



*Believe • Celebrate • Succeed*

September 30, 2021

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Staff:

The Forum School is committed to protecting students' and staff's health. To protect our community and be in compliance with the Department of Education regulations, The Forum School tested our drinking water for lead.

In accordance with the Department of Education regulations, The Forum School will implement immediate remedial measures for any drinking water outlet with a result greater than the action level of 15  $\mu\text{g/l}$  (ppb). This will include turning off the outlet unless it is determined the location must remain on for non-drinking purposes. In these cases, a "DO NOT DRINK – SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY" sign will be posted.

#### What Were the Results of our Testing?

Following instructions given in technical guidance developed by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, we completed a plumbing profile for our buildings. Through this effort, we identified and tested all drinking water and food preparation outlets. We are happy to report, of the samples taken on September 3, 2021, all tested below the lead action level established by the US Environmental Protection Agency for lead in drinking water (15  $\mu\text{g/l}$  [ppb]).

#### Why Test School Drinking Water for Lead?

Lead can cause serious health problems if too much enters the body from drinking water or other sources. Lead is most dangerous for pregnant women, infants, and children under 6 years old. Exposure to high levels of lead during pregnancy contributes to low birth weight and developmental delays in infants. In young children, lead exposure can lower IQ levels, affect hearing, reduce attention span, and hurt school performance. At *very* high levels, lead can even cause brain damage.

Adults with kidney problems and high blood pressure can be affected by low levels of lead more than healthy adults.

#### How Does Lead Enter our Water?

Lead is rarely found in the source water; rather it enters the drinking water primarily as a result of the corrosion, or wearing away, of materials containing lead in the service line or interior plumbing. These materials include lead-based solder used to join copper pipe, brass and chrome-plated brass faucets, and in some cases, pipes made of lead that connect buildings to water mains (service lines). In 1986, Congress banned the use of lead solder containing greater than 0.2% lead, and restricted the lead content of faucets, pipes, and other plumbing materials. However, even the lead in plumbing materials meeting these new requirements is subject to corrosion. When water

stands in lead pipes or plumbing systems containing lead for several hours or more, the lead may dissolve into the drinking water. This means the first water drawn from the tap in the morning *may* contain fairly high levels of lead.

What Actions Are We Taking?

Prior to sampling, The Forum School developed a Lead Sampling Plan and conducted a plumbing profile. The purpose of the plumbing profile was to identify all drinking water and food preparation outlets.

How Can I Learn More?

A copy of the test results is available in our central office for inspection by the public, including students, staff, and parents/guardians.

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's website at [www.epa.gov/lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead), call the National Lead Information Center at 1-800-424-LEAD (5323), or contact your healthcare provider.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brian Detlefsen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Brian" being more prominent than the last name "Detlefsen".

Brian Detlefsen  
Director

Written Program Indoor Air Quality Standard - PEOSH  
Indoor Air Quality Survey & Testing for Sick Building Syndrome  
Remediation/Cleanup of Mold & Moisture Problems in Schools & Commercial Buildings  
Indoor Air Quality in Schools Awareness Training for Administrative/Maintenance Personnel  
Asbestos Surveys and AHERA Management Plans  
AHERA 2 Hour Awareness Training  
"Non-Friable" Asbestos Final Air Clearance Sampling  
Right to Know Survey, Compliance & PEOSHA Training  
Written Hazard Communication Program (PEOSHA HCS)

**RAMM Environmental Services, Inc.**

*Commitment, Excellence, Integrity*

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77 Nottingham Road, PO Box 308  
Fair Lawn, New Jersey 07410  
Phone: (201) 475-9880  
Fax: (201) 475-9881

September 27, 2021

Forum School  
107 Wyckoff Avenue  
Waldwick, NJ 07463-1734  
Attn.: Brian Detlefsen  
Principal

**Re: Lead in Drinking Water Analysis at Forum School and Life Skills Building –  
Waldwick, New Jersey**

Dear Brian:

Pursuant to your request, in regards to the above referenced subject, **RAMM Environmental Services, Inc.** is pleased to submit to you our report including findings, analysis and recommendations.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to call upon me at (201) 475-9880. Thank you very much.

Respectfully submitted,  
RAMM Environmental Services, Inc.

*Rodger Headrick*

Rodger Headrick, CMRS  
President

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Written Program Indoor Air Quality Standard - PEOSH  
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**LEAD IN DRINKING WATER ANALYSIS  
FOR  
FORUM SCHOOL AND LIFE SKILLS BUILDING  
WALDWICK, NEW JERSEY  
SEPTEMBER 3, 2021**

**Prepared for:  
Forum School  
107 Wyckoff Avenue  
Waldwick, NJ 07463-1734  
Attn.: Brian Detlefsen  
Principal  
Tel: (201) 444-5882**

**Prepared by:  
RAMM Environmental Services, Inc.  
77 Nottingham Road, PO Box 308  
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410  
Mr. Rodger Headrick  
President  
Tel: (201) 475-9880  
Fax: (201) 475-9881**

**September 27, 2021**

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**INTRODUCTION**

RAMM Environmental Services, Inc. was requested by the Forum School to perform water sampling for lead content at the Forum School and Life Skills Building located in Waldwick, New Jersey.

Water quality sampling functions were performed by RAMM at the Forum School and Life Skills Building located in Waldwick, New Jersey on September 3, 2021, to determine the quality of drinking water for lead content. Water sampling began in the morning after all water outlets had remained unused for a minimum of eight (8) hours.

**WATER QUALITY MONITORING RESULTS  
LEAD IN DRINKING WATER ANALYSIS**

Lead in drinking water sampling was performed during RAMM's September 3, 2021 site visit. The (E.P.A.) Environmental Protection Agency has established an enforceable lead concentration action level for public water supplies. The lead action level is 15 micrograms per liter (mg/L) = parts per billion (ppb), which is equivalent to 0.015 milligrams per liter (mg/L) = parts per million (ppm).

Forum School and Life Skills Building

Lead in drinking water measurements were collected in eight (8) different locations of the building.

<i>Sample #</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Lead Concentration</i>
Field Blank	Field Blank	None Detected
21-0903-01	Main Entrance (Water Fountain 1)	2.87 ppb
21-0903-02	Kitchen (Filtered Water)	10.8 ppb
21-0903-03	Kitchen (Food Prep Sink 1)	5.87 ppb
21-0903-04	Kitchen (Food Prep Sink 2)	3.03 ppb
21-0903-05	Kitchen (Food Prep Sink 3)	3.23 ppb
21-0903-06	New Wing (Water Fountain 2)	3.09 ppb
21-0903-07	Life Skills Kitchen (Food Prep Sink 1)	None Detected
21-0903-08	Life Skills Kitchen (Food Prep Sink 2)	5.18 ppb

All results report less than the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S.E.P.A.) Guidelines and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (N.J.D.E.P.) for safe drinking water (15 ppb). Currently the drinking water is safe and poses no health hazard to building occupants.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

Continue operation and maintenance as normal. Re-test all drinking water outlets during the 2024-2025 school year.