

August 20, 2021

Good morning,

In June of 2021, updates were made to the Code of Maryland Regulations, requiring evaluation of drinking water in all schools. Temple Emanuel conducted the testing in July; samples of drinking water throughout the building were collected and tested for the presence of lead by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC).

We are pleased to report that there were no elevated lead results in any of the drinking water outlets in the ECC, the religious school classroom areas, drinking water fountains in the lobby, or in the temple office. In the main kitchen there were three fixtures with elevated sample results; however, according to the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), because the kitchen had been dormant since the start of the pandemic, this was not surprising. Typically, lead in water occurs through corrosion of plumbing products containing lead, which can be exacerbated by stagnant water in pipes. We collected additional 'flush' samples for those fixtures, after the water had been running for a pre-determined length of time, and WSSC analyzed those and found no elevated levels of lead, which means any trace of lead was confined to the main kitchen.

The three affected fixtures were replaced within the week following the discovery of the lead. We will repeat lead testing after the work is complete to confirm that we have no detections. In the meantime, these fixtures are not being used.

For more information about the sample results and about MDE requirements for lead testing and remediation, please see the attached document. Protecting the health and wellbeing of your child(ren) and our entire community is our top priority. We are committed to keeping you informed and addressing any questions you may have, so please be in touch with any queries.

On behalf of all of us at Temple Emanuel, thank you in advance for your support.

L'shalom,

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