

Lead and Copper Rule Testing – State of Michigan Talking Points

- Clean drinking water is a fundamental human right and every Michigander deserves safe, clean drinking water.
- Several key improvements were made last year to better protect our drinking water because protecting public health and keeping Michigan families safe is our highest priority.
- One significant improvement were changes made to the Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act to enact strong protections against lead in our drinking water through new testing and detection standards.
- The goal is to steadily reduce, and ultimately eliminate, lead pipes used for drinking water.
- A second major improvement was adopting a new Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) that requires communities to locate and prioritize lead pipes for removal.
- As a result of making our protections stronger, new testing will likely register higher lead results found in drinking water systems, not because the water quality for residents has changed, but because our standards have improved.
- As we transition to our stronger standards, the State is taking immediate steps to prepare and respond to any new testing results.
 - First, the State is launching a public awareness campaign to help families understand the new test results and some simple steps they can take to better protect themselves from lead exposure.
 - This campaign is focused on increasing transparency and communication with Michiganders as these changes go into effect.
 - Second, state agencies are dedicating millions of dollars to communities where higher lead levels are found, including offering water filters for vulnerable populations; investigating lead sources in homes; and increasing support to local public health agencies.