Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

# Fish Advisory at the Lange and Revere Canals

St. Clair Shores, Macomb County, MI

### Where are the Lange and Revere Canals?

The Lange and Revere Canals are the two canals just south of 10 Mile Road in St. Clair Shores, Macomb County, Michigan, along the western shore of Lake St. Clair (see map on the back page). PCBs have been found in the Lange and Revere Canals and are associated with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) 10 Mile Drain Superfund site. These are the only canals in St. Clair Shores known to have this problem.

The US EPA is currently working on investigation and cleanup plans for the PCB contamination.

## What is the fish advisory for the Lange and Revere Canals?

In May 2011, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) issued a "**Do Not Eat Advisory**" for fish caught in the Lange and Revere Canals in St. Clair Shores. Unsafe levels of PCBs are in the fish from the Lange and Revere Canals. While fishing is allowed, MDHHS **strongly** recommends that people do not eat the fish caught in these two canals. It is not dangerous to touch the fish.

# How high are the PCB levels in the fish from the Lange and Revere Canals?

Fish caught in the Lange and Revere Canals are contaminated with high levels of PCBs. Four types of fish - sunfish, crappie, largemouth bass and carp - from these two canals were collected in 2010. The MDHHS laboratory tested for the levels of PCBs in the fish fillets. The levels in the fish were more than **2,000 times higher** than levels typically seen in fish collected from Lake St. Clair in the Anchor Bay area (the northern end of the Lake).

MDHHS **<u>strongly</u>** advises people to **not** eat any fish from these two specific canals because of these high levels of PCBs.

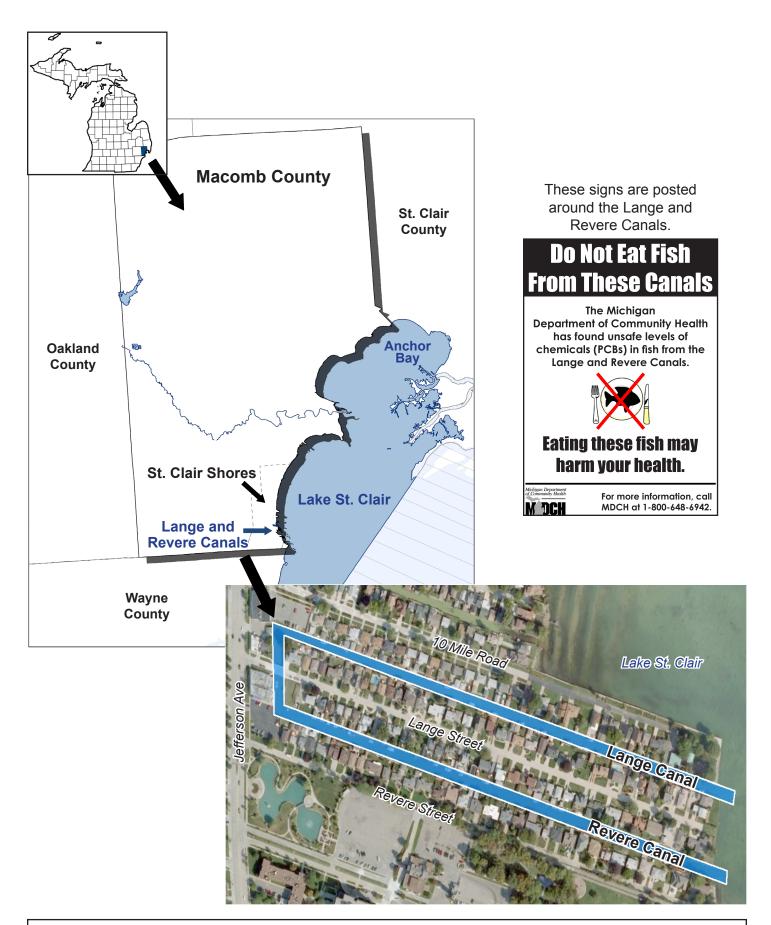
# Why does it matter that there are high levels of PCBs in fish?

Eating fish with high levels of PCBs can be harmful to your health. The PCBs measured in the fish from the Lange and Revere Canals are the highest ever found in the state. Everyone gets a small amount of PCBs from their diet; however, a single meal of these fish has the same amount of PCBs that you would usually get up to 34 years. PCBs won't make you sick right away, but studies have linked PCBs with cancer and diabetes.

MDHHS continues to monitor the situation and will update the *Michigan Fish Advisory/Eat Safe Fish Guide* as data becomes available.

For more information about public health involvement at the 10 Mile Drain Superfund site, visit <a href="https://www.michigan.gov/mdch-toxics">www.michigan.gov/mdch-toxics</a> and look into *Toxicology and Response* section for the *St. Clair Shores, Macomb County* link under the *Health Assessments and Related Documents* tab.





# For more information

To learn more about the fish advisory for the Lange and Revere Canals in St. Clair Shores, contact MDHHS at **1-800-648-6942** or visit **www.michigan.gov/eatsafefish**.

