



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

U.S. NAVAL AIR FACILITY
ATSUGI, JAPAN
FPO AP 96306-0001

11000
Ser N4-PRA4/0471
8 Nov 19

From: Commanding Officer, U.S. Naval Air Facility Atsugi
To: Parents and Staff

Subj: DRINKING WATER AT CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER, YOUTH CENTER,
AND SHIRLEY LANHAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Ref: (a) NAF Atsugi ltr 11000 N4-PRA4 of 22 Feb 19

Encl: (1) Complete Test Results; SGS Contract No. N40084-15-D-0061 of Jun 19
(2) Floor Plans; Bldg. 3250, Bldg. 997, Bldg. 998, Bldg. 999, Bldg. 992, Bldg. 993

1. The safety and wellness of children at our Child Development Center (CDC), Youth Center (YC), and school are my top priority. In my earlier letter announcing our lead in drinking water testing program, I told you we are testing all water outlets that could potentially be used for cooking, washing, or drinking at our CDC, YC, and school.

2. On 29 July 2019, we received the results of recent water testing of drinking water outlets. We sampled 429 water outlets in areas where outlets are used for drinking, cooking, and washing. Of these, 17 outlets tested higher than the 15 parts per billion (ppb) screening level for lead, which is a level designated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to take action with additional testing and corrective measures. Lead in drinking water may come from the existing plumbing inside buildings including fittings, solder, water coolers, or water faucets. Lead is more likely to be found in drinking water when the water has not been run for an extended period of time and has been sitting in the system.

3. The lead levels were higher than the EPA-recommended screening level at water fountains/faucets at the CDC (Rooms 157, 168, 177, and 184) and at Shirley Lanham Elementary School (Rooms 001, 004, 005, 007, 008, 1F, and H). After receiving the test results, we immediately took these water outlets out of service. Follow-up testing will be conducted to pinpoint where lead is getting into drinking water. A comparison of original and additional samples will help us identify the sources of lead contamination and permanently address the problem. Enclosed are complete test results and floor plans that indicate the location of water outlets that had lead levels higher than the EPA-recommended screening level.

4. Here are some additional resources you may find informative:

a. EPA (lead in drinking water in schools and day care centers)

<https://www.epa.gov/dwreginfo/lead-drinking-water-schools-and-child-care-facilities>

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b. Annual water quality report at your home:

https://www.cnic.navy.mil/content/dam/cnic/cnrj/pdfs/CCR_2018_Atsugi.pdf

c. Drinking Water Taste, Odor, and Color:

<https://www.epa.gov/dwstandardsregulations/secondary-drinking-water-standards-guidance-nuisance-chemicals>

5. If you have any health questions or concerns, I encourage you to contact your health care provider or, if you are a TRICARE beneficiary, use the Appointment Center to schedule an appointment with your primary care provider at DSN 315-264-4686.

6. Rest assured that my team and I will continue to monitor and test water quality at U.S. Naval Air Facility Atsugi to ensure our drinking water lead levels are lower than EPA-recommended screening levels. I am committed to the safety and health of all personnel and family members using our facilities and will keep you updated on this issue.


L. B. MACK

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