

GCPS WATER SAMPLING METHODOLOGY

All GCPS water sampling and testing will be performed in substantial adherence to the recommendations of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as provided in their manual *3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools*.

Sample Collection:

1. Designated GCPS staff will adequately flush fixtures and equipment to be sampled no later than 8 p.m. on the evening prior to sample collection.
2. All water samples will be collected no earlier than 4 a.m. the morning after flushing, and before the facility opens and any water is used from the sampled fixtures and equipment.
3. Based upon EPA guidance, the water should sit in the pipes unused for at least 8 hours, but not more than 18 hours, before a sample is collected. If samples are collected following vacations, weekends, or holidays, arrangements will be made to ensure adequate flushing of fixtures and equipment at least 8 hours prior to sampling.
4. GCPS staff will identify drinking water outlets at each facility approximately 4 weeks prior to sampling. Fixtures and equipment to be sampled will include the following as a minimum, where applicable. Not all drinking water sources noted below will be present at each facility:
 - a. Water fountains and water bottle fillers
 - b. Elementary classroom water fountains
 - c. Cafeteria kitchen sinks and equipment
 - d. Drinking water sources in gyms and athletic facilities
 - e. Other identified locations where drinking water is typically obtained.
5. GCPS staff taking samples will be trained in appropriate water sampling methodology.
6. The day of sampling, GCPS staff will arrive prior to normal facility opening and confirm, to the best of their knowledge, that fixtures and equipment have not been used for at least 8 hours or been unused for no more than 18 hours.
7. All samples will be collected from a cold water tap.
8. Sample locations will be clearly marked on a floor plan. The types of samples collected include the following:
 - a. One 250-milliliter (250 mL) sample collected from each designated location as a primary “first draw sample”.
 - b. Each “first draw sample” will be collected in a pre-labeled 250 ml sample bottle provided by RTI International. Samples will have a unique identification number.
 - c. A key approved in advance by GCPS, will be provided in the report to aid in identification of each sample location.
9. Filled sample bottles will be placed in a separate box for each facility and a corresponding laboratory chain of custody form including the unique identification number, date and time, and analysis type will go with each box to the laboratory.
10. All samples will be submitted within 10 days of sample draw to RTI International for laboratory analysis of lead in drinking water per U.S. EPA Method 200.8DW.

11. GCPS staff collecting samples will clearly record the (1) Facility Name, (2) location of each sample site, (3) date, and (4) time of each sample.
12. RTI International will inform GCPS of sample results in a timely manner and subsequently post the results on their website for public review.
13. Assigned GCPS staff will review results to identify any fixture or equipment with a sample result exceeding the EPA standard for safe drinking water of 15 micrograms/liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$), equivalent to parts per billion (ppb).
14. Any fixture or equipment identified with a result exceeding the EPA standard will promptly be shut off, or otherwise removed for service until such time that it can be remediated, resampled, and shown to be safe.