To: Occupants of Spencer Residence Hall  
From: Catherine Brennan, Executive Director of Environment, Health and Safety  
Date: October 18, 2022  
Re: Drinking Water Testing - UPDATE

Occupants of Spencer Residence Hall,

Environment, Health and Safety has completed comprehensive lead testing of the in-room sinks in your building and has found 57 out of 84 in-room sinks with detectable lead present. The results range from 1.1 ppb to 34.6 ppb with 3 out of the 84 above the EPA action level of 15 ppb. Because these sinks are in private residence rooms, specific levels for each room will be communicated in separate notifications directly with room occupants.

We understand this is concerning, and you may have questions. We are responding with an aggressive, campus-wide effort working closely with our faculty experts to address this issue. We will be clearly communicating with residents whose sinks have been identified. In most cases for adults, it would take many years of exposure to water with detectable levels of lead for an adult to experience adverse health effects.

We are investigating further to determine the scope of the lead, and there will be a question and answer Zoom session at 1 p.m. tomorrow (10/19) to answer additional questions. That session can be accessed with the following Zoom link: https://go.unc.edu/SpencerQA  
If needed, the passcode is 152017.

The University is also deploying additional drinking water coolers in your residence hall for occupants to utilize while the investigation continues. Please do not use any water fixtures that are taped off or have signs stating to not use them.

Beyond these in-room sinks, 10 other drinking fixtures in this building have been tested and seven of those are currently in service and have been found to have no lead.

The University is making health testing for lead available to all UNC-Chapel Hill faculty, staff and students who work, study or live in the affected buildings.

To speak to a campus health provider about getting tested:

- Students and post-doctoral fellows should contact Campus Health at 919-966-2281.

People who are pregnant, breastfeeding, at high risk as defined by the CDC, and who work or are students in affected buildings may want to consider getting a blood lead level test.
Questions can be directed to the Environment, Health and Safety Department at 919-962-5507. Campuswide drinking water information can also be seen at the EHS website and on the EHS Twitter account at @unc_ehs.

Thank you,
Catherine Brennan
Executive Director of Environment, Health and Safety
UNC-Chapel Hill