



# K-12 Site Assessment Resources

The following resources may be used by your site assessment team and/or school planning team to improve the safety and security of your school in the short term and long term.

## SITE ASSESS MOBILE APPLICATION (APP)

### REMS TA Center, 2021

Facilitates the collaborative “walk around” and examination of the school building and grounds to increase safety, security, accessibility, and emergency preparedness. This customizable, secure tool is compatible with iOS and Android operating systems. Users may upload images directly into SITE ASSESS; export data into Word or Excel for record keeping, data aggregation, and analysis; and learn about Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) and Universal Design/accessibility.

### REMS TA CENTER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES ON SITE ASSESS

#### Virtual Training by Request

2.5-hour Train-the-Educator that teaches participants about site assessments and how to use the SITE ASSESS mobile app. Delivered virtually with expert trainers. <https://rems.ed.gov/VirtualTBRs>

#### Live Training by Request

2-hour Extension Training that provides an overview of site assessments and how to use the SITE ASSESS mobile app. Delivered in-person at your school site with expert trainers. [https://rems.ed.gov/TA\\_TrainingsByRequest.aspx](https://rems.ed.gov/TA_TrainingsByRequest.aspx)

#### Specialized Training Package

60-minute downloadable training module on using the SITE ASSESS mobile app to conduct assessments. <https://rems.ed.gov/TrainingPackage.aspx>

#### Webinars

Two 60-minute archived Webinars that provide an overview of the SITE ASSESS mobile app, its features, and its enhancements. [https://rems.ed.gov/TA\\_Webinars.aspx](https://rems.ed.gov/TA_Webinars.aspx)

The contents of this resource list are organized according to the following categories.

## Resource List Contents

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| <b>Maintaining Safe and Healthy K-12 School Facilities</b> .....      | <b>2</b> |
| Building Design in General .....                                      | 3        |
| Universal Design and Access/Functional Needs .....                    | 3        |
| Athletic Areas, Pools, and Playgrounds .....                          | 4        |
| <b>Preparing K-12 School Facilities for Hazards and Threats</b> ..... | <b>4</b> |
| Adversarial, Incidental, and Human-Caused Threats .....               | 4        |
| Biological Hazards .....  | 6        |
| Natural Hazards .....   | 8        |
| Technological Hazards .....   | 9        |

# Maintaining Safe and Healthy K-12 School Facilities

## Green Strides Website

*U.S. Department of Education, 2021*

Collects and maintains resources, tools, and Webinars to help schools reduce environmental impact and costs, improve the health and wellness of students and staff, and provide effective sustainability education.

## U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools Website

*U.S. Department of Education, 2021*

Recognizes schools that utilize promising school sustainability practices and resources. This program collects and highlights information that can be used by other schools to improve the health and wellness of schools, students, and staff, among other environmental focus areas.

## Creating Healthy Indoor Air Quality in Schools Website

*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2021*

Contains information and resources on adopting indoor air quality best practices, learning and training, managing indoor air quality effectively, healthy school renovations, and understanding indoor air quality benefits.

## Healthy School Environments Website

*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2021*

Provides information and resources on air, asbestos, asthma, buses and vehicle idling, chemical management, cleaning, lead, mercury, mold, polychlorinated biphenyls, pesticides and pest management, radon, and waste reduction in the K-12 setting.

## Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools Action Kit

*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2021*

Contains information and resources on carrying out a practical plan to improve indoor air problems at little or no cost using straightforward activities and in-house staff. This includes best practices, industry guidelines, sample policies, and a sample indoor air quality management plan.

## Water Access in Schools Microlearning Modules

*U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2020*

Trains school personnel on drinking water safety, creating a water testing program, and building access to drinking water in order to help students drink more water during the school day. These videos are part of a broader CDC Healthy Schools initiative.

## Keep It Flowing: A Practical Guide to School Drinking Water Planning, Maintenance & Repair

*Prevention Research Centers and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2014*

Contains information for state and tribal agencies and organizations; school districts, school boards, and local educational agencies; and schools regarding planning, maintaining, and repairing school drinking water infrastructure.

## Local Mitigation Planning Handbook

*U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 2013*

Provides information on hazard mitigation, including developing a mitigation strategy and mitigation action plan.

## RELEVANT HELPLINES

### Asbestos

1-800-368-5888

[asbo@epa.gov](mailto:asbo@epa.gov)

<https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/about-office-small-and-disadvantaged-business-utilization-osdbu>

### Drinking Water

1-800-426-4791

[safewater@epa.gov](mailto:safewater@epa.gov)

<https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/forms/contact-us-about-ground-water-and-drinking-water>

### Lead

1-800-424-LEAD (5323)

<https://www.epa.gov/lead/forms/lead-hotline-national-lead-information-center>

### Poison Control

1-800-222-1222

<https://www.poison.org/>

### Radon

1-800-55RADON (557-2366)

[radon@ksu.edu](mailto:radon@ksu.edu)

<https://www.epa.gov/radon/radon-hotlines-and-information-resources>

## **BUILDING DESIGN IN GENERAL**

### **Designing Safe Schools: Planning and Retrofitting for Safety in Education Facilities Webinar**

[REMS TA Center and Education Facilities Clearinghouse, 2015](#)

Provides insight on safety and security design and cost-effective features to consider for new construction of or retrofitting existing school buildings and grounds.

### **Building Science Web Page**

[U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 2021](#)

Contains publications and fact sheets on building codes that support multi-hazard mitigation planning of buildings, as well as resources that support mitigation planning for earthquakes, floods, high winds, and hurricanes.

### **School Siting Guidelines Web Page**

[U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2020](#)

Presents the EPA's School Siting Guidelines document as well as individual components, which encourage, inform, and improve consideration of environmental factors in the local school siting decision-making processes in order to help protect the health of students and staff. The guidelines are intended to be used prior to deciding on whether to renovate the existing school, build a new school on the current site, or build a new school on a new site.

### **Indoor Air Quality Design Tools for Schools Website**

[U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2016](#)

Provides strategies for key school construction and renovation issues such as preliminary design phases; control of pollutants and sources; heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning systems; moisture control; construction; commissioning; renovation and repair of existing schools; operations and maintenance; and portable classrooms.

### **Sensible Guide for Healthier School Renovations: Key Environmental Health Considerations When Renovating Schools**

[U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2016](#)

Provides school administrators, facility managers, staff, and the school community with an overview of how to avoid key environmental health hazards and ways to minimize children's exposures as they prepare for and the school undergoes renovations.

### **IS-156: Building Design for Homeland Security for Continuity of Operations Online Course**

[U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Emergency Management Institute, 2014](#)

Provides guidance on and tools for assessing the vulnerabilities and performance of buildings against terrorist threats and technological accidents. Online course participants are equipped with the ability to identify and prioritize applicable mitigation measures and understand how vulnerabilities impact selection of that site as a continuity-of-operations facility.

### **Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter Fact Sheet**

[U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, 2010](#)

Contains information on ground fault circuit interrupters, an inexpensive electrical device that reduces electrical shocks, and how to install and test them.

### **Evacuation Plans and Procedure eTool: Emergency Standards**

[U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#)

Offers recommendations for exit routes within buildings. Schools may use this resource to inform the design, construction, maintenance, and operation of exit routes within school buildings and on school grounds, as well as the development of evacuation annexes.

## **UNIVERSAL DESIGN AND ACCESS/FUNCTIONAL NEEDS**

### **Guide to Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) Accessibility Standards**

[U.S. Access Board; U.S. Department of Justice; and U.S. Department of Transportation, 2010](#)

Explains the requirements of the ADA standards for use in the construction and renovations of facilities, including schools.

### **Guide to the Architectural Barriers Act (ABA): Accessibility Standards**

*U.S. Access Board; U.S. Department of Defense; U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; General Services Administration; and U.S. Postal Service, 2004*

Contains standards to apply to facilities designed, built, altered, or leased with Federal funds as well as technical specifications for building elements specifically designed for use by children 12 and younger to help ensure accessibility by the whole school community.

### **Universal Design Web Page**

*U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Disability Employment Policy*

Provides information on universal design, as well as resources on the topic to help support implementation.

## **ATHLETIC AREAS, POOLS, AND PLAYGROUNDS**

### **The Model Aquatic Health Code (MAHC): An All-Inclusive Model Public Swimming Pool and Spa Code Website**

*U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2021*

Provides information for schools with pools to create or update existing pool codes to reduce risk for infectious disease outbreaks, drowning, and pool-chemical injuries and make swimming and other water activities healthier and safer.

### **Public Playground Safety Handbook**

*U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, 2015*

Provides information on creating a safer playground environment for children and reducing playground-related deaths and injuries.

### **Guidelines for Retrofitting Bleachers**

*U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, 2000*

Provides information on retrofitting bleachers used for sporting events, graduations, and other large events to eliminate features that present a fall hazard.

### **Guidelines for Movable Soccer Goals**

*U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, 1995*

Provides information on installing, using, and storing full-size or nearly full-size movable soccer goals to help prevent deaths and serious injuries resulting from soccer goal tip-overs.

## **Preparing K-12 School Facilities for Hazards and Threats**

---

### **ADVERSARIAL, INCIDENTAL, AND HUMAN-CAUSED THREATS**

Active shooters, adult sexual misconduct, bomb threats, bullying and cyberbullying, criminal threats or actions, cybersecurity and cyber safety, domestic violence or abuse, fire, gang violence, human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation, kidnapping, opioid overdoses and drug-related emergencies, protests and walkout demonstrations, sextortion, sexual violence or assault, suicide, and/or violent extremism

### **Responding to Student Demonstrations and Protests in Schools and School Districts Fact Sheet**

*REMS TA Center, 2018*

Provides information on demonstrations and protests, such as school walkouts; describes how schools can plan for such events; and offers CPTED as a protective measure and key planning consideration. This fact sheet also describes how site assessment may inform planning for a protest.

### **Cyber Safety Considerations for K-12 Schools and School Districts Fact Sheet**

*REMS TA Center, 2017*

Addresses cyber threats to students, including some of the most common like cyberbullying and inappropriate content. It also describes what schools can do before, during, and after an incident, such as creating responsible use policies, filtering and blocking content, stressing digital citizenship, and providing training.

### **Cybersecurity Considerations for K-12 Schools and School Districts Fact Sheet**

[\*REMS TA Center, 2017\*](#)

Introduces common cyber threats facing school and school district networks and systems, including data breaches and malware/scareware. It also describes steps to take before, during, and after a cybersecurity incident are identified, such as creating firewalls, monitoring networks, and developing and promoting policies on response use, all of which can be integrated with the site assessment as the team considers the virtual and in-person school settings.

### **Final Report of the Federal Commission on School Safety**

[\*U.S. Department of Education, U.S. Department of Justice, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and U.S. Department of Homeland Security, 2018\*](#)

Provides recommendations for improving safety at schools across the country, including best practices for school building security. One such best practice is completing a site assessment.

### **Reimagining the Role of Technology in Education: 2017 National Education Technology Plan Update**

[\*U.S. Department of Education, Office of Educational Technology, 2017\*](#)

Contains technology infrastructure information in the context of the Every Student Succeeds Act and the rise of increased technology use in the education field. This includes considerations for ubiquitous connectivity, responsible use policies, protections for student data and privacy, and device and network management. Another section focuses on approaches to assessment, how technology transforms assessment, the future of technology-based assessment, and recommendations.

### **Student-Centered Acceptable Use Policy Web Page**

[\*U.S. Department of Education, Office of Educational Technology, 2015\*](#)

Describes a challenge, a solution, and tips from a local education agency on updating the acceptable use policy in a way that makes it student-friendly.

### **Using Environmental Design to Prevent School Violence Web Page**

[\*U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2021\*](#)

Provides information on CPTED, its principles, and how schools may benefit from using CPTED principles. This Web page is part of a broader violence prevention initiative.

### **Baldrige Cybersecurity Excellence Builder: Key Questions for Improving Your Organization's Cybersecurity Performance Booklet**

[\*U.S. Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards and Technology, 2019\*](#)

Provides a self-assessment tool for organizations to better understand the effectiveness of their cybersecurity risk management efforts.

### **Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity**

[\*U.S. Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards and Technology, 2018\*](#)

Provides a set of cybersecurity activities, outcomes, and informative references; detailed guidance for developing individual organizational profiles; and help in aligning an organization's cybersecurity activities with its resources and risk tolerances. It also provides a methodology to protect individual privacy and civil liberties, while conducting cybersecurity activities.

### **K-12 School Security Guide and School Security Survey**

[\*U.S. Department of Homeland Security, 2018\*](#)

Provides preventive and protective measures to address the threat of gun violence in schools. It features two parts: a document with best practices and a school security survey.

### **Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) School Assessment**

[\*U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2017\*](#)

Helps schools rate the physical parts of the buildings and grounds that may have an impact on youth fear and aggressive behavior.

### **Advancing Safe Walking and Bicycling for Youth**

[\*National Center for Safe Routes to School and U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, 2016\*](#)

Contains approaches and countermeasures that enhance safety for student pedestrians and bicyclists.

### **Naloxone in Schools Toolkit**

[National Association of School Nurses, 2016](#)

Contains materials to help schools with a stock naloxone program to administer and maintain naloxone as a part of their opioid overdose prevention efforts. Users are required to create a free account to access the materials.

### **Primer to Design Safe School Projects in Case of Terrorist Attacks and School Shootings**

[U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 2012](#)

Provides guidance and recommendations for designing education facilities for adversarial, incidental, and human-caused threats. School administrators and the design community may use this resource to enhance school safety through the design, construction, or rehabilitation of school buildings and grounds.

### **Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Guidebook**

[National Crime Prevention Council, 2003](#)

Provides information on CPTED and is intended for developers, architects, and planners to incorporate its principles in buildings.

### **National Cybersecurity Assessments and Technical Services Web Page**

[U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency](#)

Offers free services such as cyber hygiene vulnerability scanning, phishing campaign assessment, risk and vulnerability assessment, and validated architecture design review.

## **BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS**

Contaminated food outbreaks, infectious diseases, and/or toxic materials present in school laboratories

### **Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Web Page**

[REMS TA Center, 2021](#)

Offers guidance, resources, training, and tools for K-12 schools, school districts, state/regional education agencies, and their community partners on disease transmission prevention, facility cleaning, and other topics related to COVID-19.

### **Food Safety and Food Defense for Schools (REMSExpress Volume 2, Issue 5)**

[REMS TA Center, 2006](#)

Provides information on food safety and food defense, assessing food service operation hazards, implementing measures to enhance food safety and food defense, and incorporating food safety and food defense into school emergency operations plans.

### **Improving Ventilation in Schools, Colleges, and Universities to Prevent COVID-19 Web Page**

[U.S. Department of Education, 2021](#)

Contains strategies for improving K-12 ventilation based on current recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Environmental Protection Agency.

### **Asthma-Friendly Schools: Strategies to Reduce the Risk of COVID-19 Transmission and Improve Indoor Air Quality Webinar**

[U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2021](#)

Shares best practices, strategies, and guidance and tools from Federal partners for mitigating the risk of SARS-CoV-2 transmission and creating healthy learning environments.

### **Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19): Schools and Child Care Programs Website**

[U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2021](#)

Offers guidance, information, and resources on COVID-19, including strategies for helping to prevent transmission on topics such as ventilation in K-12 schools and cleaning and disinfecting schools.

### **Implementing a Layered Approach to Address COVID-19 in Public Indoor Spaces Web Page**

[U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2021](#)

Provides considerations on reconfiguring building spaces, cleaning/disinfecting strategies, as well as engineering and administrative controls for reducing the risk of airborne transmission of COVID-19 within public indoor spaces.

**Influenza (Flu): How to Clean and Disinfect Schools to Help Slow the Spread of Flu Web Page**

*U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2021*

Provides information on cleaning and disinfecting strategies in order to prevent infectious disease and slow the spread of the influenza. The Web page includes links to the information in additional languages.

**Legionella (Legionnaires' Disease and Pontiac Fever): Prevention and Control Web Page**

*U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2021*

Contains information and toolkits for public health and building owners and operating to maintain building water systems in order to reduce the risk of Legionella growth and spread.

**Reopening Buildings After Prolonged Shutdown or Reduced Operation Web Page**

*U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2021*

Provides guidance on recommended hazard checks for building systems and devices in public facilities before reopening after a period of reduced operation in consideration of possible mold, lead, and copper contamination, as well as Legionella. This Web page is part of a broader environmental health services initiative.

**Rooted in Research: Reducing Virus Transmission, Improving Ventilation and Promoting Healthy Indoor Air Quality in Schools Webinar**

*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2021*

Shares guidance, best practices, and strategies for reducing the risk of virus exposure through building operations and assessment of ventilation rates.

**Ventilation and Virus Mitigation in Schools—Creating a Game Plan to Reduce COVID-19 Risk and Make Lasting Improvements to IAQ Webinar**

*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2021*

Provides guidance on indoor air quality improvements, risk assessment tools, and staff training techniques to aid the reduction of exposure to viruses in schools, while ensuring the longevity of healthy air quality in schools.

**Toolkit for Safe Chemical Management in K-12 Schools**

*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2020*

Offers resources on creating chemical management programs and improving chemical management practices in schools, including a safety guide for high school science and chemistry laboratories.

**Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA): Cleaning and Disinfection Web Page**

*U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2019*

Contains information on which disinfectants to use against MRSA, laundry, facility cleaning after a MRSA incident, and specific areas to consider such as surfaces, shared equipment, keyboards, and athletic facilities.

**Don't Mess With Mercury—A Mercury Spill Prevention Initiative for Schools Web Page**

*U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, 2018*

Provides information and resources on mercury spill prevention in schools, including mercury policies, safe alternatives for products that contain mercury, and safe disposal of mercury.

**Food-Safe Schools Action Guide: Creating a Culture of Food Safety**

*U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, 2014*

Provides information for school nutrition directors to enhance food safety and effectively communicate food safety messages and efforts to the whole school community.

**School Chemistry Laboratory Safety Guide**

*U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission; and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, 2006*

Offers guidance on incorporating safety signage, storage, and chemical hygiene requirements in school chemistry labs.

## **NATURAL HAZARDS**

Animals, earthquakes, extreme temperature, floods, hurricanes, landslides or mudslides, lightning, severe wind, tornadoes, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions, wildfires, and/or winter precipitation

### **Managing Pests in Schools Web Page**

[\*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2021\*](#)

Offers information and resources, such as a Webinar series, on establishing integrated pest management programs and preventing, managing, and mitigating infestations of termites, ants, vertebrate turf pests, bed bugs, head lice, birds, insects, ticks, and rodents in schools.

### **Safe Rooms for Tornadoes and Hurricanes: Guidance for Community and Residential Safe Rooms**

[\*U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 2021\*](#)

Provides recommendations for the design and construction of safe rooms utilized during natural hazards, specifically tornadoes and hurricanes.

### **Wildfires and Indoor Air Quality in Schools and Commercial Buildings Web Page**

[\*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2021\*](#)

Contains resources on reducing smoke exposure and mitigating smoke concentrations within buildings to protect indoor air quality during a wildfire or prescribed burn.

### **Guidelines for Wind Vulnerability Assessments of Existing Critical Facilities**

[\*U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 2019\*](#)

Offers guidelines for design professionals to use to assess the vulnerability of critical facilities — including schools — to tornadoes, hurricanes, and severe wind.

### **Three-Dimensional Roof Snowdrifts Design Guide**

[\*U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 2019\*](#)

Provides guidance for three-dimensional roof snowdrifts with school-specific examples of their integration and use.

### **Protecting Building Utility Systems From Flood Damage: Principles and Practices for the Design and Construction of Flood Resistant Building Utility Systems**

[\*U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 2017\*](#)

Includes flood mitigation information for building system utilities, equipment, and components such as mechanical equipment and appliances, electrical systems, communications, plumbing, water supply systems, fuel systems, and conveyances.

### **Catalog of FEMA Building Science Branch: Publications and Training Courses**

[\*U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 2016\*](#)

Contains publications, training courses, and workshops that are available regarding natural hazards, including earthquakes, floods, high winds, snow, and wildfires. Examples include identifying the best available refuge areas in existing buildings for protection from tornados and recommendations for mitigating wildfires during the rebuilding of public facilities.

### **FEMA Snow Load Safety Guidance**

[\*U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 2014\*](#)

Provides building stakeholders with information on the risks a snow event poses to their buildings; preventative measures to take before the snow season; and actions that can be taken before, during, and after a snow event.

### **Floodproofing Non-Residential Buildings Document**

[\*U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 2013\*](#)

Provides information on floodproofing retrofits to local government officials, engineers, architects, and property owners.

### **Mitigation Ideas: A Resource for Reducing Risk to Natural Hazards Document**

[\*U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 2013\*](#)

Offers information on ways to reduce risk to a multitude of natural hazards such as drought, earthquake, erosion, extreme temperatures, flood, hail, landslide, lightning, sea level rise, severe wind, severe winter weather, storm surge, subsidence, tornado, tsunami, and wildfire.

### **Critical Facilities Located in Tornado-Prone Regions: Recommendations for Facility Owners Advisory**

*U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 2011*

Informs critical facility owners, which include schools, of enhancements that can be made to both existing facilities and those to be developed in order to protect building occupants from and mitigate tornado damage.

### **Design Guide for Improving School Safety in Earthquakes, Floods, and High Winds**

*U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 2010*

Offers details and recommendations for the protection of K-12 school buildings from natural disasters, specifically earthquakes, floods, and high winds. Its intended audience is design professionals and school officials involved in the technical and financial decisions of school construction, repair, and renovations.

### **Wildfire Hazard Mitigation Handbook for Public Facilities**

*U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 2008*

Provides recommendations for mitigating wildfires during the rebuilding of public facilities. The school and design communities may use this resource to inform the design, construction, and rehabilitation of education facilities.

### **Design Guide for Improving Critical Facility Safety From Flooding and High Winds**

*U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 2007*

Offers recommendations for the protection of people and buildings from natural hazards, specifically floods and high winds, and mitigation best practices. Its intended audience is planning, building design, and construction professionals as well as technical and management personnel involved with the operation of critical facilities, which include schools.

### **Designing for Earthquakes: A Manual for Architects**

*U.S. Department of Health and Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 2006*

Explains the principles of seismic design to practicing architects who do not have a technical background in engineering and seismology.

### **Lightning Safety: Large Venues Toolkit**

*U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service*

Provides guidelines for protecting staff, students, and visitors from lightning at large outdoor venues and outdoor sporting arenas.

## **TECHNOLOGICAL HAZARDS**

Accidental release of hazardous materials from within the school (including lead), dam failure, explosions, or accidental release of toxins from industrial plants, hazardous materials releases on major highways or railroads, power failure, radiological releases from nuclear power stations, and/or water failure

### **Impacts of Lead Exposure on Learning and Integration Into School Emergency Management Planning Webinar**

*REMS TA Center, 2019*

Presents the impacts of lead exposure on the school environment and provides strategies for addressing lead exposure in the emergency operations plan.

### **3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water Web Page**

*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2021*

Offers a manual, checklist, and toolkit to help schools train, test, and take action on addressing lead in drinking water.

### **Asbestos and School Buildings Web Page**

*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2021*

Provides guidance on developing, maintaining, and updating asbestos management plans and facility inspections, as well as highlights Federal regulations included in the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act.

### **Mold Remediation in Schools and Commercial Buildings Web Page**

*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2021*

Provides recommendations on preventing, investigating, evaluating, and remediating moisture and mold problems in school buildings.

### **Radon in Schools Web Page**

*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2020*

Contains information and resources on reducing, managing, measuring, preventing, and reducing radon in schools.

### **Lead in Drinking Water in Schools and Childcare Facilities Web Page**

*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2019*

Contains information about drinking water quality in schools, including information on sources of lead in drinking water, guidance materials to assist with testing for lead in drinking water, and information on the laws and regulations concerning lead in drinking water.

### **Case Studies About Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools and Child Care Facilities Webinar Series**

*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2017*

Highlights examples of efforts to reduce lead in drinking water in schools and child care facilities. Included are presentations from states, school districts, and/or water systems on best practices, lessons learned, challenges, funding, procedures, and available resources.

### **Best Practices for Reducing Near-Road Pollution Exposure at Schools Document**

*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2015*

Provides information on reducing near-road pollution and exposure at schools, including building design and operation strategies, as well as site-related strategies.

### **Reducing Pesticide Exposure at Schools Fact Sheet**

*U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, 2007*

Offers recommendations for integrated pest management and reducing exposure to pesticides at schools.

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

 (855) 781-REMS (7367)

 [info@remstacenter.org](mailto:info@remstacenter.org)

 @remstacenter

 <https://rems.ed.gov>

