

## Flint Safe Drinking Water Task Force Comments on Flint's Residential Drinking Water Lead and Copper Sampling Instructions; Dated November 23, 2015

This response is intended to identify how the comments received from the Flint Safe Drinking Water Task Force have been addressed.

On November 13, 2015, Jim Sygo submitted a form proposed by the city of Flint that provided instructions to homeowners for the tap sample collection procedure to be utilized as part of the next Lead and Copper Compliance Rule collection period. Comments were provided by the Task Force on November 23, 2015. Based on the extensive comments provided on the form submitted by the city of Flint, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) decided to provide a comprehensive sampling instruction form for all community water supplies subject to the Lead and Copper Compliance Monitoring. Items revised from the historic document included eliminating preflushing, using wide mouth containers, and having a minimum stagnation time of 6 hours. The MDEQ also added a series of questions to be answered by the homeowner to verify information relative to the sample. A copy of the new instructions is attached and is also on the MDEQ Web site.

## DRINKING WATER LEAD AND COPPER SAMPLING INSTRUCTIONS

Dear Resident:

Thank you for helping to monitor for lead and copper in your drinking water. This sampling is required by the federal and state Safe Drinking Water Acts, and is being accomplished with the cooperation of homeowners, residents, and water system customers.

It is important that you follow these instructions so we obtain an accurate measurement of the lead and copper in your drinking water. This sample should represent the water you would typically drink and the faucet from where you drink the water. Select a faucet for sampling that was used the day before you intend to sample. Call your water supply if you have questions.

1. Water must sit idle in the pipes for an extended length of time before sampling. Therefore, do not use any water in the house for at least 6 hours before sampling. The best times to sample are early morning or after returning from work.
2. Select an unfiltered/untreated faucet in the **KITCHEN** or **BATHROOM** that is commonly used for drinking. **DO NOT** sample from a laundry sink or a hose spigot as these samples cannot be used for compliance. **DO NOT** use a faucet that has a filter attached to it unless you bypass the filter. **DO NOT** use a faucet that is connected to a home water treatment device (like a water softener, iron filter, reverse osmosis) unless you bypass the home water treatment device.
3. Place the open sample bottle below the faucet and gently open the **COLD** water tap. If you have a single handle faucet, turn it fully to the **COLD** side. Fill the sample bottle to the neck with the "first draw" of **COLD** water.
4. Tightly cap the sample bottle and place in the sample kit provided. Review the sample kit label to ensure all information contained on the label is complete and correct.
5. Answer the questions on the back of this form and sign the form.
6. Attach this form to the bottle and leave it outside your front door for pick-up.
7. Thank you again for your help. We will send you your individual results within 30 days of receiving them from the laboratory. A summary of information on this year's lead and copper monitoring will be printed in the annual water quality report that will be made available by July 1 of next year. Contact your water supply if you have questions.

If you have questions call:  
Water Supply: \_\_\_\_\_

Manager or  
Water Operator: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Or Contact:  
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

DEQ Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**TO BE COMPLETED BY RESIDENT/CUSTOMER**

A. Which faucet did you use to fill the bottle?

Kitchen     Main bathroom     Other

If OTHER, please describe: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

B. When was the faucet last used before sampling?

Date \_\_\_\_\_ TIME \_\_\_\_\_ AM/PM

Note: If the faucet has been idle more than 24 hours, we might not analyze your sample or be able to use your sample for compliance purposes.

C. When did you fill the bottle?

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ TIME \_\_\_\_\_ AM/PM

D. Is there a faucet mount filter?     YES     NO

If YES, was it bypassed?     YES     NO

E. Is this faucet connected to a home treatment device such as a water softener, a reverse osmosis unit, an iron removal device OR is any kind of additive used in the home?     YES     NO

If YES, please describe: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Note: If you have a home treatment device OR any kind of additive is used, it is possible we might not analyze your sample or be able to use your sample for compliance purposes.

F. If any plumbing repairs or replacement has been done in the home since the previous sampling event, please note this information here:

If YES, please describe: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I have read the Drinking Water Lead and Copper Sampling Instructions and have taken a tap sample in accordance with these directions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature