

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

Refer to: PS, CPB-14
April 1970

FLUORIDATION OF SCHOOL WATER SUPPLIES

A joint memo on the above subject from the Bureau of Water Hygiene and Division of Dental Health was sent to all state health departments in February. That memo indicated that the Public Health Service endorsed the fluoridation of school water supplies, in communities which do not have community water systems, as an effective method of improving the dental health of children. Since nearly one-fourth of the population of the United States does not have access to central water systems, school fluoridation is an important part of any statewide program to improve dental health.

The enclosed leaflet and endorsement of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officers are additional aids for use in a program for fluoridation of school water supplies. A supply of the leaflet is being sent to State Dental Directors and Regional Dental Consultants under separate cover.

Division of Dental Health
Community Programs Branch
9000 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, Maryland 20014

2 Enclosures

SCHOOL WATER FLUORIDATION

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officers recommends school water fluoridation as a public health measure for children residing in areas where community water fluoridation is not physically possible and further that this policy statement be transmitted to ADA and other concerned agencies by the officers of the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors.

Resolution adopted by the Association of State and Territorial Officers on December 9, 1969.

**SCHOOL FLUORIDATION...
NEW PROTECTION FOR
A CHILD'S SMILE**



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
Public Health Service • National Institutes of Health
Bureau of Health Professions Education and Manpower Training
Division of Dental Health • Bethesda, Maryland 20014

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government
Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402
Price 5 cents each; \$2.25 per 100 copies

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1970 O - 374-892



child's smile is a lovely sight.

It's a long-established scientific fact that drinking fluoridated water from the time of birth assures better teeth for life by preventing up to 65% of tooth decay.

Of course, this can happen only in communities served by fluoridated water supplies.

But nearly a fourth of all Americans live in places that have no community water distribution systems, no way to receive community-wide fluoridation protection.

Now there is a way to help the children in these places too.

Now it's possible to fluoridate the water supply of an individual school. The costs of equipment, chemicals, and maintenance are minimal.

School fluoridation studies have been conducted over the past 15 years in communities where there are no central water supplies.

Results show that children who drink fluoridated water only during school hours have at least 30% fewer cavities than children who drink no fluoridated water at all.

In the school fluoridation program, approximately 4.5 times as much fluoride is added to the water as would be used in a community water supply, thus compensating for the fact that children consume water from the school water supply only part time.

School fluoridation is an attractive program for children living in places not served by community water supplies. It is **not an alternative to community fluoridation** for places served by community-wide water distribution systems. For such places, community fluoridation is recommended because it provides greater tooth decay preventive benefits for the children.

**A child's smile is a lovely sight.
Protect it.**



For more information, contact:

- **Your State Health Department**
- **Dental Consultant
Regional Office
Department of Health, Education,
and Welfare
or
Division of Dental Health
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20014**