

CITY OF LAPEER LEAD SAFE

The Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act has changed to better protect the health of our citizens. New water sampling rules have been added to better detect possible lead in your drinking water. These changes require communities, including the City of Lapeer, with lead service lines and older housing stock, to do more sampling. This new sampling method is expected to result in higher lead results, not because the water source or quality for residents has changed, rather, because the Act has more stringent sampling procedures and analysis.

The City of Lapeer has 3,461 water customers. The City estimates that there are approximately 70 (2%) of homes with leads service lines. In the City of Lapeer lead service lines are most commonly found in homes built between 1920 and 1950. Our City web page will provide you with information about the results from the recent sampling of 20 homes with lead service water lines. Our City of Lapeer web page, www.ci.lapeer.mi.us will also have information on how you can determine if you have a lead service line going into your home and information about lead in drinking water and what you can do to minimize its effects as well as a list of valuable informational resources. (*scroll down for a list of [Frequently Asked Questions](#)*).

[Public Advisory for Drinking Water Customers](#)

[Press Release...November 19, 2019](#)

[How to Determine if You Have a Lead Service Line](#)

LEAD IN DRINKING WATER: TOP 5 QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

#1. Is my water safe to drink?

YES! The water source and our water quality are safe! The City of Lapeer is not in violation of the Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act as it meets all safety standards as required by the State of Michigan. Homes that tested above the action level (15ppb) all have lead service lines between the City of Lapeer water main and the home. If you don't have a lead service line, you're not at risk. Lapeer is conducting a survey of homes and businesses in Lapeer for lead service lines. Presently, our records indicate there are only 27 homes out of 3,461 water customers in Lapeer that have lead service lines however, we have only surveyed 50% of homes and businesses so far. If you are concerned, [review this document](#) which provides information on how to minimize your risk to lead exposure.

#2. How to find out if I have a lead service line?

Take the Water Service Line survey at [Water Service Line Survey](#). After a lead service line is verified, the City will contact the homeowner about a water filter.

#3. What is the City doing about this issue?

The City of Lapeer is currently in the information sharing and public awareness phase of this process. Within the next weeks we will have contacted all 3,461 homes in the City of Lapeer that have a lead service line and provide information on how to minimize exposure to lead for the resident's use. City staff is working to develop a plan that will replace the lead water service lines in an expedited manner, with the goal to remove these lead lines in the shortest amount of time as possible. Mayor and Commission are committed to taking quick action to resolve this issue so residents will not have to worry about the quality of drinking water ever again.

#4. Does the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) treat our water for lead?

YES. The GLWA treats our water so lead does not leak/leach into the water. More information is available on the 2019 water quality report.

#5. Why did the City issue a Public Advisory about lead in our water now?

The City of Lapeer began testing tap water in homes with lead service lines in accordance with the Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act in 1992. After the Flint lead water crisis, the sampling procedure was changed. These changes now require communities with lead service lines to increase the number of sampling locations and draw multiple samples from each location. This new sampling method resulted in higher lead results, not because the water source or water quality for residents has changed, but because the Act has more stringent sampling procedures. As a result of the new sampling procedures, one out of twenty of the targeted homes with lead service lines measured lead at 32 parts per billion (ppb), exceeding the Action Level of 15 ppb. When a water sampling exceeds the amount set by the State, the City must inform all residents of the results and provide public education.