



Plumbing Profile Questionnaire

Excerpted from:

3 Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools

This questionnaire is designed to assist with the determination of whether or not lead is likely to be a problem in your facility, and will enable you to prioritize your sampling effort. A separate plumbing profile may be needed for each building, addition, or wing of your facility, especially if the construction took place at different times. Some of the questions in this questionnaire may not apply to your facility for various reasons. Skip those questions that do not apply. For a discussion of this questionnaire and interpretation of possible answers, please see Chapter 3 of the document.

1. When was the original building constructed? Were any buildings or additions added to the original facility? If so, complete a separate plumbing profile for each building, addition, or wing.

2. If built or repaired since 1986, were lead-free plumbing and solder used in accordance with the lead-free requirements of the 1986 Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments? What type of solder has been used?

3. When were the most recent plumbing repairs made (note locations)?

4. With what materials is the service connection (the pipe that carries water to the school from the public water system's main in the street) made? Note the location where the service connection enters the building and connects to the interior plumbing.

5. Specifically, what are the potable water pipes made of in your facility (note the locations)?

- Lead • Plastic • Galvanized Metal • Cast Iron • Copper • Other

Note the location of the different types of pipe, if applicable, and the direction of water flow through the building. Note the areas of the building that receive water first, and which areas receive water last.

6. Do you have tanks in your plumbing system (pressure tanks, gravity storage tanks)? Note the location of any tanks, and any available information about the tank; e.g., manufacturer, date of installation.

7. Was lead solder used in your plumbing system? Note the locations with lead solder.

8. Are brass fittings, faucets, or valves used in your drinking water system? (Note: Most faucets are brass on the inside.) You may want to note the locations on a map or diagram of your facility and make extensive notes that would facilitate future analysis of lead sample results.

9. How many of the following outlets provide water for consumption? Note the locations.

- Water Coolers • Bubblers • Ice Makers • Kitchen Taps • Drinking Fountains or Taps

10. Has your school checked the brands and models of water coolers and compared them to the listing of banned water coolers in Appendix E of this document? Note the locations of any banned coolers.



11. Do outlets that provide drinking water have accessible screens or aerators? (Standard faucets usually have screens. Many coolers and bubblers also have screens.) Note the locations.
12. Have these screens been cleaned? Note the locations.
13. Can you detect signs of corrosion, such as frequent leaks, rust-colored water, or stained dishes or laundry? Note the locations.
14. Is any electrical equipment grounded to water pipes? Note the locations.
15. Have there been any complaints about bad (metallic) taste? Note the locations.
16. Check building files to determine whether any water samples have been taken from your building for any contaminants (also check with your public water supplier).
 - Name of contaminant(s)?
 - What concentrations of these contaminants were found?
 - What was the pH level of the water?
 - Is testing done regularly at your facility?
17. Other plumbing questions:
 - Are blueprints of the building available?
 - Are there known plumbing "dead-ends," low use areas, existing leaks or other "problem areas"?
 - Are renovations being planned for part or all of the plumbing system?

Find the full 3Ts document here:

<https://www.epa.gov/dwreginfo/reducing-lead-drinking-water-schools-revised-technical-guidance>