



COLUMBIA-MONTOUR Area Vocational-Technical School

5050 Sweppenheiser Dr. • Bloomsburg, PA 17815-8920 • www.cmvt.us • Ph: (570) 784-8040 • Fax: (570) 784-3565

Good afternoon:

In an effort to maintain compliance with Act 39 of 2018, The Columbia-Montour Area Vocational Technical School tested the lead levels of the drinking water in our school. To achieve that end we drew water samples from every water fountain in the school, as well as, every faucet found in the school's kitchen. Schools are expected to implement a remediation plan if lead results exceed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) guidelines of 15 parts per billion (ppb) or .015 mg/l.

We received the results of those tests. Of the multiple sources of drinking water tested, 3 fountains were found to possess lead levels which exceed the guideline. Those fountains were located in the following training programs:

Cosmetology: .019 mg/l

Auto Technology: .021 mg/l

Printing Technology: .041 mg/l

Some drinking water pipes, solder, faucets, valves, and other plumbing materials contain lead, including brass plumbing components. Lead in the plumbing may leach into water and pose a health risk if consumed. The potential for lead to leach into water can increase the longer the water remains in contact with lead in plumbing. Those fountains that were affected were immediately closed off so that no one could drink from them. At this point, we are unsure if the elevated lead level is a result of lead leaching from the solder used in the supply line or from the solder in the fixture itself. The fountains will remain closed off until we can determine, through additional water testing, if the fountain needs to be replaced or if a point of use filter will remediate the lead issue at those outlets. If it proves impossible to guarantee a safe reading that is below the EPA's guideline, the fixtures will be permanently disconnected. In the interim students are encouraged to draw their water from any of the other fountains in the building.

Please contact the school at 570-784-8040 extension 3324 with any questions.

Thank you,

David Bacher

Director, CMAVTS