

# HOW TO

# sipSAFE

OWNERS &  
OPERATORS

## Why water testing?<sup>1,2</sup>

- Infants and children are at a higher risk for lead exposure than adults. This risk of lead exposure comes from drinking tap water. It is useful to take proactive measures to keep children safe.



## How does lead get into drinking water?<sup>1,2,3</sup>

- Copper pipes with lead solder made or installed before 1986.
- Lead service lines.
- Lead plumbing systems.



## The good news!<sup>1,2</sup>

- With a few simple steps, lead exposure can be decreased.

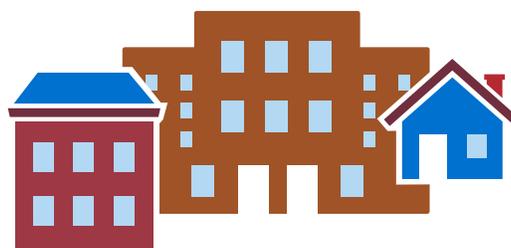
## Goals for SipSafe

- Test water for lead to prevent further lead exposure.
- Train faculty to use safe practices for reducing lead in drinking water. Incorporate SipSafe by training, testing, and taking action.
- Communicate clearly about how to decrease the lead in water that young children consume.
- Protect the health and well-being of children and staff throughout this program.



## How do we get started?

- On-site water samples will be taken by an MSU Extension employee for testing purposes.



## What are we looking for?

- We hope to find no significant traces of lead in the water.

## Protocol for testing

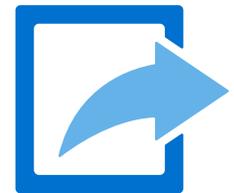
- The evening before the samples are collected, the number and location of faucets and water fountains will be recorded.
- The samples will be collected in the morning, before any active use by the facility.
- A water sample from each faucet will be taken and labeled.

## Results

- Within 2 weeks of the initial tests, results will be shared with the facility to determine if action is needed.

## Taking action

- If lead is found in a sample, steps will be taken to decrease lead levels in the water through SipSafe training.
- If lead levels in the sample exceed the action level of 15 ppm, results will be documented. Recommendation for replacement and remediation will take place.



<sup>1</sup>CDC's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (<https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/about/program.htm>).

<sup>2</sup>CDC's Lead fact sheet ([https://www.cdc.gov/biomonitoring/Lead\\_factsheet.html](https://www.cdc.gov/biomonitoring/Lead_factsheet.html)).

<sup>3</sup>EPA's Basic Information about Lead in Drinking Water (<https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water>).

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