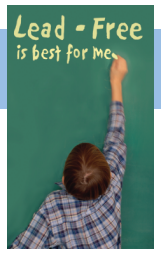

Training, Testing, and Telling

Introducing the **3Ts** for **Reducing Lead** in **Drinking Water** in **Schools** and **Child Care Facilities**

Introducing the 3Ts

The 3Ts outreach program is in response to rising public concern over the health risks posed by elevated lead levels in the drinking water of our nation's schools and child care facilities.

In launching the 3Ts campaign, EPA's objective is to provide school officials and child care facility operators with the tools they need to understand and address lead in drinking water in their local communities:

Training – focuses on alerting school administrators, custodians, utilities and water officials to the risks of lead poisoning and the means of mitigating those risks.

Testing – underscores the importance of monitoring lead levels in school and child care facility drinking water to identify and respond to any existing problems.

Telling – emphasizes the need to communicate with the public regarding all facets of the issue, from funding and initiating a testing protocol, to reporting results, if needed, and proposing a remediation strategy.

A Collaborative Effort

The EPA recognizes that schools, child care facilities and local government officials have limited budgets with which to address an increasing number of health and safety issues. Therefore, it is important to note that the 3Ts program is not an endorsement of new Federal mandates. It is, instead, a call for education, collaboration, and partnership-building to find necessary funding and encourage utilities to be more sensitive to public concern about water quality.

Your 3Ts Toolkit

To implement an outreach program of education and advocacy, our toolkit includes the following materials and resources. It is designed for easy adaptation to your local needs, either selectively or in its entirety.

Page Two - **Training, Testing, and Telling**

Training

- Fact Sheet
- Frequently Asked Questions
- National Resources and Information

Telling

- Template Introductory Letter to Parents and Caregivers
- Template Newsletter Articles (2)
- Ways to Display Onsite Information
- Organizing a Workshop or Open House
- Workshop Agenda and Discussion Guidelines
- Template Information Update Announcement
- Template Public Address
- Issue and Crisis Management Guidelines

Testing

- 3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools: Revised Technical Guidance
- 3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Child Care Facilities: Revised Guidance