING WATER – CENTRE (Effective July 1, 2017)

POLICY

It is the policy of Cook's School Day Care Inc to comply with the lead flushing and water sample testing requirements under the **Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change amended Ontario Regulation 243/07: Schools, Private Schools and Day Nurseries. (Note: as of July 1, 2017, the title will change to Schools, Private Schools and Child Care Centres.)** The regulatory changes come into effect July 1, 2017.

http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/regs/english/elaws_regs_070243_e.htm

PROCEDURE

WEEKLY FLUSHING

The preschool washroom tap is used to provide drinking water to the children and is at the end of the branch or run of pipe on first floor. It will be flushed for five minutes weekly as per the flushing schedule below.

The kitchen tap used for the preparation of food and drink is at the end of the branch or run of pipe on second floor. It will be flushed for five minutes weekly as per the flushing schedule below.

Flushing Schedule

- On the first day that the centre is open in each week (typically Monday) the taps at the end of each branch are turned on and left on for five minutes.
- Flushing occurs before the centre opens for the day (before 6am).

Record Keeping

When recording all flushing activities the date, time, the name of the person who performed the flushing, and taps that are flushed are logged.

SAMPLING AND TESTING FOR LEAD

Collection Locations

Effective 2019, only samples from one tap are collected for testing. In the next test period in 2022, a different tap is used to collect the samples for testing (and so on until all four taps that are used for preparing food or drink or used to provided drinking water for the children have been lab tested).

Proposed Collection Locations by Year

2019: kitchen

2022: preschool washroom

2025: school-age washroom

2028: toddler washroom

Rotate locations in subsequent collection years in this order.

Laboratory Services

Laboratory services are obtained from SGS Environmental Services to complete lead testing for Cook's School Day Care Inc.

Testing Criteria

Effective 2016, Cook's School Day Care Inc met the conditions for sampling every third calendar year. The criteria includes:

- For a period of at least 24 consecutive months, test results have been obtained, and none of the test results from the most recent 24 consecutive months has exceeded the standard prescribed for lead.
- Every tap that is used in the preparation of food or drink for consumption by children has been sampled at least once.
- At least one tap from every washroom or change room where children are allowed to fill drinking water bottles or containers has been sampled at least once.
- A notice has been submitted to the Ministry of Environment stating that the conditions described have been met.

Collecting Samples for Lab Testing

Samples are taken and handled in accordance with the directions of the laboratory, including directions with respect to:

- Collection procedures.
- The use of specified kinds of containers or of containers that are provided by the laboratory.
- The labelling of samples.
- The completion and submission of forms that are provided by the laboratory.
- Methods of transporting samples, including temperature conditions that must be maintained during transportation.
- Time periods for delivery of samples.

Specifics

At this time, SGS Environmental Services requires that:

- Samples consist of two one-litre samples of cold water taken from the same tap.
- Each sample must be taken:
 - During a single continuous period and must include the first water that comes out when the tap is turned on.
 - With water flowing at a rate that approximates normal use, without permitting water to splash out of the container in which the sample is being collected.
 - If the tap has an aerator, the aerator must not be removed while the samples are being taken.

The first sample to be taken must be taken immediately after a period of six hours or immediately after the longest period when the plumbing is not used.

Immediately after taking the first sample before taking the second sample, the tap must be turned on for at least five minutes, and then turned off and left unused for a period of at least 30 but not more than 35 minutes. The plumbing must not be used during that period. The second sample must be taken immediately after the period of at least 30 but not more than 35 minutes.

A record must be made of the date and time each sample was taken, an estimate of the length of the period, the location where the sample was taken and the name of the person who took the sample.

Reporting of Test Results

If laboratory test results exceed any of the Ministry of Environment standards, the laboratory, within 24 hours after the result is authorized, report the results in writing to Cook's School Day Care Inc.

Cook's School Day Care Inc will, within 24 hours after the report is received, give a report that the result exceeds to the Ministry of Education (using Serious Occurrence procedures).

Parents and guardians will be notified in a timely manner of all situations where a lead exceedance has been detected in the drinking water at the centre and how the exceedance will be addressed.

Corrective Action

Cook's School Day Care Inc will take immediate corrective action at any tap where a lead exceedance has been found from a flushed sample result at that location. These actions could include increased flushing, installing a filter or other device that is certified for lead reduction, rendering the tap inaccessible to children by disconnecting or bagging, or any other measures as directed by the local Medical Officer of Health, until the issue is resolved.

The issue shall not be considered resolved until:

- Test results from that drinking water fountain or tap show lead levels that do not exceed the standard for lead under O. Reg. 169/03 Ontario Drinking Water Quality Standards (10 µg/L); or
- A filter or other device that is certified for lead reduction is installed and test results show lead levels that shows at or below 1 µg/L for that location; or
- All steps directed by the Medical Officer of Health have been taken and completed.

Records

The documents and other records pertaining to water flushing and lead sampling are kept for at least six years.

MODIFICATIONS TO THIS OR OTHER POLICIES

Any policy that does not respect and promote the dignity, independence, integration and equal opportunity of people with disabilities will be modified or removed. Our policies are maintained and updated regularly to reflect our practices, employees and best serve our customers.