

City of River Rouge

2026 Annual Water Quality Report

City of River Rouge, 10600 West Jefferson Avenue, River Rouge, Michigan 48218

The purpose of this report is to provide you with information about your drinking water. The report explains to you where your water comes from and the treatment it receives before it reaches your tap. The report also lists all the contaminants detected in your water and an explanation of all the violations in the past year.

The City of River Rouge receives its drinking water from the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA), Southwest Treatment Plant, located in Allen Park and the Springwell Plant located in Dearborn Heights. Water treated at the plants is drawn from the Detroit River. The water flows to the plants by gravity through a large water tunnel.

The treatment process begins with disinfecting the source water with chlorine to kill harmful microorganisms that can cause illness. Next, a chemical called Alum is mixed with the water to remove the fine particles that make the water cloudy or turbid. Alum causes the particles to clump together and settle to the bottom. Fluoride also is added to protect our teeth from cavities.

The water then flows through several sand filters to remove even more particles and certain microorganisms that are resistant to chlorine. Finally, a small amount of phosphoric acid and chlorine are added. The phosphoric acid helps control the lead that may dissolve in water from household plumbing systems. The chlorine keeps the water disinfected as it travels through the mains to your home.

The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land, or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- Organic chemicals contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also can come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which are naturally occurring or can be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and residential uses.

Drinking water quality is important to our community and the region. The City of River Rouge and the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) are committed to meeting state and federal water quality standards including the Lead and Copper Rule. With the Great Lakes as our water source and proven treatment technologies, the GLWA consistently delivers safe drinking water to our community. River Rouge operates the system of water mains that carry this water to your home service line. This year's Water Quality Report highlights the performance of GLWA and River Rouge water professionals in delivering some of the nation's

We invite public participation in decisions that affect drinking water quality. The City of River Rouge Council Meetings are held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at River Rouge City Hall located at 10600 W. Jefferson Avenue, River Rouge, MI 48218. For more information about your water or the contents of this report, contact the River Rouge Water Department at 313-842-4803. For more information about safe drinking water, visit the US Environmental Protection Agency at www.epa.gov/safewater.

best drinking water. Together, we remain committed to protecting public health and maintaining open communication with the public about our drinking water.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about the contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. These include immune-compromised persons, such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, those who have undergone organ transplants, or those with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders. Also, some elderly residents and infants can be particularly at risk for infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of the infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Detroit River Intakes

Your source water comes from the Detroit River, situated within the Lake St. Clair, Clinton River, Detroit River, Rouge River, Ecorse River watersheds in the U.S. and parts of the Thames River, Littler River, Turkey Creek, and Sydenham watersheds in Canada. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, in partnership with the U.S. geological Survey, Detroit Water & Sewerage Department, and the Michigan Public Health Institute performed a source water assessment in 2004 to determine the susceptibility of GLWA's Detroit River source water for potential contamination. The susceptibility rating is based on a seven-tiered scale and ranges from "very low" to "very high", determined primarily using geologic sensitivity, water chemistry and potential contaminant sources. The report described GLWA's Detroit River intakes as highly susceptible to potential contamination. However, all four Detroit water treatment plants that service the City of Detroit

and draw water from the Detroit River have historically provided satisfactory treatment and meet drinking water standards.

GLWA has initiated source-water protection activities that include chemical containment, spill response, and a mercury reduction program. GLWA participates in a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit discharge program and has an emergency response management plan. In 2016, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality approved the GLWA Surface Water Intake Protection Program Plan. The programs include seven elements that include the following: roles and duties of government units and water supply agencies, delineation of a source water protection areas, identification of potential sources of contamination, management approaches for protection, contingency plans, siting of new water sources, public participation and public education activities. If you would like to know more information about the Source Water Assessment report, please, contact GLWA at 313-926-8102.

Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although filtration removes *Cryptosporidium*, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Our monitoring indicates the presence of these organisms in our source water.

Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of *Cryptosporidium* may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks.

However, immuno-compromised people, infants and small children, and the elderly are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immuno-compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions.

Great Lakes Water Authority voluntarily monitors for *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia* in our untreated source water monthly. Systems using surface water like GLWA must provide treatment so that 99.9 percent of *Giardia lamblia* is removed or inactivated.

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. Monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those (UCMR2).

KEY TO DETECTED CONTAMINANTS TABLES

Symbol	Abbreviation for	Definition/Explanation
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level	The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible, using the best available treatment technology.
MRDLG	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal	The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbials.
MRDL	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level	The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
ppb	Parts per billion (one in one billion)	The ppb is equivalent to micrograms per liter. A microgram = 1/1000 milligram.
ppm	Parts per million (one in one million)	The ppm is equivalent to milligrams per liter. A milligram = 1/1000 gram.
LRAA	Locational Running Annual Average	The average of analytical results for samples at a particular monitoring location during the previous four quarters
RAA	Running Annual Average	The average of analytical results for all samples during the previous four quarters.
SMCL	Secondary Maximum Containment Level	An MCL which involves a biological, chemical or physical characteristic of water that may adversely affect the taste, odor, color or appearance (aesthetics), which may thereby affect public confidence or acceptance of the drinking water.
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units	Measures the cloudiness of water.
ND	Not Detected	
TT	Treatment Technique	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	Action Level	The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
HAA5	Haloacetic acids	HAA5 is the total of bromoacetic, chloroacetic, dibromoacetic, dichloroacetic and trichloroacetic acids. Compliance is based on the total.
Level 1	Level 1 Assessment	A level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in the water system.
Level 2	Level 2 Assessment	A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.
TTHM	Total Trihalomethanes	Total Trihalomethanes is the sum of chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane and bromoform. Compliance is based on the total.
pCi/L	Picocuries per liter	A measure of radioactivity
n/a	Not applicable	
µohms	Micromhos	Measure of electrical conductance of water
°C	Celsius	A scale of temperature in which water freezes at 0 degrees and boils at 100 degrees under standard conditions
>	Greater than	

contaminants. Beginning in July of 2008, the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) began monitoring quarterly for unregulated contaminants under the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 2.

Water Quality Data

Your drinking water is continuously monitored above and beyond Federal and State laws. Monitoring frequencies vary by parameter, so some of the test dates for the results are a few years old because it is the most recent information. In addition, monitoring must be performed by the individual community. The community-specific information is presented in a separate table above. The following tables show all the contaminants that were detected in your water.

Your drinking water met all the State and EPA monitoring and reporting requirements for 2018. Not listed are the hundreds of other contaminants tested for, but not found in your water.

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community, as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water.

Lead and Copper Testing

It is estimated there are approximately 3025 lead services in River Rouge. 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. The City of River Rouge 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 the 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 lead. 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 are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or at <http://water.epa.gov/drink/info/lead>.

Safe drinking water is a shared responsibility. The water that GLWA delivers to our community does not contain lead. Lead can leach into drinking water through home plumbing fixtures and in some cases, customer service lines. Corrosion control reduces the risk of lead and copper leaching into your water. Orthophosphates are added during the treatment process as a corrosion control method to create a protective coating in service pipes throughout the system, including in your home or business. The City of River Rouge performs required lead and copper sampling and testing in our community. Water consumers also have a responsibility to maintain the plumbing in their homes and businesses and can take steps to limit their exposure to lead.

Public Participation

Each and every month the Great Lakes Water Authority Board meet at the Water Board Building at 735 Randolph Street, Detroit, Michigan 48226. These meetings as well as public hearings are open to the public. To confirm the dates and times of the GLWA meetings residents are encouraged to visit the GLWA website at www.glwater.org.

The City of River Rouge and the Great Lakes Water Authority is committed to safeguarding our water supply and delivering the highest quality drinking water to protect public health. Please contact us with any questions or concerns about your water.

2025 Southwest Regulated Detected Contaminants Table

2025 Inorganic Chemicals - Annual Monitoring at Plant Finished Tap								
Regulated Contaminant	Test Date	Unit	Health Goal MCLG	Allowed Level MCL	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detection	Violation	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Fluoride	2-11-2025	ppm	4	4	0.50	n/a	no	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive, which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate	2-11-2025	ppm	10	10	0.35	n/a	no	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
2025 Disinfection Residual - Monitoring in the Distribution System								
Regulated Contaminant	Test Date	Unit	Health Goal MRDLG	Allowed Level MRDL	Highest Level RAA	Range of Quarterly Results	Violation	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Total Chlorine Residual	2025	ppm	4	4	0.71	0.59-0.79	no	Water additive used to control microbes
2025 Disinfection By-Products - Stage 2 Disinfection By-Products Monitoring in the Distribution System								
Regulated Contaminant	Test Date	Unit	Health Goal MCLG	Allowed Level MCL	Highest Level LRAA	Range of Quarterly Results	Violation	Major Sources in Drinking Water
(TTHM) Total Trihalomethanes	2025	ppb	n/a	80	42	31-42	no	By-product of drinking water chlorination
(HAA5) Haloacetic Acids	2025	ppb	n/a	60	19	15-19	no	By-product of drinking water chlorination
2025 Turbidity - Monitored Every 4 Hours at the Plant Finished Water Tap								
Highest Single Measurement Cannot Exceed 1 NTU	Lowest Monthly % of Samples Meeting Turbidity Limit of 0.3 NTU (minimum 95%)						Violation	Major Sources in Drinking Water
0.1 NTU	100%						no	Soil Runoff
Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.								
Regulated Contaminant		Treatment Technique					Typical Source of Contaminant	
Total Organic Carbon ppm		The Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal ratio is calculated as the ratio between the actual TOC removal and the TOC removal requirements. The TOC is measured each quarter and because the level is low, there is no requirement for TOC removal.					Erosion of natural deposits	
Total Coliform # or % positive samples	TT	0	N/D	>0	2023	no	Naturally present in the environment	
E. coli in the distribution system (positive samples)	See note 2	0	N/D	>0	2023	no	Naturally present in the environment	
Fecal indicator-E. coli at source (positive samples)	TT	0	N/D	>0	2023	no	Naturally present in the environment	
Lead and Copper Monitoring at the Customer's Tap in 2025								

Regulated Contaminant				Treatment Technique				Typical Source of Contaminant	
Total Organic Carbon ppm				The Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal ratio is calculated as the ratio between the actual TOC removal and the TOC removal requirements. The TOC is measured each quarter and because the level is low, there is no requirement for TOC removal.				Erosion of natural deposits	
2025 Special Monitoring									
Contaminant		Test Date	Unit	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Detected		Source of Contaminant	
Sodium		2-11-2025	ppm	n/a	n/a	5.4		Erosion of natural deposits	

These tables are based on tests conducted by GLWA in the year 2025 or the most recent testing done within the last five calendar years. GLWA conducts tests throughout the year only tests that show the presence of a substance or require special monitoring are presented in these tables. The State allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. All of the data is representative of the water quality, but some are more than one year old.

CITY OF RIVER ROUGE AND GREAT LAKES WATER AUTHORITY (GLWA) FACTS

The City of River Rouge is the oldest community water system that receives its water from the Great Lakes Water Authority. River Rouge has been a customer of DWSD/GLWA since 1900. The City of Hamtramck and the City of Ecorse rank as the second and third oldest customers of the Great Lakes Water Authority/DWSD. The City of Ecorse became a customer of the City of Detroit in 1904, four years after the City of River Rouge.

You can save hundreds or even thousands of gallons of water each day by making adjustments in your daily routines. Install a faucet aerator to save 1 to 3 gallons of water per minute of use. A low-flow showerhead can save you 10 gallons of water per minute which is an average of about 20,000 gallons per year. Watch for any drips in faucets. A running toilet can waste up to 74,000 gallons of water in just 3 months.

If you see any suspicious activity around the water system or fire hydrants you should contact the City of River Rouge Water Department at 313-842-4803 during normal business hours, the River Rouge Police Department 24 hours a day and 7 days a week or dial 911.

This report contains important information about your drinking water. Have someone translate it for you or speak with someone who understands it.

2025 Springwells Tap Water Mineral Analysis

Parameter	Units	Max.	Min.	Avg.	Parameter	Units	Max.	Min.	Avg.
Turbidity	NTU	1.08	0.03	0.14	Phosphorus	ppm	0.61	0.37	0.49
Total Solids	ppm	153	115	138	Free Carbon Dioxide	ppm	11.6	4.4	8.4
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	156	102	129	Total Hardness	ppm	146	90	116
Aluminum	ppm	0.077	0.018	0.038	Total Alkalinity	ppm	94	70	77
Iron	ppm	0.4	0.2	0.3	Carbonate Alkalinity	ppm	ND	ND	ND
Copper	ppm	0.003	ND	0.001	Bi-Carbonate Alkalinity	ppm	94	70	77
Magnesium	ppm	8.4	7.2	7.9	Non-Carbonate Hardness	ppm	66	10	39
Calcium	ppm	28.5	25.3	26.9	Chemical Oxygen Demand	ppm	11.1	ND	4.5
Sodium	ppm	7.0	4.6	5.3	Dissolved Oxygen	ppm	20.0	7.2	11.4
Potassium	ppm	1.3	1.0	1.0	Nitrite Nitrogen	ppm	ND	ND	0.0
Manganese	ppm	0.001	ND	ND	Nitrate Nitrogen	ppm	0.63	0.32	0.38
Lead	ppm	ND	ND	ND	Fluoride	ppm	0.86	0.10	0.59
Zinc	ppm	0.003	ND	0.001	pH		7.52	7.09	7.28
Silica	ppm	2.9	1.1	2.1	Specific Conductance @ 25 °C	µmhos	219	180	191
Sulfate	ppm	32.3	22.5	25.0	Temperature	°C	23.4	3.4	13.2
Chloride	ppm	11.5	9.5	10.4					

2025 Southwest Tap Water Mineral Analysis

Parameter	Units	Max.	Min.	Avg.	Parameter	Units	Max.	Min.	Avg.
Turbidity	NTU	1.80	0.01	0.22	Phosphorus	ppm	0.73	0.41	0.52
Total Solids	ppm	174	120	139	Free Carbon Dioxide	ppm	13.9	6.0	9.5
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	165	97	127	Total Hardness	ppm	166	103	120
Aluminum	ppm	0.084	0.021	0.045	Total Alkalinity	ppm	94	70	80
Iron	ppm	0.5	0.2	0.3	Carbonate Alkalinity	ppm	0	0	0
Copper	ppm	0.001	ND	0.001	Bi-Carbonate Alkalinity	ppm	94	70	80
Magnesium	ppm	8.8	7.4	7.9	Non-Carbonate Hardness	ppm	72	19	41
Calcium	ppm	33.3	25.2	27.4	Chemical Oxygen Demand	ppm	11.7	2.0	4.4
Sodium	ppm	9.4	4.7	5.6	Dissolved Oxygen	ppm	14.9	8.0	10.5
Potassium	ppm	1.3	0.9	1.1	Nitrite Nitrogen	ppm	ND	ND	0.0
Manganese	ppm	0.002	ND	0.000	Nitrate Nitrogen	ppm	1.47	0.29	0.50
Lead	ppm	ND	ND	0.000	Fluoride	ppm	0.84	0.10	0.62
Zinc	ppm	0.002	ND	0.000	pH		7.37	7.05	7.23
Silica	ppm	2.7	1.3	2.0	Specific Conductance @ 25 °C	µmhos	297	182	213
Sulfate	ppm	36.0	23.4	26.3	Temperature	°C	23.2	2.3	12.6
Chloride	ppm	14.5	7.5	10.3					



City of River Rouge

Water/Sewer Department

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT LEAD IN YOUR DRINKING WATER

RIVER ROUGE HAS EXCEEDED THE ACTION LEVEL FOR LEAD. Lead can cause serious health and development problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Please read this information closely to see what you can do to reduce lead in your drinking water.

This notice is brought to you by River Rouge.

Water Supply Serial Number: **05690**

Distribution Date: **06-30-2026**

Health Effects of Lead

There is no safe level of lead in drinking water. Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health and development effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of persons who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems. Although other sources of lead exposure exist, such as lead paint, and lead contaminated dust, River Rouge is contacting you to reduce your risk of exposure to lead in drinking water. If you have questions about other sources of lead exposure, please contact Wayne County Department of Health, Human, and Veterans Services at 313-224-0810.

Sources of Lead

Lead is a common metal found in the environment. Drinking water is one possible source of lead exposure due to the widespread use of lead in plumbing materials. EPA estimates that drinking water can make up 20 percent or more of a person's potential exposure to lead. Infants who consume mostly mixed formula can receive 40 percent to 60 percent of their exposure to lead from drinking water.

The action level is 12 parts per billion (ppb) for lead and 1.3 parts per million (ppm) for copper. The action level is a measure of corrosion control effectiveness. It is not a health-based standard. To meet the requirements of the Lead and Copper Rule, 90 percent of the samples collected must be below the action level. The following table summarizes the lead and copper data collected during the most recent monitoring period:

Most Recent Sampling Information

Action Levels	90 th Percentile Value	Range of results (minimum-maximum)	# of samples used for 90 th Percentile
Lead 12 parts per billion (ppb)	13 ppb	0 - 33 ppb	20
Copper 1.3 parts per million (ppm)	0.1 ppm	0.0 – 0.4 ppm	20

Lead can enter drinking water when pipes, solder, home/building interior plumbing, fittings and fixtures that contain lead corrode. Corrosion is the dissolving, or wearing away, of metal caused by a chemical reaction between water and your plumbing. Several factors affect the amount of lead that enters the water, including the water quality characteristics (acidity and alkalinity), the amount of lead in the pipes, plumbing and/or fixtures, and the frequency of water use in the home.

Some plumbing products such as service lines, pipes and fixtures may contain lead. The infographic below demonstrates where sources of lead in drinking water could be in your home. Older homes may have more lead unless the service line and/or plumbing has been replaced. Homes built...

- **Before the 1960s** are more likely to have lead service lines, lead pipes, fixtures, and/or solder that contain lead.
- **Before 1988** are likely to have fixtures and/or solder that contains lead.
- **Between 1996 and 2014** are likely to have fixtures that contain up to eight percent lead but were labelled “lead-free.”
- **In 2014 or later** still have potential lead exposure. “Lead free” was redefined to reduce lead content to a maximum of 0.25 percent lead in fixtures and fittings. Fixtures that are certified to meet NSF Standard 61 meet this more restrictive definition of “lead free.”

Leaded solder and leaded fittings and fixtures are still available in stores to use for non-drinking water applications. Be careful to select the appropriate products for repairing or replacing drinking water plumbing in your home.

Galvanized plumbing can be a potential source of lead. Galvanized plumbing can absorb lead from upstream sources like a lead service line. Even after the lead service line has been removed, galvanized plumbing can continue to release lead into drinking water over time. Homes that are served by a lead service line should consider replacing galvanized plumbing inside the home.

Drinking water is only one source of lead exposure. Other common sources of lead exposure are lead-based paint, and lead-contaminated dust or soil. Because lead can be carried on hands, clothing, and/or shoes, sources of exposure to lead can include the workplace and certain hobbies. Wash your children's hands and toys often as they can come in contact with dirt and dust containing lead. In addition, lead can be found in certain types of pottery, pewter, food, and cosmetics. If you have questions about other sources of lead exposure, please contact Wayne County Department of Health, Human, and Veterans Services at 313-224-0810.

Particulate Lead

Lead results can vary between tests. A single test result is not a reliable indicator of drinking water safety. Two different types of lead can be present in drinking water, soluble lead and particulate lead. Soluble lead is lead that dissolves because of a chemical reaction between water and plumbing that contains lead. Particulate lead is dislodged scale and sediment released into the water from the sides of the plumbing and can vary greatly between samples. Disturbances, such as replacing a water meter, construction and excavation activities, or home plumbing repairs can cause particulates to shake free from inside pipes and plumbing. Particulate lead is a concern because the lead content can be very high. Lead particulate could be present in a single glass of water but not present in water sampled just before or after. During construction, monthly aerator cleaning and using a filter certified to reduce lead are recommended to reduce particulate lead exposure.

Check whether your home has a lead service line.

Homes with lead service lines have an increased risk of having high lead levels in drinking water. Please contact River Rouge for more information about your home's service line.

Steps You Can Take to Reduce Your Exposure to Lead in Your Water

1. ***Run your water to flush out lead.*** The more time water has been sitting in your home's pipes, the more lead it may contain. Therefore, if your water has not been used for several hours, run the water before using it for drinking or cooking. This flushes lead-containing water from the pipes.

- If you **do not** have a lead service line, run the water for 30 seconds to two minutes, or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature.
- If you **do** have a lead service line, run the water for at least five minutes to flush water from both the interior building plumbing and the lead service line.

Additional flushing may be required for homes that have been vacant or have a longer service line. Your water utility can help you determine if longer flushing times are needed.

2. ***Everyone can consider using a filter to reduce lead in drinking water.*** MDHHS recommends that residents use a certified lead-reducing drinking water filter if their home has or if they are uncertain if it has one of the following:

- Lead or galvanized plumbing.
- A lead service line carrying water from the street to their residence.
- Copper plumbing with lead solder before 1988 (EGLE recommendation).
- Old faucets and fittings that were sold before 2014.

Use the filter until you are able to remove sources of household lead plumbing, such as:

- Replace pre-2014 faucets.
- Get a lead inspection and replace needed plumbing.

Look for filters that are tested and certified to NSF/ANSI Standard 53 for lead reduction and NSF/ANSI



System Tested and Certified by
NSF International against NSF/
ANSI Standard 53 for the
reduction of Lead.

Standard 42 for particulate reduction (Class I).

Some filter options include a pour-through pitcher or faucet-mount systems. If the label does not specifically mention lead reduction, check the Performance Data Sheet included with the

device. Be sure to maintain and replace the filter device in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to protect water quality.

3. Use cold water for drinking and cooking. Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap; lead dissolves more easily into hot water.

4. Use cold water for preparing baby formula. Do not use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula. MDHHS recommends using bottled water or a filter certified to reduce lead to prepare baby formula.

5. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Filter cold water, then boil the filtered water as necessary.

6. Consider purchasing bottled water. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulates bottled water. The bottled water standard for lead is 5 ppb.

7. Get your child tested. Contact your local health department or healthcare provider to find out how you can get your child tested for lead if you are concerned about exposure. *Wayne County Department of Health, Human, and Veterans Services at 313-224-0810*

8. Identify older plumbing fixtures that are likely to contain lead. Older faucets, fittings, and valves sold before 2014 may contain higher levels of lead, even if marked "lead-free." Faucets, fittings, and valves sold after January 2014 are required to meet a more restrictive "lead-free" definition but may still contain up to 0.25 percent lead. When purchasing new plumbing materials, it is important to look for materials that are certified to meet NSF standard 61. The EPA prepared a brochure that explains the various markings that can indicate that materials meet the new "lead free" definition: <https://nepis.epa.gov/Exe/ZyPDF.cgi?Dockkey=P100LVYK.txt>.

9. Clean your aerator. The aerator on the end of your faucet is a screen that will catch debris. This debris could include particulate lead. The aerator should be removed at least every six months to rinse out any debris.

10. Test your water for lead. Call the River Rouge Water Department at **313-842-4803** to learn how to have your drinking water tested for lead. Water testing may also be available through a Michigan-certified drinking water laboratory.

11. Learn about construction in your neighborhood. Contact us at **313-842-4803** to find out about any construction or maintenance work that could disturb your service line. Construction may cause more lead to be released from a lead service line if present.

What Happened? What is Being Done?

River Rouge conducts lead and copper testing in accordance with state and federal requirements. During the most recent monitoring period, **3 of the sampled homes exceeded the Lead Action Level**, resulting in a **90th percentile lead level of 13 ppb**, which is above the Action Level of 12 ppb. The city continues to maintain corrosion control treatment, provides public education, conducts required lead sampling, and is working to identify and replace lead service lines as required by Michigan's Lead and Copper Rule.

River Rouge conducts testing of tap water in homes for lead and copper. This summer, we collected samples from 20 homes. Three homes were above the Action Level for lead.

River Rouge has lead service lines. However, lead can enter drinking water when it is in contact with pipes, solder, home/building interior plumbing, fittings and fixtures that contain lead. River Rouge employs corrosion control treatment to reduce lead or copper leaching.

If you are a River Rouge water customer and would like your service line inspected or would like to have your drinking water tested for lead, contact River Rouge at **313-842-4803**

We will collect 40 lead and copper samples every six months and review the results to determine if corrective actions are necessary to reduce corrosion in household plumbing.

For More Information

Call us at **313-842-4803**, or visit our website at <https://cityofriverrouge.net>. Additional information available at Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe or Michigan.gov/EGLEleadpublicadvisory. For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's Web site at Epa.gov/lead, call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your healthcare provider. You can also call the DHHS Drinking Water Hotline at 844-934-1315.

CONCERNED ABOUT LEAD IN YOUR DRINKING WATER?

Sources of **LEAD** in Drinking Water

