



PUBLIC ADVISORY REGARDING CITY OF WAYNE SAMPLING OF LEAD AND COPPER WATER SERVICES

July 20, 2023

The City of Wayne DPW conducts periodic testing of tap water in homes for lead and copper. We recently collected samples from 60 homes. The Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy evaluates compliance with the Action Level based on the 90th percentile of lead and copper results collected in each round of sampling. The lead 90th percentile for the City's water supply is 16 parts per billion (ppb), which exceeds the Action Level of 15 ppb.

The "Action Level" is a measure of corrosion control effectiveness; it is not a health-based standard. The goal for lead in drinking water is 0 ppb; there is no safe level of lead in the blood.

An "Action Level exceedance" means that more than 10% of the homes tested have results over 15 ppb. The exceedance triggers additional actions including educational outreach to customers, ongoing sampling every six months, and service line replacement.

Because nine (9) sites had results over 15 ppb, the City of Wayne DPW would like to share some ways you can reduce your exposure to lead since lead can cause serious health problems if too much enters your body from drinking water and other sources. Homes with lead service lines have an increased risk of having high lead levels in drinking water. Of the approximate 5,950 customers in the city, 6.75% (about 400 customers) have lead service lines. Check whether your home has a lead service line.

Lead can enter drinking water when in contact with pipes, solder, home/building interior plumbing, fittings and fixtures that contain lead. Homes with lead service lines have an increased risk of having high lead levels in drinking water. The more time water has been sitting in your home's pipes, the more lead it may contain. Therefore, if your water has not been used for several hours, run the water before using it for drinking or cooking. This flushes lead-containing water from the pipes. Additional flushing may be required for homes that have been vacant or have a longer service line.

How to reduce your exposure to lead in drinking water

- **Run your water to flush out lead-containing water.**
 - If you **do not** have a lead service line, run the cold water for 30 seconds to two minutes, or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature.
 - If you **do** have a lead service line, run the cold water for at least five minutes to flush water from your home or building's plumbing and the lead service line.

- **Everyone can consider using a filter to reduce lead in drinking water.** The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) recommends every household use a certified lead filter to reduce lead from their drinking water, especially households with a child, or a child frequently visits the home, pregnant person, or individual with high blood pressure, or people residing in houses built before 1987. MDHHS also recommends making baby formula or cooking with filtered water.
 - Look for filters that are tested and certified to NSF/ANSI Standard 53 for lead reduction and NSF/ANSI Standard 42 for particulate reduction (Class I).
 - For filters to work properly, follow the manufacturer's instructions.
 - DHHS recommends that filter cartridges are replaced every two months.
 - **The City of Wayne (734) 721-8600 is continuing to offer free certified lead-reducing filters and replacement cartridges to eligible households. These criteria are:**
 - **A child under 18 or a pregnant person lives in the home, or a child frequently visits the home, and**
 - **A member of the household is enrolled in Medicaid or WIC, or the household is unable to afford a filter.**
 - **The filters can be obtained between the hours of 7:00a.m. - 3:00p.m., M – F. The City of Wayne DPW is located at 35200 Forest Ave. Wayne, MI 48184.**
- **Do not use hot water** for drinking, preparing food, or cooking, or preparing baby formula.
- **Do not boil** your water as boiling will not reduce the amount of lead in water.
- **Clean your faucet aerator to remove trapped debris.**

The City of Wayne DPW will soon send a comprehensive public education document about lead in drinking water. We will continue collecting sixty (60) sites every six months and reviewing the results to determine if corrective actions are necessary to reduce corrosion in household plumbing.

Wayne County Department of Health, Human & Veterans Services is available to answer any health-related questions at 866-610-3885, Mon-Fri. 8-4:30p.m.

. Additionally, City of Wayne residents can schedule blood lead level testing for children within the community. You may go through your health care provider or call 866-610-3885, Mon-Fri. 8-4:30p.m. to make an appointment with the Wayne County Department of Health Human & Veterans Services.

If you are operating a food establishment such as a store, restaurant, bar, or food manufacturing establishment please visit this page Michigan.gov/MDARDLeadInfo for specific information for food firms.

Additional information regarding lead can be found at the **City of Wayne's website:** Cityofwayne.com, **Wayne County Department of Health, Human & Veterans Services' website:** Waynecounty.com/lead, or at **EGLE website:** Michigan.gov/EGLELeadPublicAdvisory or **Michigan Department of Health and human Services' website** Michigan.gov/MILeadSafe.

If you would like your water sampled, use the link below, for a list of certified labs.
Michigan.gov/EGLElab.

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