

Next Steps After Your Faucet Replacement

After your faucet is replaced, some lead may remain in the plumbing or other fixtures in your home. Follow these steps after your faucet replacement to reduce your exposure to lead.



First, check to make sure your new faucet is certified to **NSF/ANSI Standard 61** so it meets the Safe Drinking Water Act requirements to contain 0.25% lead or less. You can learn more about how to make sure your faucets and filters have the right certifications to reduce lead with this helpful fact sheet from the EPA at [Eh.Michigan.gov/EPAleadCertifications](https://eh.michigan.gov/EPAleadCertifications).

It is important to follow all manufacturers' instructions when installing a new faucet so it works as intended.

Keep your water moving

Immediately after replacing your faucet, you should run your cold water until it goes from room temperature to cold. You should run the cold water until it goes from room temperature to cold before using the water from **any faucet** for drinking or cooking, **even the new faucet**, every time.

Even after you replace your faucet, some lead may remain in the plumbing in your home, like your pipes, fittings or fixtures. Any plumbing that contains lead can break down and then it could dissolve into the water. That is why it is still important to **keep your water moving after you replace your faucet**.

You can keep your water moving by doing everyday activities such as:

- Running a load of laundry.
- Taking a shower.
- Washing dishes.
- Flushing the toilet.



Maintain your new faucet by cleaning your aerator



Over time, small particles, including lead, can build up in faucet aerators (the mesh screens at the end of your faucet).

Clean the aerators on your faucets at least once every six months to remove trapped debris. Learn how to clean your aerator at [EH.Michigan.gov/CleaningYourAerators](https://eh.michigan.gov/CleaningYourAerators).

Ways to reduce lead exposure

Some lead may remain in other places in your home, like your pipes, fittings or other fixtures. So, you may also need to continue to use a drinking water filter until you are able to remove all sources of household lead plumbing, such as:

- Replacing all pre-2014 faucets.
- Getting a lead inspection and replacing needed plumbing.

If you are concerned about lead, go to Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe to learn more about the ways you can reduce your exposure.



Visit Eh.Michigan.gov/DW5Tips to learn how to test your drinking water.



Visit Eh.Michigan.gov/HomePlumbingChecklist to learn how to check your home's plumbing for lead.



Visit bit.ly/EPAFilterGuide2024 to learn about drinking water filters.



Visit Eh.Michigan.gov/BloodLeadTesting to learn more about Michigan's universal blood lead testing law requiring blood lead testing for all children.

For more information

MDHHS Care for Mi Drinking Water Website
800-648-6942
Michigan.gov/CareforMiDrinkingWater

Mi Lead Safe Website
Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe

Get Ahead of Lead Website
Michigan.gov/GetAheadofLead

Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy
Michigan.gov/DrinkingWater
Michigan.gov/WaterWellConstruction

Laboratory Services
Michigan.gov/EGLElab and choose "Certifications"

List of Michigan Local Health Departments
bit.ly/MiHealthDepartment



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