



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION
PRIVATE WELL PROGRAM

Sanitary Maintenance of School Water Coolers



The Lead Contamination Control Act of 1988 is history. With it, hopefully went the last of the electric water coolers with their lead-lined storage tanks and lead based soldered pipe connections. To keep water quality problems from occurring in the future the following checks of electric water coolers should be done at least annually.

Ensure proper sanitary flow = 1-qt./minute or about a 3"arc out of nozzle because:

- User's mouth will not contact water nozzle
- Water droplets from user's mouth will not fall back onto nozzle
- Ensures a proper water flow through lines

Check & clean all influent & effluent screens

Check & flush tanks/reservoirs in electric coolers, if equipped with drain, (2qt.cap.)

Check that water runs cold after a 1 minute run time, if not, check compressors for low coolant levels

For new installations of coolers/ bubblers:

- Keep number of soldered joints to a minimum
- Avoid electrical grounds in close proximity to unit

The following EPA website has more information on water coolers:

http://www.epa.gov/safewater/schools/pdfs/lead/toolkit_leadschools_guide_3ts_leadschools.pdf



Phone: (860) 509-7296, Fax: (860) 509-7295
Telephone Device for the Deaf (860) 509-7191
410 Capitol Avenue - MS # 51REC
P.O. Box 340308 Hartford, CT 06134
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