



To: Occupants of Carrington Hall  
 From: Catherine Brennan, Executive Director of Environment, Health and Safety  
 Date: September 26, 2022  
 Re: Lead in Drinking Fountains

Occupants of Carrington Hall,

Recent water testing of fixtures by Environment, Health and Safety revealed detectable levels of lead in eight drinking fountains in your building. The fountains are on the ground, first, second, third, fourth and fifth floors. The fountains have been removed from service, and signage directs people not to use them. They will be replaced. Three other drinking fountains were tested as well but came back with results of non-detectable.

The University uses the Environmental Protection Agency sampling protocol for testing fixtures for detectable lead. This protocol involves flushing the fixture the afternoon prior to collecting samples to clear stagnant water from the lines. Environment, Health and Safety personnel return in the morning to collect two sequential samples in an effort to identify the potential source of lead.

Using this protocol, the tests came back with the following data:

Location	Type	1st Sample (ppb)	2nd Sample (ppb)
Ground floor beside room L10 (Biobehavioral Lab)	drinking fountain	6.44	non-detectable
5th floor across from room 511 (telecom closet)	drinking fountain	10.6	7.89
4th floor across from room 411 (telecom closet)	drinking fountain	39.9	31.5
4th floor across from room 454A (electrical closet) and elevators	drinking fountain	6.29	5.39
3rd floor across from room 306 (telecom closet)	drinking fountain	44.6	36.7
2nd floor across from room 206A (telecom closet)	drinking fountain	6.9	non-detectable



2nd floor across from room 254A (electrical closet)	drinking fountain	7.51	non-detectable
1st floor across from room 104 (conference room)	drinking fountain	69.6	81

Lead in drinking water may arise from corrosion of lead plumbing materials within fixtures.

Lead can cause serious health problems. Information about the effects of lead in water can be found on the [CDC's website](#) and on the [EPA's website](#).

While the EPA requires public water systems to take action to lower lead levels in the water when the testing of water fixtures shows a lead level of 15 ppb or higher in more than 10% of taps sampled, we are taking action for any measurable lead.

More information will be coming soon for health testing.

Questions can be directed to the Environment, Health and Safety Department at 919-962-5507. Updates can also be seen at the [EHS website](#). If you have further concerns, please contact the University Employee Occupational Health Clinic at 919-966-9119.

Thank you,

Catherine Brennan

Executive Director of Environment, Health and Safety

UNC-Chapel Hill