For Immediate Release:
July 13, 2022
Contact the City Manager's Office at (517) 589-8236

Lead Action Level Exceedance Since 1992, the City of Leslie, which has approximately 790 total water customers, including roughly 140 houses with lead service lines (or about 24%) that connect to the city's water main, has regularly tested for lead and copper. The Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act (MSDWA) changed the sampling methodology to test the first and fifth liter, which effectively targets the water in the service line that connects the home to the water main at the street. The state lead standard is 15 parts per billion (ppb). The state requires cities whose testing exceeds the standard to provide a public education campaign advising homeowners of actions they can take to mitigate any lead that may come from their leadservice lines.

In accordance with the MSDWA, Leslie tested 20 of the 140 houses with lead service lines. The testing under this method resulted in a 90th percentile of 54 ppb, Of these 20 houses with lead service lines, five houses showed levels above the state standard (15ppb), triggering a public advisory and public education campaign.

To start the public education process, the City has set up a dedicated webpageon its website at https://www.cityofleslie.org/department-public-works/pages/lead- testing-update that features a host of information to further inform the public. The pageincludes steps the public can take to do home tests, as well as learn about further resources with the State of Michigan and Ingham County Health Department.

The Ingham County Health Department is providing lead-reducing water filters tolow-income households in the City of Leslie with children or pregnant women. Becausechildren and fetuses are most at risk of harm to their health from lead, MDHHS recommends every household use a certified lead filter to reduce lead from their drinking water, especially households with a child, 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. Bottled water could also be used for these activities.

All residents should clean their aerators and should flush water from their pipes for at least five minutes by running faucets, taking a shower, washing dishes, or doing aload of laundry.

If you are interested in having your water tested, you can call the

Drinking water hotline to have your water tested at no charge 1- (844) 934-1315

If a household has a child under 18 years of age or pregnant woman andreceives WIC benefits, Medicaid insurance, or cannot afford a water filter, they

can receive a free one (filters cost about $35, and their replacement cartridges cost about $15**). Filters will be available at City Hall from 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Please call the office at 517-589-8236 if you need to pick up filters outside of these hours. Please let us know if you are homebound and need filters brought to you.**

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy or EGLE (formally the MDEQ) is the state department that evaluates compliance with the ActionLevel of all lead and copper results collected in each round of sampling. More information on their program can be accessed at www.michigan.gov/MILeadSafe.

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

City of Leslie – The Place to Be.

Visit the city's web site at www.cityofleslie.org

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT LEAD IN YOUR DRINKING WATER

THE CITY OF LESLIE HAS EXCEEDED THE ACTION LEVEL FOR LEAD. Lead can cause serious
health and development problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Please read thisinformation closely to see what you can do to reduce lead in your drinking water.

This notice is brought to you by the
City of Leslie.Water Supply Serial
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Health Effects of Lead
Lead can cause serious health and development problems. It can cause damage to the

brain and kidneys and can interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to all parts of your body. The greatest risk of lead exposure is to infants, young children, and pregnant women. Scientists have linked the effects of lead on the brain with lowered IQ in children. Adults with kidney problems andhigh blood pressure can be affected by low levels of lead more than healthy adults. Lead is stored in the bones, and it can be released later in life. During pregnancy, the child receives lead from the mother's bones, which may affect brain development. Although other sources of lead exposure exist, such as lead paint, and lead contaminated dust, the City of Leslie is contacting you to reduce your risk of exposure to lead in drinking water. If you have questions about other sources of lead exposure, please contact the Ingham County Health Department at (517) 887-4517.

Sources of Lead
Lead is a common metal found in the environment. Drinking water is one possible source of lead exposure due to the widespread use of lead in plumbing materials. EPA estimates that drinking water canmake up 20 percent or more of a person's potential exposure to lead. Infants who consume mostly mixed formula can receive 40 percent to 60 percent of their exposure to lead from drinking water.

The action level is 15 parts per billion (ppb) for lead and 1.3 parts per million (ppm) for copper. The action level is a measure of corrosion control effectiveness. It is not a health-based standard. To meet the requirements of the Lead and Copper Rule, 90 percent of the samples collected must be below theaction level. The following table summarizes the lead and copper data collected during the most recentmonitoring period:

Most Recent Sampling Information

Action Levels	90th Percentile Value	Range of results (Minimum-maximum)	# Of samples used for 90th Percentile
Lead 15 parts per billion (ppb)	**54 ppb**	0 – 110 ppb	20
Copper 1.3 parts per million (ppm)	**0.4 ppm**	0.0 – 0.4 ppm	20

Lead can enter drinking water when pipes, solder, home/building interior plumbing, fittings and fixturesthat contain lead corrode. Corrosion is the dissolving, or wearing away, of metal caused by a chemicalreaction between water and you're plumbing. Several factors affect the amount of lead that enters the water, including the water quality characteristics (acidity and alkalinity), the amount of lead in the pipes, plumbing and/or fixtures, and the frequency of water use in the home.

Some plumbing products such as service lines, pipes and fixtures may contain lead. The infographic below demonstrates where sources of lead in drinking water could be in your

home. Older homes mayhave more lead unless the service line and/or plumbing has been replaced. Homes built...

- **Before the 1960s** are more likely to have lead service lines, lead pipes, fixtures, and/orsolder that contain lead.
- **Before 1988** are likely to have fixtures and/or solder that contains lead.
- **Between 1996 and 2014** are likely to have fixtures that contain up to eight percent leadbut were labelled “lead-free.”
- **In 2014 or later** still have potential lead exposure. “Lead free” was redefined to reduce leadcontent to a maximum of 0.25 percent lead in fixtures and fittings. Fixtures that are certifiedto meet NSF Standard 61 meet this more restrictive definition of “lead free.”

Leaded solder and leaded fittings and fixtures are still available in stores to use for non-drinking water applications. Be careful to select the appropriate products for repairing or replacing drinkingwater plumbing in your home.

Galvanized plumbing can be a potential source of lead. Galvanized plumbing can absorb lead from upstream sources like a lead service line. Even after the lead service line has been removed, galvanized plumbing can continue to release lead into drinking water over time. Homes that are servedby a lead service line should consider replacing galvanized plumbing inside the home.

Drinking water is only one source of lead exposure. Other common sources of lead exposure are lead-based paint, and lead-contaminated dust or soil. Because lead can be carried on hands, clothing, and/or shoes, sources of exposure to lead can include the workplace and certain hobbies. Wash your children’s hands and toys often as they can come in contact with dirt and dust containing lead. In addition, lead can be found in certain types of pottery, pewter, food, and cosmetics. If you have questions about other sources of lead exposure, please contact the Ingham County Health Departmentat (517) 887-4517.

Particulate Lead

Lead results can vary between tests. A single test result is not a reliable indicator of drinking water safety. Two different types of lead can be present in drinking water, soluble lead and particulate lead. Soluble lead is lead that dissolves because of a chemical reaction between water and plumbing that contains lead. Particulate lead is dislodged scale and sediment released into the water from the sides of the plumbing and can vary greatly between samples. Disturbances, such as replacing a water meter, construction and excavation activities, or home plumbing repairs can cause particulates to shake free from inside pipes and plumbing. Particulate lead is a concern because the lead content canbe very high. Lead particulate could be present in a single glass of water, but not present in water sampled just before or after. During construction, monthly aerator cleaning and using a filter certified toreduce lead are recommended to reduce particulate lead exposure.

Check whether your home has a lead service line.

Homes with lead service lines have an increased risk of having high lead levels in drinking water.Please contact the City of Leslie for more information about your home’s service line.

Steps You Can Take to Reduce Your Exposure to Lead in Your Water

1. ***Run your water to flush out lead.*** The more time water has been sitting in your home's pipes, themore 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.

- If you **do not** have a lead service line, run the water for 30 seconds to two minutes, or until itbecomes cold or reaches a steady temperature.
- If you **do** have a lead service line, run the water for at least five minutes to flush water from boththe interior building plumbing and the lead service line.

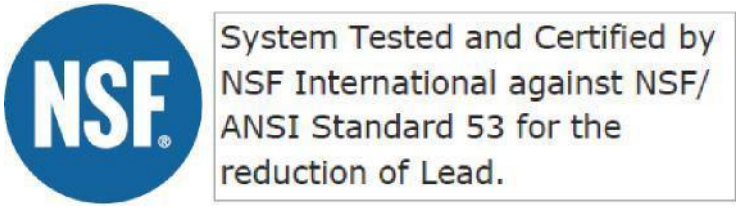
Additional flushing may be required for homes that have been vacant or have a longer serviceline. Your water utility can help you determine if longer flushing times are needed.

2. Use cold filtered water for drinking and cooking. Do not cook with or drink water from the hotwater tap; lead dissolves more easily into hot water.

3. Use cold water for preparing baby formula. Do not use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula. MDHHS recommends using bottled water or a filter certified to reduce lead to prepare baby formula.

4. Do not boil water to remove lead. Boiling water will not reduce lead levels.

5. Everyone can consider using a filter to reduce lead in drinking water. MDHHS recommends every household use a certified lead filter to reduce lead from their drinking water, especially households with a child, pregnant person, or individual with high blood pressure, or people residing in houses built before 1987.



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). Some filter options includea pour-through pitcher or faucet-mount systems. If the label does not specifically mention lead reduction, check the Performance Data Sheet included with the device.

Be sure to maintain and replace the filter device in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to protect water quality. If your household has a child or pregnant woman and are not able ɒafford the cost of a lead filter, please contact the Ingham County Health Department (517) 887- 4517.

6. Consider purchasing bottled water. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulatesbottled water. The bottled water standard for lead is 5 ppb.

7. Get your child tested. Contact your local health department or healthcare provider to find out howyou can get your child tested for lead if you are concerned about exposure. Please call the Ingham County Health Department at (517) 887-4517.

8. Identify older plumbing fixtures that likely contain lead. Older faucets, fittings, and valves sold before 2014 may contain higher levels of lead, even if marked “lead-free.” Faucets, fittings, and valvessold after January 2014 are required to meet a more restrictive “lead-free” definition but may still contain up to 0.25 percent lead. When purchasing new plumbing materials, it is important to look for materials that are certified to meet NSF standard 61. The EPA prepared a brochure that explains the various markings that can indicate that materials meet the new “lead free” definition: https://nepis.epa.gov/Exe/ZyPDF.cgi?Dockey=P100LVYK.txt.

9. Clean your aerator. The aerator on the end of your faucet is a screen that will catch debris. This debris could include particulate lead. The aerator should be removed at least every six months to rinseout any debris.

10. Test your water for lead. Call us at (517) 589-8236 to find out how to get your water tested forlead. To have your drinking water tested for lead, you can contact EGLE for a list of laboratories certified for lead and copper testing or visit their website at www.michigan.gov/EGLElab.

What Happened? What is Being Done?

The state-wide testing criteria for lead and copper for the State of Michigan changed in 2018. Two samples (a 1st liter and 5th liter) are required from each testing location that has a lead service line. The City of Leslie does have lead packed joints in some of its mains and service lines. Lead can enter

drinking water when it is in contact with pipes, solder, home/building interior plumbing, fittings and fixtures that contain lead. The City of Leslie does employ corrosion control treatment to reduce leadleaching. The City has updated its corrosion treatment to focus on corrosion control and reduce Lead leaching into the water.

The City is in the process of inventorying all service lines that connect from the main directly to a residence or business within the City’s water system to enable us to identify lines that we suspect maycontain lead. The City has developed a plan to actively pursue replacing lead service lines throughout the city. This work will be accomplished through the following initiatives:

1. In conjunction with street construction and/or isolated water main replacements projects.
2. Planned replacements at locations that exceed action level parameters, and where lead orgalvanized water service lines exist.
3. Effective 2021, the State mandates Michigan communities to replace Lead Service Lines (LSL)at an average of 5% of the total number identified per year until 100%.
4. Leslie had replaced 17 service lines in 2020, 16 service lines in 2021, and currently have replace 5 service lines in 2022.

Every year the City of Leslie conducts testing of tap water in homes for lead and copper. In September, we collected samples from twenty (20) homes. Five (5) homes were above the
Action level for lead.

If you are a City of Leslie water customer and would like your service line inspected or would like to have your drinking water tested for lead, contact the Department of Public

Works at (517) 589-5115. The City will be providing testing and filters for any home with a lead or galvanized service line and lead levels over 15 parts per billion. If your household has a child or pregnant woman and are not ableto afford the cost of a lead filter, please contact the Ingham County Health Department at (517) 887- 4517.

For More Information

Call us at (517) 589-8236 or visit our website at ***https://www.cityofleslie.org/department-public- works/pages/lead-testing-update*** *or* ***www.michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe****. For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's Web siteat* ***www.epa.gov/lead,*** *call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your healthcare provider.*

Is it OK to use lead-containing water to wash my hands?

Yes! Human skin does not easily absorb lead from water.

Even if you have lead in your drinking water, you can wash your hands with water that is not filtered or flushed.

Public Health advises residents to wash hands often and for at least 20 seconds with soap and water to help prevent the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

You can use water that has not been filtered or flushed for:

- Showering or bathing (avoid swallowing the water)
- Washing hands, dishes, or clothes
- Cleaning

To learn more please visit, Michigan.gov/coronavirus or Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is offering free water testing for a limited number of homes receiving water from your water supply due to an Action Level Exceedance (ALE) in your community.

Allowing MDHHS to test your water may help determine how much lead may be in your water and if lead is coming from:

1. Plumbing inside your home (faucets, fittings, or pipes).
2. The service line outside your home.

Testing your water will also help the community. Results can help MDHHS confirm that the recommended amount of time for flushing pipes is still appropriate. Testing is free and can be scheduled at a time that works for you.

We will take strict precautions to ensure your safety and ours. These precautions include COVID-19 screening questions, use of face masks and social distancing.

FREE WATER TESTING
FOR LEAD IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Limited number of free water tests available

Call the MDHHS Drinking Water Hotline at 844-934-1315 if you are interested in participating.

MDHHS
Michigan Department of Health & Human Services

FREE WATER TESTING
FOR LEAD IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Limited number of free water tests available.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) does not discriminate against any individual or group because of race, religion, age, national origin, color, height, weight, marital status, genetic information, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, political beliefs or disability.

ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 800-648-6942 (TTY: 711).

ملحوظة: إذا كنت تتحدث اذكر اللغة، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل برقم 800-648-6942 (رقم هاتف الصم والبكم:-TTY:711).