

Balaclava Water – Facts

Regulation 170/03 Drinking Water Systems is followed at Balaclava School. This regulation dictates training requirements (for caretakers and supervisors), testing and reporting requirements. Specifically:

Morning flushing and testing protocol

Water is flushed at 2 designated points for 45 min.

Caretaker samples water at the designated test tap in the water treatment room. Testing is for chlorine levels, turbidity levels and for checking operational parameters (e.g., water pressure and system settings).

The information collected is logged into our electronic tracking system and Occupational Health and Safety Department at HWDSB are notified if there are any issues.

Public Health, the Ministry of the Environment and Conservation and Parks, and Ministry of Education are all notified when water is adversely impacted.

If the water does not meet 170/03 requirements the system is bagged and an alternate source of drinking water is provided (HWDSB protocol).

Necessary adjustments are performed in consultation with Public Health to ensure the water we provide is safe.

A written report of the event and corrective action is then sent to Public Health, the Ministry of the Environment, and Ministry of Education.

Afternoon protocol

Water sample is taken at 2 pm and checked for chlorine levels and turbidity.

Results are logged in the electronic tracking system.

If there are any adverse results the same process is followed as above.

Balaclava's filtration and purification system is a three-step system. Water is first filtered for any sediment (this is what would contribute to turbidity). It then passes over a UV lamp that serves to kill contaminants. The final step is the injection of chlorine which disinfects the water. **Note:** acceptable level of chlorine is .75 mg/l., anything outside this range triggers the system being taken offline until the levels are rebalanced. If no disinfection is present hand-washing stations are provided.

Sampling is done monthly for microbial testing pre- and post treatment. This is to check source water as well as the effectiveness of water treatment.

December 2018 – system upgrades were completed. This involved installing a new dual chlorine injection system. The school was on bottled water for 4 days while chlorine levels were established.