

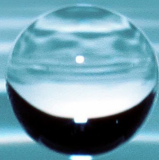


ANNUAL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

2020

**Office of the Clean
Water Public Advocate**

Michigan.gov/CleanWater





A MESSAGE FROM THE **CLEAN WATER PUBLIC ADVOCATE**

The **Office of the Clean Water Public Advocate** was created as a result of an injustice that occurred in my hometown of Flint, Michigan. Although I didn't live through the crisis personally, my grandparents and many childhood friends experienced the unthinkable. I am happy to utilize this role to elevate their voices and the voices of other Michiganders who have been impacted by drinking water quality issues.

Each year, my Office will produce and disseminate an Annual Accountability Report. This report will summarize the efforts of the Office of the Clean Water Public Advocate as well as collective efforts between state agencies to improve drinking water quality in Michigan. Most importantly, it will highlight how the personal stories that have been shared with me from Michiganders about their drinking water experiences have driven this work.

Ninah Sasy

NINAH SASY

Clean Water Public Advocate



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MICHIGAN'S IMPACT AT-A-GLANCE

Through the leadership of our Governor and efforts of the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), as well as the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), along with many vital local and community partners, Michigan has made strides in improving drinking water quality. There is still work to be done to ensure that Michigan families have access to clean water.

The Office of the Clean Water Public Advocate serves as a conduit to connect efforts and address drinking water quality concerns that transcend agencies. The Office of the Clean Water Public Advocate's Annual Accountability Report will provide a comprehensive overview of efforts. Although there's still work to do to, this report highlights the State of Michigan's accomplishments in regards to improving water quality and resources available to support impacted communities. The report also contains next steps and upcoming priorities.



ENGAGEMENT

Ensuring that our programs and policies reflect the diverse communities that we serve is critical. Engagement with diverse stakeholders throughout Michigan, including community residents as well as local and state partners, will ultimately help us improve our water quality efforts.

Through the Office of the Clean Water Public Advocate, there are more than **130 Clean Water Ambassadors** engaged, representing all regions of the state.

MDHHS continues to support Lead and Copper (LCR) Action Level Exceedance (ALE) communities through various efforts including residential sampling and engagement with local partners to host outreach and filter distribution events. Go to pages 16 and 20 for an overview of MDHHS efforts.

TRANSPARENCY

Continuing to rebuild confidence in drinking water quality requires that residents have access to water quality testing results, have access to information regarding how their water is monitored, and have access to long-term and short-term strategies to improve water quality.

Community water supplies (local water departments) provided EGLE a preliminary estimate of lead service lines in their community also known as a Preliminary Distribution System Materials Inventory (PDSMI) in January 2020. See full chart in Appendix (page 18).

There were about **730** community water supplies sampled in fiscal year 2020 for lead and copper. **33** community water supplies had lead action level exceedances (ALE).



INVESTMENT

Maintaining and improving water infrastructure requires investment from state, local, and community partners. Providing grants and loans as well as other resources can help build local capacity to support water infrastructure needs which ultimately will lead to accessible clean water for residents.

Governor Whitmer Announces MI Clean Water: A Historic **\$500 Million** Investment to Rebuild Michigan's Water Infrastructure. MI Clean Water will reduce barriers for communities and allow them to access funds for necessary and timely infrastructure upgrades, including lead service line replacement.



EGLE was awarded a \$1.9 million grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for lead testing of drinking water at schools and childcare facilities across the state. These funds are utilized to provide free drinking water testing in childcare facilities and schools in our most vulnerable communities.

ENHANCEMENT

Improvements in technology, programs, processes, policies, and rules that impact water quality allows us to effectively utilize resources to protect public health.

Launch of the EGLE's first online **Drinking Water Concern System**, which allows residents to submit drinking water quality concerns online; available in English, Spanish and Arabic.

Michigan's first-ever regulations limiting seven **PFAS** chemicals in drinking water will cover roughly 2,700 public water supplies around the state and exceed the current US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guidance on the chemicals.

OFFICE OF THE CLEAN WATER PUBLIC ADVOCATE 2020 PRIORITIES



IMPROVE COMMUNICATION

The Office's Communication Strategy strives to ensure two-way communication among all stakeholders, including community partners and residents.



SUPPORT COMMUNITY EFFORTS

The Office continues to work with community partners to identify and address barriers that impact water quality. The Office recognizes the work of the many community partners that are already actively engaging with community residents about drinking water quality and accessibility. The Office will continue to partner with communities and support these efforts.



COLLABORATE TO CONNECT RESOURCES

The Office serves as a conduit to connect the work of state agencies and partners throughout Michigan as it pertains to improving water quality and protecting public health. Multi-sector collaboration is key. Collaboration with other state agencies and partners throughout Michigan will be accomplished through workgroups, advisory committees, and joint initiatives.



ENSURE TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The Office will work with community residents, as well as state and local partners, to ensure that water quality information is accessible and provided in a timely manner. Transparency is vital. Residents must be informed of local and statewide efforts to improve water quality and ensure that public health is at the forefront of our water quality efforts.

LISTENING TO COMMUNITIES

During the first year, the Clean Water Public Advocate met with several community residents across Michigan. The personal stories shared helped to shape the Office initiatives and priorities.

DEVELOPMENT AND LAUNCH OF THE OFFICE OF THE CLEAN WATER PUBLIC ADVOCATE WEBSITE:



Many of the calls that the Office receives from residents are questions about lead in water and PFAS contamination. Residents are looking for credible sites to find information about which communities have been impacted as well as resources available to help protect their families. This information already exists on state agency pages. For example, EGLE and MDHHS collaborated to create the Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe page where users can find lead information. In addition, MPART has a comprehensive site that provides information about PFAS contamination that was developed by EGLE, MDHHS, and LHDs. However, there was a need for a site that provided basic drinking water information and connected residents to these pre-existing sites.

The Michigan.gov/CleanWater site was developed as a result of this feedback from residents.

During the development of the Clean Water site, residents were consulted to provide feedback. Thanks to the thoughtful feedback from residents in impacted communities, we created a site with images that would not re-traumatize residents impacted by water quality issues. We also wanted to ensure that we provided a clear mechanism for reporting water quality concerns. Content for the Clean Water site will continue to be added and vetted through community residents.

The need for collaboration between state agencies is clear. Michiganders seek information from the State of Michigan; it's frustrating when the information on a topic like drinking water quality is hosted on several state sites. As a state partner, the Office understands that each agency owns a portion of the process, but it's also our responsibility to bridge communication to better serve Michigan communities. The Office of the Clean Water Public Advocate is happy to serve as a conduit to connect efforts to improve transparency and effectiveness of our programs.

MICHIGAN'S FIRST STATEWIDE ONLINE DRINKING WATER CONCERN SYSTEM:

The web-based platform, Michigan.gov/DrinkingWaterConcerns, is available in English, Spanish and Arabic and can be accessed from computers, mobile phones and tablets. The system also allows users to post images that illustrate their drinking water concerns. Michigan residents with concerns about their community water supplier or their own private wells may utilize the online system to raise concerns. As residents complete the online form, they are provided with helpful tips and resources to address common drinking water questions based on the concern category selected. Later this year, a public facing dashboard will be available to display water quality concerns received by EGLE based on location.

The Clean Water Ambassadors played a key role in ensuring that the online system was user-friendly. Thanks to the Ambassadors, the system was expanded to include private residential well concerns. This new system will allow the Office to look at concerns reported to the State more comprehensively. Based on the concerns received, the Office can determine if additional outreach is needed or changes to policies and procedures.

In 2021, a public-facing dashboard will be launched so that Michigan residents can see a summary of drinking water quality concerns, received by location.

2020 YEAR IN REVIEW

OFFICE OF THE CLEAN WATER PUBLIC ADVOCATE INITIATIVES

Through the **Focus on Water Initiative**, the Office of the Clean Water Public Advocate brings together multi-sector partners to support community efforts and connect resources to address water concerns. In 2020, these efforts have been focused in Benton Harbor and Highland Park, Michigan.

BENTON HARBOR LEAD OUTREACH PARTNERSHIP

Benton Harbor's water distribution system is about 100 years old with much of the original infrastructure still in use, including water mains and service lines. It is known that a high number of lead service lines were installed in the first half of the 20th century and many homes built before the 1960s are likely to have lead service lines or pipes that pose a health risk to residents.

The City of Benton Harbor triggered an action level exceedance (ALE) for lead when the regularly scheduled testing in 2018 discovered lead was in the water and that at least 10% of the samples tested had lead levels that exceeded the action level of 15 parts per billion (ppb) for lead in water. Follow-up sample rounds in 2019 confirmed the presence of lead, and the ALE continues to present. To reduce lead exposure to residents, the city will replace all residential lead service lines within the City of Benton Harbor, estimated to be 2,383 lines. Service lines will be replaced with ¾" to 1" copper piping from the main to the home's service connection (both public and private portions).

The **Benton Harbor Lead Outreach Partnership** is a multi-sector team of community-based, local and state partners that began in February 2020. Members include the Benton Harbor Community Water Council (BHCWC), the City of Benton Harbor, Berrien County Health Department (BCHD), Andrews University, Freshwater Future, the Benton Spirit Community Newspaper, as well as the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE); and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS). Benton Harbor has a substantial number of lead service lines and, as a result, has continued to have a lead action level exceedance (ALE). The group's mission is to ensure that Benton Harbor residents have access to information and resources to reduce lead in drinking water.

2020 Accomplishments:

- ◆ A Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document was created to answer questions that partners had received from Benton Harbor residents. The intent was to provide information about the history of the of water quality concerns in the community, current efforts, and an overview of efforts to address the root cause of concern: replacement of lead service lines and investment in overall water infrastructure.
- ◆ Articles have been drafted and published in the local newspaper, Benton Spirit Community Newspaper, that tell the story of the water quality issue in Benton Harbor.
- ◆ Continued collaboration between the BCHD and the BHCWC to ensure that residents have access to water filters.

SPOTLIGHT COMMUNITY PARTNERS:

The **Benton Harbor Community Water Council (BHCWC)** is a local community partner that has continued to advocate for community residents. In 2020, they worked with the City of Benton Harbor to collect water samples from residents as required by the Lead and Copper Rule. During the current pandemic, the BHCWC continued to ensure that water samples were collected and that residents were aware of where to receive a free water filter, how to install water filters and when to replace their filter.

The **Berrien County Health Department (BCHD)** continues to provide lead outreach and ensure that the City of Benton Harbor residents have access to free water filters. They have been innovative in their approach by hosting several drive-thru water filter events, as well as mailing filters to residents.

These great partners and many more help support residents who are impacted by water quality issues.



Upcoming 2021 Efforts:

- ◆ Additional capacity added to the City of Benton Harbor in the form of undergraduate and graduate students, who will work as liaisons between the Office of the Clean Water Public Advocate and the City of Benton Harbor to support lead outreach efforts.
- ◆ Launch of the Benton Harbor Lead Outreach Taskforce that will proactively focus on lead outreach messaging as well. Over the course of 2021, outreach efforts will involve coordination with faith-based leaders, as well direct door mailers, newspaper, social media, and radio PSAs. The taskforce will also focus on community outreach regarding lead service line replacement that will be taking place throughout the City.

Lead and Copper Rule

The purpose of the Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) is to protect public health by minimizing lead and copper levels in drinking water. Lead and copper enter drinking water mainly from corrosion of lead and copper containing plumbing materials. The rule establishes action levels (AL) for lead and copper based on a 90th percentile level of tap water samples. An action level exceedance is not a violation, but triggers other requirements to minimize exposure to lead and copper in drinking water, including water quality parameter monitoring, corrosion control treatment, source water monitoring/treatment, public education, and lead service line replacement. All community water supplies and nontransient noncommunity water supplies are subject to the LCR requirements.

Visit [Michigan.gov/LCR](https://www.michigan.gov/LCR) for more information.

WATER LEAK PILOT AND LAUNCH OF MICHIGAN'S FIX A LEAK WEEK:

Premise plumbing and system leaks trouble many disadvantaged communities. Disadvantaged communities, like Benton Harbor and Highland Park, have drinking water infrastructure that is more than a hundred years old. Aging infrastructure and older homes contribute to energy and water waste as well as public health concerns. Overall, water infrastructure and premise plumbing leaks are costly for residents and community water suppliers.

Water leaks are not only a financial burden to residents but may also contribute to public health concerns. Additionally, water leaks may impact the cost associated with water delivery to residents due to energy and water waste within the system. The **Water Leak Pilot** was established to reduce water and energy waste and the financial burden associated with water leaks while looking at the water-energy nexus; the water-energy nexus refers to the relationship between water used for energy production. An enhancement to this effort includes a partnership with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' Healthy Homes Program to provide lead assessment and abatement work to qualifying residents who participate in the Pilot. This partnership expands the funding and resources available to residents to ensure a greater impact.

In 2020, the Office of the Clean Water Public Advocate brought together multi-sector partners to develop the **Water Leak Pilot**, launching in 2021.

SPOTLIGHT COMMUNITY PARTNERS:

Metro Consulting Associates (MCA) specializes in municipal engineering, asset management, and community development with a team that leverages creative and pragmatic strategies to help disadvantaged communities find success. MCA is a valued partner and has been instrumental in the development of the Water Leak Pilot through their leadership of the Highland Park Water and Engineering Departments.



Dynamic. Daring. Different. DIFFERENT.

Helping communities make real,
positive transformations.



Upcoming 2021 Efforts:

- In 2021, the **Water Leak Pilot** will launch in Benton Harbor and Highland Park. The Water Leak Pilot will provide funding to support premise plumbing repairs in approximately 100 homes in Benton Harbor and 100 homes in Highland Park as well as program development and implementation of the Pilot. Local and community partners will support the dissemination of educational materials to residents participating in the Pilot.
- Michigan will recognize **Fix a Leak Week** from March 15-21, 2021. Fix a Leak Week was created by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and is supported by WaterSense partners across the U.S. and Canada.
- Over the coming months, EGLE's Office of the Great Lakes, Office of Climate and Energy, Office of the Clean Water Public Advocate, and the Water Use Advisory Council will be working collaboratively to identify opportunities to strategically integrate water stewardship into current and future climate, energy and water infrastructure policies and programs.

MAKE AN IMPACT IN YOUR COMMUNITY

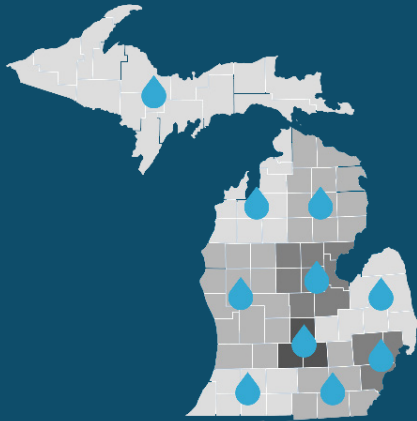
The Office of the Clean Water Public Advocate is looking for partners to help support water leak efforts across Michigan during Fix a Leak Week from March 15-21, 2021. Foundations should consider funding water leak projects in disadvantaged communities.

Interested in hosting a water leak event in your community? We are looking for partners throughout Michigan that will help provide education and resources to Michigan residents. Interested in joining the partnership?

Contact EGLE-CleanWater@Michigan.gov.



CLEAN WATER AMBASSADOR INITIATIVE



AMBASSADORS ACROSS THE STATE

- 
 As of December 2020, there are over **130 Clean Water Ambassadors** across Michigan.
- 
 Any residents above the age of 18 years old are invited to serve as an Ambassador.
- 
 Clean Water Ambassadors have diverse backgrounds and lived experiences to ensure that our water efforts are inclusive and accessible to Michigan residents.

The Clean Water Ambassador Initiative is a statewide effort designed to improve transparency and communication concerning water quality in Michigan. Clean Water Ambassadors play a vital role in ensuring that drinking water programs and resources are accessible and effective. Ambassadors provide their feedback and input by participating in webinars, as well as completing online surveys.



Ambassadors share feedback during monthly webinars, through a shared online platform, via surveys, and through direct lines of communication



Ambassadors support the development and implementation of various drinking water quality initiatives by providing feedback and promoting programs within their communities.

Every month, Clean Water Ambassadors participate in a monthly webinar that includes a presentation of ongoing and upcoming drinking water initiatives, an overview of ways to support these initiatives, and time for Ambassador questions and feedback. Monthly webinar topics have included presentations on a wide variety of projects, including the Drinking Water Concern System, the School Drinking Water Program, the MDHHS Residential Wells Initiatives, Statewide and Local Drinking Water Advisory Councils, and the initial planning stages of a statewide Drinking Water Campaign. Feedback from Ambassadors has been utilized to increase accessibility to information on the Clean Water website, inform the development of initiatives, and ensure community concerns are addressed. Outreach and engagement efforts will continue to expand the reach and representation of the Ambassador Program.

LOOKING AHEAD AT 2021

Clean Water Ambassador priorities

Clean Water Ambassadors set an ambitious agenda to continue their work in improving transparency and communication concerning water quality in Michigan and ensuring that drinking water programs and resources are accessible and effective.



Increase **awareness and transparency** about drinking water quality in Michigan



Ensure Michigan residents are informed on how to **report drinking water quality concerns**



Support and promote **policies and legislation** that protect Michigan drinking water quality

These goals can be achieved through various Ambassador projects, including **Citizen Science** projects for Action Level Exceedance (ALE) communities and private well residents, as well as an **Ambassador Awareness Campaign**.



“Standards should always support overall community health and take into account the most vulnerable. If the most vulnerable are protected then we all are.”

“Promoting legislation that protects everyone is very important.”

RESPONDING TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The COVID-19 pandemic. While some people were stockpiling hand sanitizer, toilet paper, and groceries, there were many families left wondering how they would protect their families by adhering to the top recommendation issued by the CDC at the time - which was to wash your hands. The pandemic exposed and intensified the disparities that many of us were already aware of.

On March 28, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order 2020-28 which required water departments to restore water to every occupied home without water in their service area. Water partners across Michigan helped inform the development and implementation of this executive order. Additionally, a \$2-million fund was established through Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE). The Water Restart Grant Program awarded \$1,201,897 in funding to local communities to help reconnect homes to their water supplies.

Many local community water suppliers, also known as local water departments, immediately began reconnecting residents. There were also community water suppliers that reconnected prior to EO 2020-28. However, there were also residents that experienced delays. These residents worked with EGLE Drinking Water and Environmental Health Division (DWEHD) District Office staff to address any delays or barriers to reconnect their water; several of these cases were escalated to the Office of the Clean Water Public Advocate, as needed, to resolve barriers identified. As of October 2020, there were approximately 2,448 homes reconnected to water and reported to EGLE, as required by EO 2020-28 and EO 2020-144.

As we celebrate our success of reconnecting thousands of residents, it is important not to lose sight of room for improvement and next steps:

- The moratorium on water shut offs during the state of emergency was the first step. Understanding that pandemics may last years, planning was needed to determine funding that could keep residents connected beyond the state of emergency. The lack of data from water suppliers was definitely apparent as we attempted to anticipate funding and resource needs.

Recommendation: Legislation is needed to ensure that state agencies and communities have access to data from our community water supplier partners like the number of water shutoffs, water rates, and average balance of accounts with arrears.

- It is important that an effort is made to reach out to our most vulnerable populations so that they are aware of resources and have a clear escalation process in case they experience barriers.

Recommendation: There is the need for state-led messaging to support our local partners, especially during emergencies, that clearly states which state agency to contact for additional assistance or to escalate a concern. Although press releases were issued, there should be funds available at the state level to support dissemination of messages beyond press releases: billboards, social media ads, etc.



ALL ROADS LEAD TO WATER AFFORDABILITY

Reconnection of water service during Michigan's state of emergency helped many families. However, there must be coordination regarding how to keep families connected to water while ensuring that community water suppliers, especially in disadvantaged communities, have sufficient funding to provide clean water to their communities.

2020 YEAR IN REVIEW: UPDATES FROM STATE PARTNERS, ADVISORY COUNCILS, AND COMMISSIONS

MDHHS

The **Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)** plays a vital role in protecting public health when a community is impacted by water quality issues. The MDHHS Action Lead Exceedance (ALE) Response team develops comprehensive outreach strategies to support communities that includes sampling, hosting outreach events, and distributing water filters to vulnerable populations in ALE communities. In fiscal year 2020, the ALE Response Team provided 21,648 filters to residents. In addition, the MDHHS Drinking Water Investigation Unit sampled 507 homes and collected 8,129 Lead and Copper samples.

Learn more about MDHHS community engagement and initiatives in the Appendix (page 20).

EGLE

The EGLE Lead and Copper Unit monitors communities throughout Michigan for lead and copper in drinking water. There were about 730 community water supplies sampled in fiscal year 2020 for lead and copper, resulting in 33 action level exceedances (ALE) for lead. Michigan's 2018 Lead and Copper Rule revisions included changes in the sampling protocol for homes with lead service lines, adding a 5th liter sample to more accurately reflect the risk of lead exposure in water coming from lead service lines. In fiscal year 2020, 13 of 33 lead ALEs in community water supplies, or 39%, would not have been identified without the 5th liter sampling data. In addition, community water supplies were required to submit a preliminary distribution system materials inventory that focused on service line materials to EGLE by January 1, 2020. This information is important as we allocate resources for lead service line replacement efforts and help community water supplies remove all lead, and galvanized previously connected to lead, service lines in Michigan by 2041.

MPART

The **Michigan PFAS Action Response Team (MPART)** supported the promulgation of drinking water standards for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances which became effective August 3, 2020. This support included the MPART Human Health Workgroup's review of public comments on the underlying health-based values, as well as consulting with the Science Advisory Workgroup to affirm those values were still appropriate. Operators of 2,700 water systems will now routinely monitor for PFAS, take appropriate corrective action for contamination, and keep their customers informed.

MPART met monthly with its Citizens Advisory Workgroup to evaluate how best to engage and empower residents in communities where drinking water has been contaminated by PFAS, and on how to educate the general public on PFAS and the work of MPART across the state. It also continued to identify and reduce exposures to PFAS in residential wells impacted by groundwater contamination sites. Other investigations continue across the state, prioritized based on whether potential contamination could migrate offsite and impact drinking water.

SDWAC

The **Statewide Drinking Water Advisory Council (SDWAC)** continues to support local water system advisories. In fiscal year 2020, they hosted two webinars to support the development and implementation of these local water advisories. The webinars also provided a summary of best practices about flushing practices, lead service line replacement (LSLR), lead and copper rule (LCR) activities, actionable level exceedance (ALEs) and the Public Health Response from MDHHS.

The SDWAC also began developing an RFP to hire a consultant to develop a public education campaign and materials to support the mission of the SDWAC and water supply councils. It is anticipated the consultant will be hired in 2021.



WATER SYSTEM ADVISORY COUNCILS

The State of Michigan's 2018 revision to the Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) created both state-level and utility-level water advisory councils. Water suppliers and water systems with more than 50,000 customers will each be required to create a Community Water Advisory Council. The advisory council will advise the utility on communications related to lead in drinking water as well as other drinking water quality issues. Specifically, the advisory council is mandated to:

- ◆ Develop plans for continuing public awareness about lead in drinking water, even when a lead action level is not exceeded;
- ◆ Review public awareness campaign materials provided by the statewide Drinking Water Advisory Council to ensure the needs and interests of the community, with consideration to the economic and cultural diversity of its residents, are addressed;
- ◆ Advise and consult with the water supply on the development of appropriate plans for remediation and public education to be implemented if a lead action level is exceeded;
- ◆ Advise and consult with the water supply on efforts to replace private lead service lines at locations where the owner declined service line replacement;
- ◆ Assist in promoting transparency of all data and documents related to lead in drinking water within the water supply service area; and
- ◆ Collaborate with local community groups to ensure that residents have the opportunity to be involved in efforts to educate the community about lead in drinking water.

GET INVOLVED: WORKING TOGETHER TOWARD A CLEAN WATER FUTURE

CONTACT

EGLE-CleanWater@Michigan.gov



Non-profits, Community Partners, and Community Water Suppliers:

Join the Focus on Water initiative to work with the Office of the Clean Water Public Advocate to address drinking water quality concerns in your community.



Foundations:

Support Focus on Water community projects

Funding is needed during Fix a Leak Week to assist families in disadvantaged communities with water leaks in their home. It is also needed to address drinking water quality issues identified in schools in disadvantaged communities.

Support college students in a disadvantaged or water quality impacted area to participate by providing a stipend for their participation in Clean Water projects. State of Michigan internships are unpaid, which unfortunately may be a barrier for prospective interns; foundations can help fill this gap.



Residents:

Sign up to be a Clean Water Ambassador

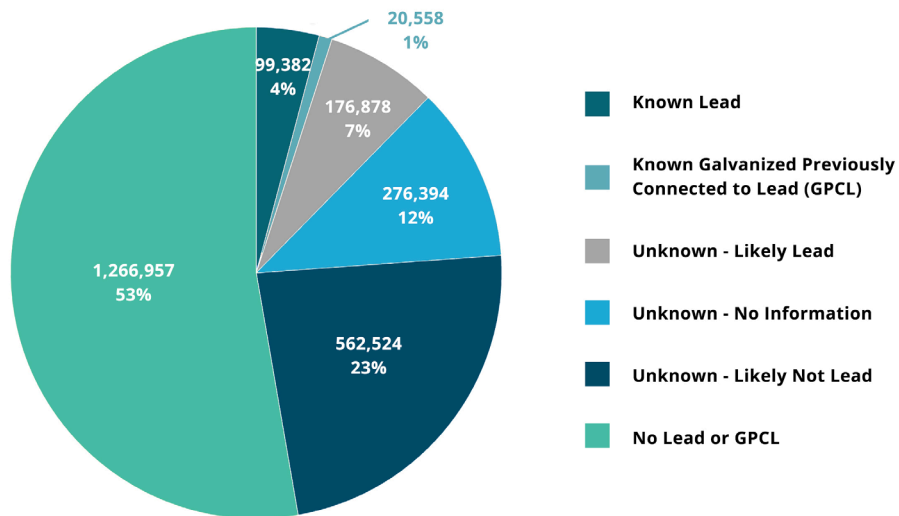
As an ambassador, you will receive information about water efforts across Michigan, connections with state and local partners, free or discounted registration for drinking water related conferences offered by the State agencies, and the opportunity to provide feedback about resources and programs that impact your community.

APPENDIX

The first step to replacing lead service lines is determining which service lines may contain lead. A preliminary survey of service line materials has identified the number of lead service lines and their locations. This information will help as we allocate funding moving forward.

Service Line Materials by Category Based on Preliminary Distribution System Materials Inventory

Data set incomplete. Chart will be updated as additional PDSMI data is reviewed.
Last updated 3/2/2020



MDHHS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INITIATIVES

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) continues to engage with community residents through various means. Whether it's virtual presentation, in-person presentations or door-to-door recruitment events, the ALE Response Team strives to support community residents by providing them with materials and resources to protect public health.

ALE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT NUMBERS FOR FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2020

| | |
|---|-------|
| Number of organization partnerships working with ALE program | 23 |
| Number of presentations to residents (in person) | 8 |
| Number of presentations to residents (virtual) | 2 |
| Number of organizations requesting and receiving health education materials | 12 |
| Number of community outreach events ALE program participated in | 24 |
| Number of door-to-door drinking water recruitment events participating with DWU | 4 |
| Number of filter distribution events completed within ALE communities | 21 |
| Number of people who received health education materials (filter distribution events) | 4,812 |
| Number of people who received health education materials (non-filter events) | 5,776 |

MDHHS INITIATIVES

The **MiWell Initiative** provides private residential well owners with education on issues surrounding human health and private well usage. The overall goal of the initiative is to identify and address gaps in existing private well programs in Michigan. In FY2020, MiWell shifted its short-term focus from outreach events to the development of factsheets to support private well maintenance and testing for potential chemical contaminants. Factsheets currently under development include arsenic, manganese, sulfate, sodium, iron, chloride, fluoride and hardness.

State Agency Collaboration to Address Water Quality Concerns:

MDHHS and EGLE work collaboratively to support communities. In fiscal year 2020, the MDHHS/EGLE team at MDHHS/EGLE began working with three community water supplies to address concerns with manganese in the drinking water system. The team worked with each community to develop a comprehensive sampling plan to characterize the manganese in the water supply and provided sampling support. MDHHS assisted two communities to develop a "Do Not Drink Advisory for infants less than 12 months old" and provided technical resources and health education materials to enhance local education efforts in those communities. This is just one example of how interagency response helps support community efforts.

MI CLEAN WATER: A HISTORIC \$500 MILLION INVESTMENT TO REBUILD MICHIGAN'S WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

MI Clean Water confronts the large infrastructure issues that Michigan faces, such as lead-laden water service lines, toxic contamination like Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS), undersized sewers, failing septic systems, unaffordable water rates, and constrained local budgets. MI Clean Water will reduce barriers for communities and allow them to access needed funds for necessary and timely infrastructure upgrades.

This historic investment includes a proposal combining federal dollars for lead service line replacement in low-income communities (\$102.1 million) with bonding authority for water quality protection (\$290 million), one-time General Fund appropriation for drinking water infrastructure and innovation (\$105 million), and asset management grants (\$2.9 million) to help communities develop, update, and improve their plans for wastewater and stormwater systems resulting in a comprehensive water infrastructure investment of \$500 million in Michigan's water systems. The MI Clean Water investment will be done without raising the taxes of Michiganders. \$293 million of MI Clean Water investment allocated for water waste infrastructure improvement will require additional legislative action.

A \$207.1 million investment in drinking water quality, including:

- Lead Service Line Replacement in Disadvantaged Communities Program - \$102 million
- Lead and Copper – Drinking Water Asset Management Grants - \$37.5 million
- PFAS and Emerging Contaminants - Contamination and Consolidation Grants - \$25 million
- Non-Lead Drinking Water Infrastructure Grants - \$35 million
- Affordability and Planning Grants - \$7.5 million
- A \$293 million investment in wastewater protection, including:
 - Clean Water Infrastructure Grants (eliminating sanitary sewer overflows; correcting combined sewer overflows; increasing green infrastructure) - \$235 million
 - Substantial Public Health Risk Grants (removing direct and continuous discharges of raw sewage from surface or ground water) - \$20 million
 - Failing Septic System Elimination Program - \$35 million
 - Stormwater, Asset Management, and Wastewater Grants - \$3 million

“The health of our communities and the strength of our economy depend on the **fundamentals of safe water.**”

GOVERNOR GRETCHEN WHITMER

Office of the Clean Water Public Advocate

ANNUAL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

2020

EGLE does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, religion, age, national origin, color, marital status, disability, political beliefs, height, weight, genetic information, or sexual orientation in the administration of any of its programs or activities, and prohibits intimidation and retaliation, as required by applicable laws and regulations.

Michigan.gov/CleanWater