

# HOW TO

# sipSAFE

PARENTS

## 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. Lead cannot be seen, smelled, or tasted in water. Testing the water provides accurate results.



## 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.

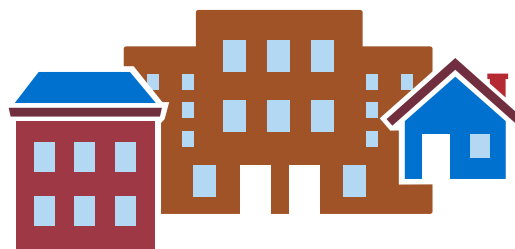
## Goals for SipSafe

- Test water for lead to prevent further lead exposure.
- Train faculty to follow steps that will reduce lead accumulation in drinking water at the facility.
- Use the 3 Ts: training, testing, taking action.
- Communicate clearly about the action steps being taken to protect your child's health 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

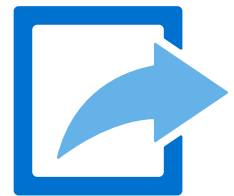
- The evening before the samples are collected, the number and location of faucets and water fountains will be recorded.
- The samples will be collected in the morning, before any active use by the facility.
- A water sample from each faucet will be taken and labeled.

## 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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