

Office of School Facilities



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School Revolving Renovation Fund

The Department is accepting applications to receive funding for school renovation projects through the School Revolving Renovation Fund (SRRF). The application deadline is October 29, 2021. Applications for "Priority One" and "Priority Two" projects will be accepted. Priority One projects include indoor air quality improvement, structural roof repair, hazardous material abatement or removal, ADA compliance upgrades, and other health, safety and compliance renovations. Priority Two SRRF projects include school building structures, windows and doors, and water and septic systems. Applications and additional information are available here: <https://www.maine.gov/doe/schools/facilities/srrf>.

Leased Space

Applications for instructional leased space for FY'22 are available on the School Facilities website: <https://www.maine.gov/doe/schools/facilities/lsp>. The submission deadline is September 15, 2021.

Integrated Pest Management

Public Law, Chapter 197, [An Act To Protect Children from Exposure to Toxic Chemicals](#) was signed by Governor Mills on Monday, June 14, 2021. The statute prohibits the use of glyphosate or dicamba within 75 feet of school grounds, which includes the outdoor area around school buildings and athletic fields. This is an opportunity review alternative approaches to vegetation management. Two excellent sources of information on vegetation management are: Gotpests.org and [UMaine pest ID](#). Please direct any questions to the Board of Pesticides Control at pesticides@maine.gov.

To assist facilities staff as they prepare buildings and grounds for the new school year, Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry School Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program provides a website https://www.maine.gov/dacf/php/integrated_pest_management/school/index.shtml that explains a sustainable approach to preventing and managing pests, including technical resources. Please direct any questions to School IPM at 287-389 or dacf@maine.gov.

[Governor's Executive Order 7](#) FY 20/21 exempts school employees from pesticide applicator licensing requirements for the use of powered sprayers to apply disinfectants and sanitizers in the course of routine cleaning if the following requirements are met: school employees using power equipment complete Disinfectant Applicator Training; products applied by powered equipment must be labeled for use with powered equipment, registered by the Board of Pesticides Control, and approved by EPA for use with SARS-CoV-2; and schools must keep detailed records of applications. Please direct any questions to Maine Board of Pesticides Control at pesticides@maine.gov.

Testing of Drinking Water for Lead and Other Contaminants

During the 129th Legislative Session [LD 153](#) was passed, requiring that all school drinking and cooking water fixtures be tested for lead. The rules responsive to this statute were passed in a resolve of the current legislative session, *LD 206 [An Act to Strengthen Lead Testing in Maine Schools](#)*. In accordance with the resolve, a pilot program will be launched this summer and eventually be rolled out to all schools during the 2021-2022 school year and beyond. All schools will either need to work with their local water professional or use the provided training materials to identify water sampling locations, collect water samples, coordinate with the designated laboratory, report results, and follow up with plans/procedures/actions based on the sampling results. Schools should designate someone for this responsibility. The Maine Drinking Water Program will provide more detailed information and instructions including webinars. For more information, please visit the Maine Drinking Water Program website at www.medwp.com/schools.html. If you have specific questions about the program, you can contact the Drinking Water Program at 207-287-2070.

Per [LD 129](#) "Resolve, To Protect Consumers of Public Drinking Water by Establishing Maximum Contaminant Levels for Certain Substances and Contaminants" Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention has authority to develop testing and drinking water requirements for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (aka PFAS). Initial monitoring is planned to begin on or before December 31, 2022. Please direct any questions to the [Maine Drinking Water Program](#) at 287-2070.