



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY

LANSING



LIESL EICHLER CLARK  
DIRECTOR

December 15, 2021

VIA EMAIL AND U.S. MAIL

Mr. Ellis Mitchell, City Manager  
Benton Harbor  
200 Wall Street  
Benton Harbor, Michigan 49022

WSSN: 00600  
County: Berrien  
Supply: Benton Harbor

Dear Mr. Mitchell:

SUBJECT: Lead and Copper Monitoring of Drinking Water Taps

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) received your results of lead and copper tap monitoring conducted between **July 1 and December 31, 2021**. The calculated 90<sup>th</sup> percentile values are listed below. Please retain this information for your records.

Action Levels	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Value	# of Sites Above Action Level	Range of Individual Results
Lead 15 parts per billion (ppb)	15 ppb	6	0 ppb-48 ppb
Copper 1.3 parts per million (ppm)	0.0 ppm	0	0.0 ppm-0.1 ppm

If the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile value for either lead or copper is greater than 0, it must be reported on your 2021 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), due to our office, your customers, and the local health department by **July 1, 2022**. If you are a water supply who samples two six-month rounds during one calendar year, you must report both 90<sup>th</sup> percentile values on your CCR. The following statement must also be included in the CCR, regardless of the lead and copper levels:

*If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. [NAME OF UTILITY] is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you have a lead service line it is recommended that you run your water for at least 5 minutes to flush water from both your home plumbing and the lead service line. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.*

Even though your lead 90<sup>th</sup> percentile value was not an action level exceedance, you did have one or more individual samples above the lead action level. Therefore, you must also include this statement in your CCR:

*Infants and children who drink water containing lead could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.*

Benton Harbor collected 66 sets of 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> liter samples from 65 sites during this monitoring period. The following two sets of samples were excluded from the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile calculations:

Site Address	Collection Date	Sample Numbers	Lead (ppb)	Copper (ppm)	Exclusion Reason
1198 Jennings	8/17/2021	LJ75985 (1 <sup>st</sup> Liter)	0	0	Not preserved within 14 days of collection, per the method.
		LJ75986 (5 <sup>th</sup> Liter)	0	0	
1291 Superior	8/19/2021	LJ74837 (1 <sup>st</sup> Liter)	2	0	Site does not have a lead service line and does not meet the site tiering criteria.
		LJ74838 (5 <sup>th</sup> Liter)	2	0	

If you have questions, please contact me at 616-307-6736; OnanB@Michigan.gov; or Lead and Copper Unit, Community Water Supply Section, Drinking Water and Environmental Health Division, EGLE, P.O. Box 30817, Lansing, Michigan 48909-8311.

Sincerely,



Brandon Onan, Supervisor  
Lead and Copper Unit  
Community Water Supply Section  
Drinking Water and Environmental Health Division  
616-307-6736

cc: Mr. Abul Ahmed, F&V Operations  
Mr. Robert Jones, F&V Operations  
Ms. Nicki Britten, Berrien County Health Department  
Mr. Nick Margaritis, Berrien County Health Department  
Mr. Aaron Ward, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services  
Mr. Mike Bolf, EGLE  
Mr. Ernie Sarkipato, EGLE