

Recommendations for Licensed Food Establishments Using Water from Municipal Water Supplies with an Action Level Exceedance for Lead

ATTENTION:

The following recommendations apply to licensed restaurants, grocery stores, convenience stores, food processors and food warehouses using water from a municipality with an Action Level Exceedance for Lead.

- **Testing your water with a certified lab is the only way to find out how much lead is in your drinking water.** Safe results can be posted to inform your customers. Check with your municipality to see if free water testing is available. Visit Michigan.gov/EGLElab and choose “Drinking Water Laboratory” to learn how to order a test kit. The cost is typically \$30. If you have questions about testing your water, contact MDHHS at 517-284-4115.
- A licensed plumber can check your plumbing and service lines for lead soldering or lead service lines.
- Restaurants with general questions should contact the local health department.
- Grocery stores, food production facilities or food warehouses with general questions should contact MDARD at: 1-800-292-3939.

Unless the water has been tested and found to not have a lead concern, do the following:

- If a filter is not in use, flush water lines for at least 5 minutes each day before using or serving water and after 6 hours of no water use. Then flush other equipment, such as equipment listed below, for at least 1-2 minutes.
- Install an NSF Standard 53 certified filter on the faucet where drinking/cooking water is obtained. Approved filter information for faucet or in-line filters can be found at: http://info.nsf.org/Certified/DWTU/listings_leadreduction.asp. Filters must be changed based on the manufacturer’s recommendations.
- Always use **cold** water for drinking, cooking and cleaning/rinsing food. Water for consumption by customers must be stored in clean, sanitized containers.

For other equipment that may use water:

- Ice machines – Install a water filter on the supply line or use bagged ice from an approved source for drinking water.
- Pop machines – After initial flushing as described above, flush for 1 minute daily or use bottled beverages.
- Coffee machines – After initial flushing as described above, flush for 1-2 minutes daily or use filtered water. These products may be very low risk as young children under 6 are not likely to consume these.
- Slush machines – Use filtered water.
- Spray misters – After initial flushing as described above, flush for 1-2 minutes daily or use filtered water.

Find more information, visit www.michigan.gov/MILeadSafe