

## Dear MSU Well Water Distribution System Customer:

We're reaching out to you to ensure you have accurate and timely information directly from us following recent drinking water test results from our routine lead and copper monitoring for the well water distribution system (Farms District) and from the domestic water distribution system (Main Campus).

As a university that maintains and supplies water to its campus community, MSU conducts routine lead and copper testing of drinking water in buildings. We recently collected samples from five locations in our well water distribution system in the Farms District south of main campus, as well as samples from 30 locations in our domestic water distribution system that supplies most main campus

buildings and all residence halls.

The samples were provided to the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) laboratory for analysis.

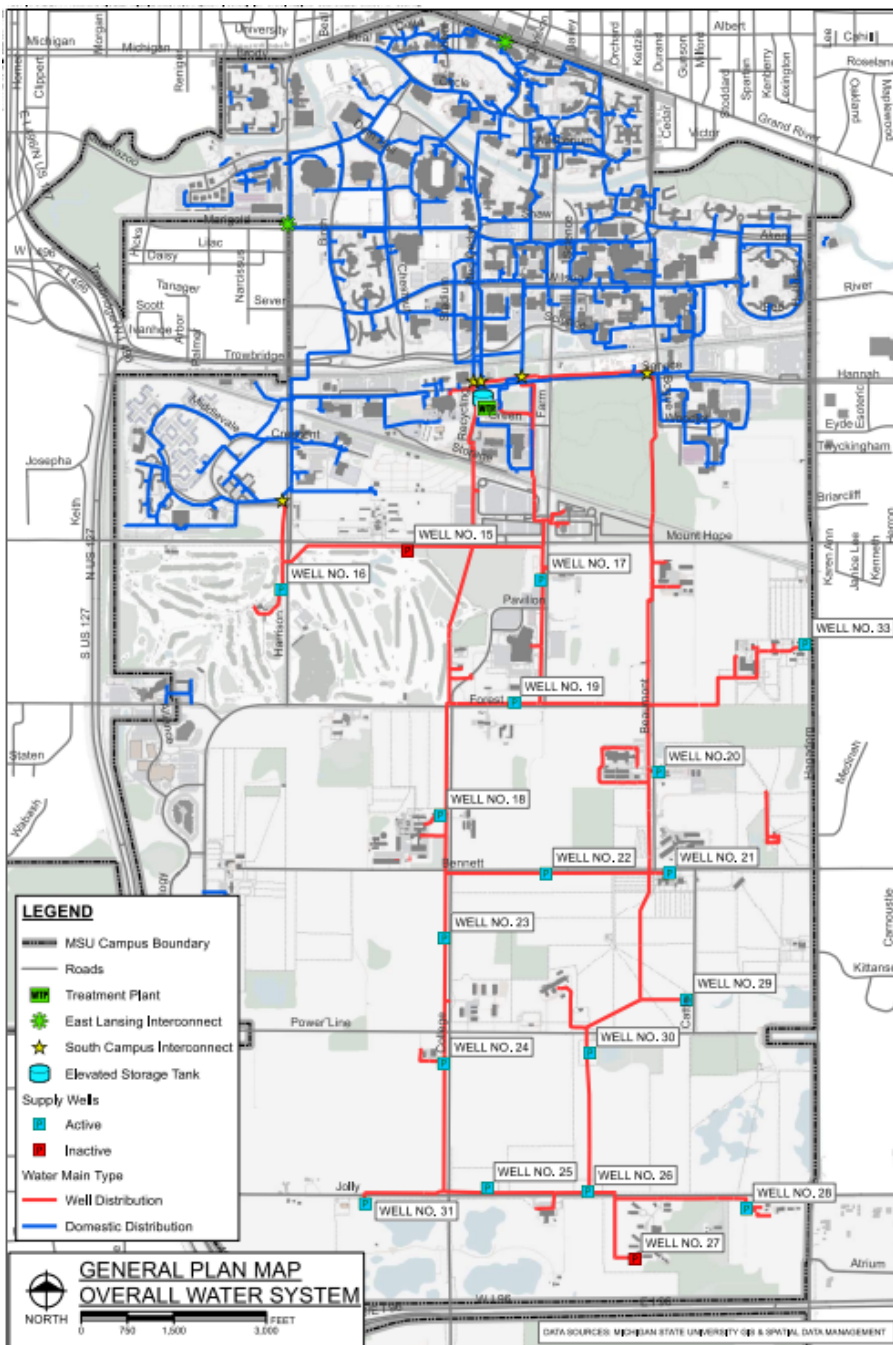
EGLE evaluates compliance with the Action Level for a distribution system based on the calculated 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of test results in each round of sampling.

The "Action Level" is a measure of corrosion control effectiveness, it is not a health-based standard. The Action Level for lead is 15 ppb and 1.3 ppm for copper. The health-based goal for lead is 0 ppb.

An "Action Level exceedance" means that more than 10% of the sample locations in a distribution system have test results over the Action Level.

**There were no elevated readings from the samples collected from the domestic water distribution system that provides drinking water to most main campus buildings north of Mt Hope Road, including residence halls.**

Out of the five samples collected in the Farms District south of main



campus, one sample tested at 93 ppb for lead and 2.67 ppm for copper, exceeding Action Levels. The other four Farms District sample locations tested from 2 to 6 ppb for lead and 0 to 0.34 ppm for copper.

The following table provides the calculated 90<sup>th</sup> percentile and number of samples with elevated results in this round of sampling for each of MSU's water distribution systems.

	<b>Lead 90<sup>th</sup> Percentile (Action Level 15 ppb)</b>	<b>Copper 90<sup>th</sup> Percentile (Action Level 1.3 ppm)</b>	<b># of Samples with Elevated Results</b>
<b>Main Campus</b>	0 ppb	0.7 ppm	0 of 30
<b>Farm District</b>	50 ppb	1.5 ppm	1 of 5

Upon receipt of the test results for this round of sampling, immediate action was taken at the location with elevated levels:

- Informed of the resident of the test results,
- Investigated the potential source of the elevated lead and copper readings,
- Flushed building plumbing,
- Cleaned faucet aerators, and
- Retested for lead and copper.

**Importantly, there were no elevated readings for lead or copper in the retests.** Additionally, the investigation revealed that the sample which tested at elevated levels of lead and copper was collected without following proper sampling protocol.

To ensure the continued health and safety of you and other members of our Spartan community, we will sample and test the well water distribution system every six (6) months at ten (10) different locations in 2024 to investigate this further from a larger sample size.

**While these results are site-specific and MSU's University Physician and MSU Environmental Health and Safety do not believe there is an immediate threat to drinking water on campus or Spartans' health and safety at this time,** everyone should be aware of possible sources of lead, how it gets into drinking water, and things you can do to reduce exposure. Please read the enclosed/attached flyer learn about ways you can reduce your exposure to lead in drinking water or visit [www.Michigan.gov/MILeadSafe](http://www.Michigan.gov/MILeadSafe).

It is understandable that you may have questions about this notification. With that in mind, we have developed several frequently asked questions (enclosed/attached) and answers to help address those most common inquiries.

### **Reminder about Lead Exposure**

We would like to share some ways you can reduce your exposure to lead since lead can cause serious health problems if too much enters your body from drinking water and other sources.

**While MSU does not have any lead service lines**, check whether your home or apartment off campus has a lead service line. Homes with lead service lines have an increased risk of having high lead levels in drinking water.

Lead can enter drinking water when in contact with pipes, solder, home/building interior plumbing, fittings, and fixtures that contain lead. The more time water has been sitting in your home/building'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 potential lead-containing water from the pipes. Additional flushing may be required for homes/buildings that have been vacant or have a longer service line.

**How to reduce your exposure to lead in drinking water:**

- Run your water to flush out lead-containing water.
  - 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 your home or building's plumbing and the lead service line.
- Consider using a filter to reduce lead in drinking water. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) recommends every household use a certified lead filter to reduce lead from their drinking water, especially households with a child, or a child frequently visits the home, pregnant person, or individual with high blood pressure, or people residing in houses built before 1987. MDHHS also recommends making baby formula or cooking with filtered water.
  - Look for filters that are tested and certified to NSF/ANSI Standard 53 for lead reduction and NSF/ANSI Standard 42 for particulate reduction (Class I).
  - For filters to work properly, follow the manufacturer's instructions.
  - DHHS recommends that filter cartridges are replaced every two months.
- Do not use hot water from the tap for drinking, preparing food, or cooking, or preparing or preparing baby formula.
- Do not boil your water as boiling will not reduce the amount of lead in water.
- Clean your faucet aerator to remove trapped debris.

Additional information can be found on MSU's [IPF Campus Water Quality website](#) or at MiDHHS or EGLE websites: [Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe](#) or [Michigan.gov/EGLELeadPublicAdvisory](#). For questions about the potential health effects of lead in drinking water, you can contact Ingham County Health Department Environmental Health at (517) 887-4312.

Sincerely,

**Dan Bollman**  
VP of Strategic Infrastructure Planning and Facilities

**Sherri Jett**  
Director of Power & Water

**Kevin Eisenbeis**  
Director of Environmental Health and Safety

**Dr. Michael Brown**  
University Physician