



# Get The Lead Out

## ENSURING SAFE DRINKING WATER FOR FLORIDA'S CHILDREN AT SCHOOL

In the wake of the tragedy in Flint, Michigan, we now know the threat of toxic lead in drinking water extends to thousands of communities across the country, including right here in Florida. In fact, lead is even contaminating drinking water in schools and pre-schools—flowing from fountains and faucets where our kids drink water every day.

### THERE IS NO SAFE LEVEL OF LEAD

Lead is highly toxic, especially for children. A potent neurotoxin, lead affects how our children learn, grow and behave. According to the EPA, “In children, low levels of [lead] exposure have been linked to damage to the central and peripheral nervous system, learning disabilities...” and more.

**Simply put: There is no safe level of lead.**

### LEAD IN SCHOOL WATER

As more schools test their water for lead, they are finding widespread contamination. **In Florida, lead has been found in water at 24 schools tested in 2 counties.** Across the country, schools’ water is laced with lead in all kinds of communities—from urban neighborhoods to rural towns to affluent suburbs.

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# Just The Tip Of The Iceberg

The confirmed cases of lead in school's water are just the tip of the iceberg. Any school built before 2014 is likely to have significant lead in its pipes, plumbing and/or fixtures. And where there is lead, there is risk of contamination.

## WHAT WE CAN DO:

- **Install Filters Now:** Installing filters certified to remove lead on all faucets and fountains is an easy, low-cost step schools can take to begin protecting children immediately.
- **Get The Lead Out:** Replacing pipes, plumbing, fountains and/or fixtures that contain lead is the most effective, permanent solution to prevent contamination of the water our children drink at school.
- **Ace The Test:** Regularly test all outlets used for drinking or cooking, using proper sampling methods that are more likely to detect lead contamination.
- **Communicate:** Plans and actual steps taken to prevent lead contamination, along with all test results, should be made easily accessible to parents, teachers and the public.

See our entire toolkit here: [FCANF.org/GTLO](https://www.fcane.org/GTLO)

Or scan:



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