

From: OMS-MassMailer-Mailbox <OMS-MassMailer-Mailbox@epa.gov>

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To: All HQ Feds-nonFeds <All_HQ_Feds-nonFeds@epa.gov>

Subject: FYSA – GSA Water Testing Results for WJC North and South Buildings



OFFICE OF MISSION SUPPORT

This email message is being sent to HQ EPA Employees

The General Services Administration has been conducting baseline drinking-water quality tests at approximately 1,400 federally owned facilities and approximately 6,000 leased spaces, covering all federal tenants, including EPA. On Monday, Aug. 26, the GSA shared preliminary findings from an Aug. 7 routine water test of the William Jefferson Clinton North and South buildings. The test results indicated the presence of Legionella in the following locations:

- Fountain by Men's Restroom 7137
- Fountain by Office 1311
- Fountain by Office 1105
- Pantry Sink 2321
- Expansion Tank B451
- Expansion Tank B200

GSA swiftly closed the contaminated sources, implemented corrective actions, and conducted additional testing. The impacted water sources will remain inoperable pending further sampling and analysis, with results expected 10-14 days following testing.

We are confident there are plenty of clean drinking water sources accessible to the WJC North and South building occupants and visitors.

GSA finished testing the WJC North and South buildings before testing the WJC East and West buildings. They will share the results for the WJC East and West buildings when available.

What You Should Know

A contractor working for the GSA Public Building Service performed the initial water test as part of their [requirements for effectively managing and overseeing drinking water](#). According to the [GSA Water Quality Management Fact Sheet](#), the presence of Legionella is not typically a reason to close a facility. Effective management depends on taking swift corrective action, communicating clearly, conducting follow-up testing to measure success, and ensuring safe drinking water is available.

Legionella bacteria naturally exist in freshwater but can become a concern in building water systems when contaminated water becomes aerosolized. It is not generally transmitted through person-to-person contact or by consuming water. For more information about Legionella and other water-borne bacteria, visit the [Centers for Disease Control's Water Contamination and Diseases website](#).

We will continue to provide updates as we receive them from GSA. To answer employee questions, the Office of Mission Support will hold an agencywide meeting with occupational safety and health experts to discuss GSA's water testing and the results, details of which are forthcoming.