

Recommendations for Licensed Food Establishments Using City of Essexville Water

November 20, 2019

ATTENTION:

Your municipality's water source has been identified as having an Action Level Exceedance for lead.

The following recommendations apply to licensed restaurants, grocery stores, convenience stores, food processors and food warehouses.

- **Testing your water with a certified lab is the only way to find out how much lead is in your drinking water.** Safe results can be posted to inform your customers. Visit Michigan.gov/EGLElab and choose "Drinking Water Laboratory" to learn how to order a test kit. The cost is typically \$30. If you have questions about testing your water, you can contact MDHHS at 517-284-4115.
- The best way to determine if water contains lead is to have it tested. Safe results can be posted to inform consumers.
- A licensed plumber can check your plumbing and service lines for lead soldering or lead service lines.
- Restaurants with general questions should contact the Bay County Health Department at: 989-895-4107
- Grocery stores, food production facilities or food warehouses with general questions should contact MDARD at: 1-800-292-3939.

Unless the water has been tested and found to not have a lead concern, do the following:

- If a filter is not in use, flush water lines for at least 5 minutes each day before using or serving water and after 6 hours of no water use. Then flush other equipment, such as equipment listed below, for at least 1-2 minutes.
- Install an NSF Standard 53 certified filter on the faucet where drinking/cooking water is obtained. Approved filter information for faucet or in-line filters can be found at: http://info.nsf.org/Certified/DWTU/listings_leadreduction.asp. Filters must be changed based on the manufacturer's recommendations.
- Use cold water and store it for immediate consumption.
- Always use cold water for drinking, cooking and cleaning/rinsing food.

For other equipment that may use City of Essexville water:

- Ice machines – Install a water filter on the supply line or use bagged ice from an approved source for drinking water.
- Pop machines – After initial flushing as described above, flush for 1 minute daily or use bottled beverages.
- Coffee machines – After initial flushing as described above, flush for 1-2 minutes daily or use filtered water. These products may be very low risk as young children under 6 are not likely to consume these.
- Slush machines – Use filtered water.
- Spray misters – After initial flushing as described above, flush for 1-2 minutes daily or use filtered water.

Find more information on water testing resources at <https://www.michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe>

