

## Guidance for Completing the Lead in Water Mitigation Request Form

This guide will walk you through filling out the required information to request mitigation from the Clean Classrooms for Carolina Kids™ program for any drinking and cooking taps with lead at or above the state action level (10 parts per billion [ppb]). Different information will be collected according to the type of tap with the lead exceedance (e.g., bottle filler, bubbler, faucet, water fountain). This information is important to be able to correctly replace any faucets or fountains with certified lead-free parts.

### The following questions are required for all taps:

**Was this tap used for food preparation (including preparing formula) for children or students on a daily basis?**

**Child Care Facilities:** “Food preparation” is defined as the handling of foods or utensils during the preparation of meals, including the opening and closing of baby bottles, baby food jars, and cereal boxes, as well as the opening and closing of any other food items while assembling the ingredients.

For more information about food preparation and sanitation practices at child care facilities, see the North Carolina Administrative Code (NCAC) here: [15A NCAC 18A. 2801](#).

A tap should be designated as “used for **food preparation**” if the water at that location is used for any of the following: boiling or cooking any foods, preparing infant formula, or washing raw fruits and vegetables or other foods.

*Note that taps **only** used for washing kitchenware, service ware, or utensils (e.g., dishwashers, dishwashing taps) should **not** be designated as “used for food preparation.”*

#### Are other taps connected to this unit?

Lead levels can vary from tap to tap, so facilities were asked to inventory and then sample all drinking and cooking taps even if they are part of the same “unit.” A single unit can include one or more drinking or cooking taps.

**Example 1:** A bi-level water fountain (shown to the right) is considered a single unit.

Facilities should have sampled two different taps: one for the higher drinking level (Tap #1), and one for the lower drinking level (Tap #2).

**Example 2:** A pre-rinse sink with a faucet and a sprayer (shown to the right) that is used for food preparation is considered a single unit. Facilities should have sampled two different taps: one for the faucet (Tap #1) and one for the sprayer (Tap #2).

If one or more taps from the same unit have an exceedance above the state action level, then the entire unit must be replaced. In Examples 1 and 2, a facility would indicate “**Yes, other taps are connected to this unit.**” The facility would then click on the dropdown menu and select the other taps on the same unit according to tap type and name.



### The following questions are required for all faucets:

The following information will be collected for faucets:

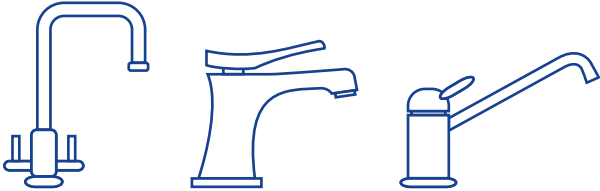
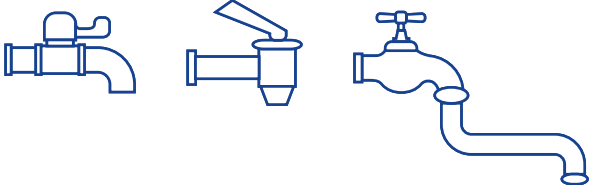
#### Mounting Information

Facilities will need to determine the mounting style and number of mounting holes for each tap. Styles and examples are provided in **Table 1**.

## Mounting Style

There are two types of mounting styles for a faucet: deck mount or well mount, which are shown in **Table 1**.

**Table 1. Two Different Mounting Styles for Faucets.**

Mounting Styles	
<b>Deck Mount</b> Attaches to a countertop or rests on the sink.	
<b>Wall Mount</b> Attaches through the wall or to the back of the sink basin.	

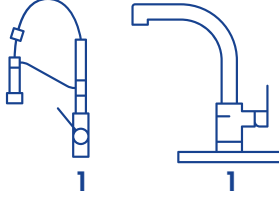
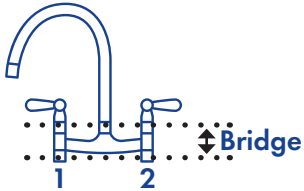
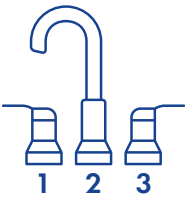
## Mounting Holes

### How many mounting holes are there in the mounting plate?

Mounting holes, which are also called faucet holes, are the spaces to hold faucets, handles, or other accessories, such as sprayers and soap dispensers. You can often tell how many holes there are just by looking at the sink, but you may need to check underneath to determine the number of mounting holes if there is a mounting plate.

Guidance regarding the number of mounting holes is provided in **Table 2**, along with diagrams.

**Table 2. Guidance for Faucets with Different Numbers of Mounting Holes.**

Mounting Holes	
<b>One hole in the countertop or wall.</b> Faucets with one mounting hole often have one handle or lever to control water flow and temperature.	
<b>Two holes in the countertop or wall.</b> Faucets with two mounting holes often have two handles connected by a horizontal pipe. The horizontal pipe, or bridge, between the two handles, may be visible at the base or may be underneath the countertop or sink.	
<b>Three holes in the countertop or wall.</b> Faucets with a single handle or lever and faucets with two handles can both have three mounting holes. It is important to check underneath the faucet to confirm the number of mounting holes.	

## Faucet Measurements

Facilities will need a ruler or tape measure handy to measure the center distance, spout height, spout reach, and faucet height in inches. Each measurement is defined in **Table 3**, along with a diagram.

**Table 3. Definitions of Faucet Measurements.**

### FAUCET MEASUREMENTS

#### Center Distance

The horizontal distance between the two furthest mounting holes.

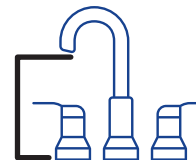
*Note that the center distance is only applicable for faucets with more than one mounting hole.*



Center Distance

#### Spout Height

The vertical distance from the countertop or mounting plate to the bottom of the spout opening where the water exits.



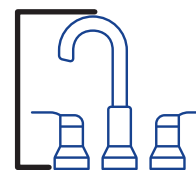
Spout Height

#### Faucet Height

The vertical distance from the countertop or mounting plate to the highest point of the faucet, which is usually where the faucet arches or curves, but it can sometimes be the top of the handle.

For a pre-rinse sink, go to the top of where the hose begins to arch or curve.

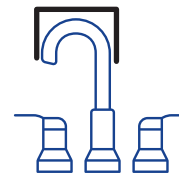
*As a quick check of the measurements taken, be sure the faucet height is larger than the spout height.*



Faucet Height

#### Spout Reach

The horizontal distance from the spout opening to the faucet body.



Spout Reach

## Additional Tap Information

### Is there space available underneath the faucet or sink where a water filter could be installed?

Yes/No—Water filters provided by our program will be approximately 13.5 inches in length and 5 inches in width and can be installed either vertically or horizontally.

### Is the water shut-off valve underneath the sink/faucet accessible?

Yes/No—Technicians contracted by our program will need to shut off the water to the tap when replacing plumbing products, so we need to know whether a shut-off valve is underneath the sink/faucet and easily accessible. Some shut-off valves may be at a different location or installed behind the wall. If that is the case, then mark "No."

## The following question is required for bubblers on classroom sinks:

### Should the bubbler at this tap be removed and capped?

Yes/No—The decision to remove and cap the bubbler is up to the discretion of the facilities but is covered by our program.

The following questions are required for all bottle fillers and water fountains:

The Clean Classrooms for Carolina Kids program recommends removing and capping bubblers on classroom sinks that have elevated lead levels. Removing and capping bubblers help reduce the number of drinking water taps that facilities need to manage and encourage staff and students to use designated bottle fillers and water fountains.

### Fountain Style

Facilities will need to indicate whether the water fountain is either single level or bi-level.

- Single level has only one height for drinking.
- Bi-level has two bubblers at two different heights for drinking.

### Is electrical power available at this fountain? (Yes/No)

Facilities will need to indicate whether electrical power is available at the current water fountain. Refrigerated fountains require an electrical outlet and include a power cord with a plug but not all water fountains are refrigerated.



Single Level



Bi-level