



Lead Education Tool Kit



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Introduction

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is dedicated to addressing the public health concerns associated with lead exposure. To protect Michigan residents, MDHHS has implemented a range of initiatives aimed at identifying, reducing and preventing lead exposure in homes and communities. Michigan is committed to working with families, local communities and other partners to eliminate all sources of lead in the home, ensuring the health and safety of every Michigander.

This toolkit has been developed to consolidate MDHHS's lead-related resources in one accessible location. It is designed to help state and local organizations educate the public on lead exposure risks and promote actionable steps to reduce lead hazards. Through this toolkit, MDHHS aims to empower Michiganders with the knowledge and tools to identify and address lead hazards, support public health education with accessible materials and strengthen partnerships to create safer, healthier communities across the state.

Tool Kit Purpose

This tool kit contains science based social media messages, graphics, videos and printable materials. All of these materials are designed to make the sharing of lead health education information easier for your organization. Sharing information about lead and health helps support the outreach and education aims of the Get Ahead of Lead Program. It also ensures that Michiganders are made aware of the health impacts of lead and the simple actions they can take to reduce their exposure.

How to Use This Tool Kit

We encourage you to share MDHHS materials through various avenues to reach more Michiganders with important information about lead and their health. Consider usage of social media platforms, websites, mailers and more. Share the following content with the Michigan residents you serve.

Printable Products

Click on each icon to download the image or document of interest. Once downloaded, you can share, save or print the image or document.

Social Media Posts

Social media posts have been designed to communicate critical lead information to Michigan residents. Posts are organized by the social media platform. Images are accessible to be viewed and saved by clicking the icon/image. Images will open in a new window where they can be downloaded and saved for your files. Individuals may copy, paste and post the content from the lead education tool kit.

Videos

Videos have been designed to help explain topics related to lead exposure and your health. View the video by clicking on the icon/image. The video will open in a new window.



Lead and Your Health – Children

Fact Sheets

Childproof Home Improvements

CHILDPROOF HOME IMPROVEMENTS

HAVING WORK DONE ON YOUR PLACE? USE A LEAD-SAFE CERTIFIED CONTRACTOR.

The Danger
Lead paint hazards have not gone away. If your home or apartment was built before 1978, unqualified workers could spread lead paint dust, even doing a small job.

Kids: Lead exposure can cause lower intelligence, behavior problems and learning disabilities.

Pregnant women: Lead paint dust can be harmful to your developing fetus.

All adults: Exposure to lead paint dust can cause nervous system effects, high blood pressure, fertility problems, and kidney effects.

The Renovation, Repair and Painting Rule
The EPA is requiring the contractor to be Lead-Safe Certified.

Contractors include: renovators, electricians, HVAC, specialists, plumbers, painters, and maintenance staff who disrupt more than six square feet of lead paint.

This rule covers schools, day care centers, or any buildings where children gather.

The Solution
Protect your family and loved ones.
Make sure to hire a contractor who is Lead-Safe Certified. It may cost just a little more but you'll get the job done right.



For more information, visit Michigan.gov/MLLeadSafe or call the **Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program** at 517-335-8885.

MDHHS Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention

[Childproof Home Improvements \(Arabic\)](#)
[Childproof Home Improvements \(Spanish\)](#)

Is Your Child Safe from Lead Poisoning

IS YOUR CHILD SAFE FROM LEAD POISONING?

LEARN HOW TO PROTECT YOUR FAMILY: CREATE A LEAD SAFE HOME

What causes lead poisoning?
There are many places in a home that can lead to lead poisoning. Lead paint is the #1 cause of lead poisoning in Michigan and other states. In homes built before 1978, the older the home, the more likely that painted surfaces like windows, copboards, doors and patches will contain lead paint.

Lead poisoning occurs most often when children come in contact with lead in the air, in dust and in lead paint. Lead can also be found in soil, drinking water if applied by lead pipes, certain home remedies and is used in some hobbies and occupations.

How can I tell if my child has lead poisoning?
Talk to your doctor about testing your child's blood for lead poisoning.

When should my child be tested for lead poisoning?
Children should be tested in one and two years of age or if you think your child has been exposed to a lead hazard.

Symptoms of lead poisoning can be silent—and hard to recognize. Preventing lead poisoning before it happens is the best way to keep your family safe. Use this quiz to see if your child may be at risk.

Does the child live in or regularly visit a home that had a water test with high lead levels?
Yes No **Don't Know**

Does the child live in or regularly visit a home that has an elevated blood lead level?
Yes No **Don't Know**

Does the child have a brother, sister, or friend that has an elevated blood lead level?
Yes No **Don't Know**

Does the child come in contact with an adult whose job or hobby involves exposure to lead (e.g., smelting, machine shooting/rifle ranges, pottery, stained glass, refinishing old furniture)?
Yes No **Don't Know**

Does the child's caregiver use home remedies that may contain lead (e.g. be-bee-see, one-way, ginseng, saligun, leavin, shawnee)?
Yes No **Don't Know**

Is the child in a special population group such as foreign adoptees, refugees, migrant, immigrant, or foster child?
Yes No **Don't Know**

Does the child's caregiver have reason to believe the child is at risk for lead exposure (e.g. exhibiting a behavior, developmental delay)?
Yes No **Don't Know**


If you answered YES or DON'T KNOW to any of these questions, talk to your doctor about testing your child for lead poisoning.

For more information, visit www.michigan.gov/lead or call the **Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program** at 517-335-8885.

[Is Your Child Safe from Lead Poisoning \(Arabic\)](#)
[Is Your Child Safe from Lead Poisoning \(Spanish\)](#)

Lead Poisoning—Know The Facts

LEAD POISONING - KNOW THE FACTS



Lead poisoning is caused by swallowing or breathing lead. Children under 6 years old are most at risk. If you are pregnant, lead can harm your baby.

FACT Lead can cause learning and behavior problems.
Lead poisoning hurts the brain and nervous system. Some of the effects of lead poisoning may never go away.

FACT Lead in a child's body can:
• Slow down growth and development
• Damage hearing and speech
• Make it hard to pay attention and learn

FACT Most children get lead poisoning from paint in homes built before 1978.
When old paint cracks and peels, it makes dangerous dust. The dust is so small you cannot see it. Most children get lead poisoning when they breathe or swallow the dust on their hands and toys.

FACT A lead test is the only way to know if your child has lead poisoning.
Most children who have lead poisoning do not look or act sick. A blood lead test can tell a parent if a person has a recent or ongoing exposure to lead. A blood lead test cannot tell if a person was exposed to lead in the past. Ask your doctor to test your child for lead.

[Lead Poisoning—Know the Facts \(Arabic\)](#)
[Lead Poisoning—Know the Facts \(Spanish\)](#)

Pregnant & Breastfeeding Persons

PROTECTING YOU AND YOUR CHILD FROM THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF LEAD

How are pregnant and breastfeeding persons exposed to lead?
If a person has lead exposure during pregnancy or while breastfeeding, lead can also enter their baby's body. In Michigan, deteriorated lead paint is the #1 source of lead exposure. Sources of lead exposure include paint, dust, soil, and drinking water. Other sources of lead can include certain jobs and hobbies, household items, imported goods and plumbing.

Home plumbing can be a source of lead no matter whether your drinking water is from a community public water supply or a private residential well.

Should I get tested?
Complete the risk assessment on the back of this document to learn about your risk factors that may indicate the need for blood lead testing. If you answer "yes" or "don't know" to any of the questions, you should talk to your doctor about blood lead testing.

What can I do to protect my child and myself from lead?

- Regularly wash hands, bottles, pacifiers, and toys. Wipe off horizontal surfaces, like windowsills with wet paper towels or other disposable cleaning materials.
- Hire a certified lead professional to test your home and help with home repairs and renovations in houses built before 1978.
- Vacuum with a High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filtered vacuum.
- Take shoes off before entering the home or living areas.
- If your home had a water test with high lead levels, use water that was run through a certified lead-reducing filter (or bottled water) for drinking, cooking, and preparing infant formula. Follow manufacturer instructions and never put hot water through the filter.
- Eat a healthy diet, including foods high in calcium, iron, and vitamin C.

For more information, visit Michigan.gov/MLLeadSafe or call the **Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program** at 517-335-8885.

MDHHS Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention

Brochures

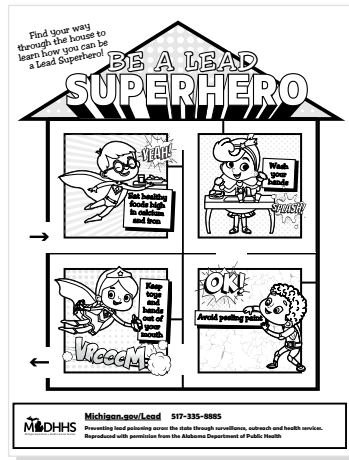
Serve Up a Healthier Future



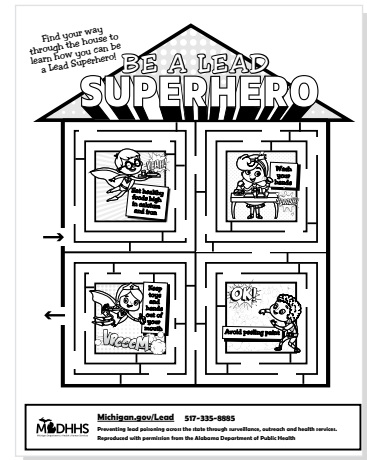
[Serve Up a Healthier Future \(Arabic\)](#)
[Serve Up a Healthier Future \(Spanish\)](#)

Activities for Kids

Be a Lead Superhero (for ages 6 and under)



Be a Lead Superhero (for ages 6+)



Be a Lead Superhero Coloring Page



Social Posts

Children and developing fetuses are most at risk of **lead exposure**, as their brains and nervous systems are still developing.



Lead can be harmful to developing fetuses and children. Exposure can affect the development of the brain and the nervous system. Learn more about the effects of exposure at Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe.

Lead and Your Health – Adults

Fact Sheets

Adult Exposure to Lead

Adult Exposure to Lead

Lead can be harmful to a person's health, and it is best to avoid any exposure to lead. Lead is a metal that can be found in air, soil, water, and inside our homes. While lead will continue to exist in the environment, it is important to know where lead comes from so you can reduce or prevent your exposure.

How can an adult be exposed to lead?

Jobs and hobbies are the most common way adults can be exposed to hazardous levels of lead. Some higher risk activities include:

- removal of lead paint used in homes built before 1978.
- brass and bronze manufacturing.
- recycling of lead batteries.
- working at a gun range (instructor or maintenance).
- hunting (shot and reloading lead ammunition).
- fishing (fishing sinkers and jigs).
- stained glass (came and solder).
- making pottery (eyes and glazes).

Learn more about sources of lead at Michigan.gov/MLLeadSafe.

What health problems can lead cause in an adult?

Almost everyone has been exposed to lead at some time in their life. However, it is not common for an adult to experience health problems from lead exposure. An adult body can remove lead more efficiently than a child's body. However, adults who have been exposed to lead over time may experience some health problems, such as:

- Increased blood pressure.
- Decreased kidney function.
- Decreased cognitive function.
- Slower reaction times.
- Altered mood and behavior.

September 2012, Version 4

Homeowner and Tenant Guide

SAFE CLEANING OF LEAD PAINT CHIPS AND DUST

HOMEOWNER AND TENANT GUIDE

STEP ONE: Prepare Supplies
Prepare. Gather rubber gloves, three dry paper towels, garbage bags, spray bottle with soap and water, and soap. Put on rubber gloves. If you do not have rubber gloves, you can borrow them from a hardware store or a friend.

STEP TWO: Remove Paint Chips
Remove paint chips. Wipe areas and patches often lead-painting paint and lead dust. Pick up the paint chips you can see and store them away in a plastic bag.

STEP THREE: Always spray window sills with soap and water and wet-wipe floors. Do not use a broom to sweep lead dust. Three dry paper towels clean each area.

STEP FOUR: Wipe up a disposable shop towel or paper towel to wipe away dust.

STEP FIVE: Change gloves often.

Repeat these steps weekly in when dirt and dust appear on floors, practice window sills, window sills, stairs or children's play areas.

For more information, visit Michigan.gov/Lead or call the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at 517-335-8885.

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention

[Homeowner and Tenant Guide \(Arabic\)](#)

[Homeowner and Tenant Guide \(Spanish\)](#)

Bookmark

Lead Safety Tips Bookmark

Protect your loved ones. Use these lead safety tips.

MAINTAIN YOUR DRINKING WATER

Below are tips that everyone can use to help maintain your home's drinking water quality.

- Before using the water from any faucet for drinking or cooking, run the cold water until it goes from room temperature to cold.
- You can keep water moving by doing everyday activities, such as:
 - Running a load of laundry.
 - Washing dishes.
 - Taking a shower.
- Clean the aerators on faucets at least once every six months to remove trapped debris.

LEAD IN THE HOME

Many homes built before 1978 contain lead-based paint. When lead-based paint gets old, it can start to peel, chip, or crack and become a hazard. The older the home, the more likely it is to have lead-based paint.

Visit Michigan.gov/MLLeadSafe for more information and to see if you qualify for the Lead Safe Home Program to find and fix lead hazards.

BLOOD LEAD TESTING

The only way to know if you have a recent or ongoing exposure to lead is to get a blood lead test. Talk to your doctor about a blood lead test to see if you and your loved ones are being exposed.

Children should be tested at one and two years of age or if you think your child has been exposed to a lead hazard.

If you have questions, contact the Michigan Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at 517-335-8885.

Video

Lead Sources





Live in a home built before 1978? Reduce the risk of lead exposure and have it inspected by a licensed lead inspector. Learn more about the sources of lead, visit Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe.



Blood Lead Testing

Fact Sheets

Blood Lead Testing

Community Lead Testing
Blood Lead Testing and Lead Testing for Toys



For questions about blood lead testing, please call the MICHIGAN Child Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at 1-232-332-8800 or email them at MDHHS.CLPP@miichigan.gov.
For more information about lead, visit us online at Michigan.gov/NoLeadSafe or by scanning the QR code with your phone camera.

Why is blood lead testing important?
A blood lead test can tell you if you or your loved ones have recent or ongoing exposures to lead. Blood lead tests cannot tell you if you were exposed to lead in the past. Blood lead testing is particularly important for young children and pregnant persons because exposure to lead early in life has been shown to cause problems with learning, behavior, hearing and growth. If a person has an elevated blood lead level, the goals are to identify the source of lead, stop the lead exposure, and to talk with their doctor to discuss any other tests or follow-up that might be needed. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) can connect you with resources to accomplish these goals. Children less than 6 years old with an elevated blood lead level are offered nurse case management through MICHHS, which includes a home visit with a registered nurse. Talk to your health care provider about blood lead testing. If you do not have a health care provider, contact MDHHS to discuss their available services for blood lead testing.



Social Posts



Lead is an invisible threat. One way to be sure if your child's been exposed: Ask your doctor about a blood lead test. Visit www.Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe to learn more about blood lead testing.



Kids can be exposed to invisible lead particles in many ways. Ask your child's doctor about a blood lead test. Visit www.Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe to learn more.



Lead exposure is especially dangerous for young children whose bodies and brains are still developing. Learn how to prevent it. Visit www.Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe to learn more about lead exposure.



A blood lead test can identify if you or your loved ones have a recent or ongoing exposure to lead. Ask an expert about getting tested. Learn more at Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe.

Talk with your child's healthcare provider about getting a **blood lead test** if you are concerned about a recent or ongoing lead exposure.

Drinking Water

Fact Sheets

Lead in Drinking Water

Lead in Drinking Water

Lead can be found throughout a person's environment, including their home. Homes built before 1978 can contain lead-based paint and dust, which is a well-established cause of child exposure to lead.

People can also be exposed to lead in their household drinking water due to corrosion of older water service lines and pipes, faucets and fittings inside the home. This can occur in homes served by a private residential well or a city/community residential water supply. Children are at the highest risk health effects, but everyone may be exposed to lead in their drinking water. Even an occasional lead can harm your baby.

As a leader in the nation in lead exposure prevention, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) recommends that Michigan households take the necessary steps to get ahead of lead to stay safe and protect against the threat of lead in drinking water. Learn more about the statewide "Get Ahead of Lead" strategy by visiting Michigan.gov/GetAheadOfLead.

MDHHS recommends that all Michigan households 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.
- Old faucets and fittings that were sold before 2014.

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

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

How lead gets into drinking water

The most common source of lead in drinking water is plumbing made with lead—like pipes, fittings, faucets and faucets. Lead can get into your drinking water when plumbing containing lead begins to break down or dissolve.

Lead service lines or galvanized plumbing. Some older homes or a city/community residential water supply may have lead service lines or galvanized plumbing that may cause lead contamination in drinking water when corrosion happens.

Parts of a well system. Homes that get water from a shared or private residential well may have lead in part of the well system, like a pacifier or brass components of a submersible pump and may corrode and add lead to water.

How to Find Out if Lead May Be in Your Drinking Water

How to Find Out if Lead May Be in Your Drinking Water

As a leader in the nation in lead exposure prevention, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) recommends that Michigan households take the necessary steps to get ahead of lead to stay safe and protect against the threat of lead in drinking water. Learn more about the statewide "Get Ahead of Lead" strategy by visiting Michigan.gov/GetAheadOfLead.

MDHHS recommends that all Michigan households 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.
- Old faucets and fittings that were sold before 2014.

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

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

If you would like to find out if lead is in your drinking water, follow the suggestions below.

Check your home's plumbing

Older plumbing and faucets can be made of materials like lead that can harm your health. These could get into your drinking water.

- Faucets made before 2014 may contain lead. Regulations in 2014 lowered the amount of lead allowed in faucets.
- Older homes may be more likely to have plumbing with lead lead, such as lead or galvanized pipes or copper with lead solder.
- Check your home's plumbing or hire a plumber to learn if any of your plumbing may contain lead.
- Visit bit.ly/homeplumbingchecklist for the MDHHS Home Plumbing Lead Checklist to help you find out if your home's plumbing might contain lead or visit Michigan.gov/GetAheadOfLead and click on the "How to Find Out if You Have a Service Line Made of Lead" link to watch a short video on checking your home's plumbing for lead.

Possible plumbing materials

- Lead
- Copper
- Galvanized Steel
- Plastic

Get Ahead of Lead

Get Ahead of Lead

A Statewide Strategy to Protect Those Most at Risk of Lead's Harmful Effects

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Recommendations

MDHHS recommends that all Michigan households 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 home.
- Old faucets and fittings that were sold before 2014.

Your filter will only be able to remove sources of household lead plumbing, such as:

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

The statewide "Get Ahead of Lead" strategy includes:

- An education campaign around the sources of lead in household plumbing and the filter recommendation, and.
- Filter safety net assistance for households that may need support to implement this recommendation in communities with a high rate of lead exposure.

To learn more about the statewide "Get Ahead of Lead" strategy use the QR code or click [here](http://bit.ly/2a11111) to visit the Get Ahead of Lead website.

Check Your Home's Plumbing for Lead

To learn more about checking your home's plumbing, use the QR code or click here to view the Home.Plumbing.Checklist.

How to Select a Filter

Look for filters that are tested and certified to NSF/ANSI Standard 53 for lead reduction and NSF/ANSI Standard 55 for class I particulates. Click the QR code or visit the EPA.gov to identify the filter that is right for you.

Steps to Get Ahead of Lead in Your Drinking Water

Steps to Get Ahead of Lead in Your Drinking Water

As a leader in the nation in lead exposure prevention, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) recommends that Michigan households take the necessary steps to get ahead of lead to stay safe and protect against the threat of lead in drinking water. Learn more about the statewide "Get Ahead of Lead" strategy by visiting Michigan.gov/GetAheadOfLead.

MDHHS recommends that all Michigan households 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.
- Old faucets and fittings that were sold before 2014.

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

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

How to reduce lead in drinking water

Use a point-of-use (POU) water filter. A certified lead-reducing filter can reduce lead in drinking water. Filters are made to reduce lead, but do not guarantee that all lead will be removed from drinking water.

A POU water filter reduces contaminants at the point water is being used, such as a faucet. Look for these certifications on the filter package: NSF/ANSI Standard 53 for lead reduction and NSF/ANSI Standard 42 for particulate reduction (Class I). It is important to follow the manufacturer's directions, but more information on choosing a POU water filter go to bit.ly/2a11111 or contact MDHHS for technical assistance and installation, call MDHHS at 800-648-6942.

Consider replacing older plumbing, pipes, and faucets that may contain and add lead to water. Old faucets, fittings and valves sold before 2014 may contain up to 10% lead, even if marked "lead-free." Call for replacement faucets made in 2014 or later and make sure they are NSF 61 certified or marked to contain 0.25% percent lead or less. Check your plumbing or hire a plumber to know what parts should be replaced to reduce lead in your drinking water.

Cleaning Your Aerators

Cleaning Your Aerators

Clean your aerators at least every 6 months

There are aerators on faucets called aerators that sometimes trap pieces of lead and other particles from getting into your water. Aerators save water so it's good to have them, but it's important to clean them at least every 6 months to stop the particles from getting in your water.

Follow the steps below to clean your aerators:

1. The small round piece on the bottom of your faucet is the aerator (sometimes an aerator).
2. Your aerator might not look the same as this, but it's okay. Now that the aerator is off, let's clean it.
3. While you only need to use water to rinse off your aerator, these things might make it easier to clean it:— a old toothbrush— A glass of vinegar
4. Soaking the aerator in vinegar will loosen some of the grime. You can soak it as long as you want, but even 5 minutes will help. The toothbrush makes it easy to scrub the inside. Don't use that toothbrush for brushing your teeth again.

Check for Lead in Your Home Plumbing

Check for Lead in Your Home Plumbing

Your home's plumbing and faucets could have lead. This lead could get into your drinking water.

Plumbing in houses built before 1988 and faucets sold before 2014 are more likely to have lead. Check your plumbing for lead and make an informed decision about how to prevent lead in your drinking water.

Your home may have lead in the plumbing if it has one of the following:

- Lead or galvanized pipes, or
- A lead service line carrying water from the street to their residence, or
- Old faucets and fittings that were sold before 2014.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) recommends that all residents across Michigan use a certified lead-reducing drinking water filter if their home has, or if they are uncertain if it has, any of the things mentioned above.

To identify the material your pipes are made of, follow these steps:

1. Step 1: Gather what you need.
 - A key or coin and a small magnet.
 - Know location of the pipes and plumbing in your home.
2. Step 2: Do a scratch and magnet test. These steps can only help you identify the material of the part of the service line inside your home and your interior plumbing. In some cases, the part of the service line outside your property may be covered by the city and could be made from a different material. To know what material connects your service line to the public water supply, contact your local water supply authority.

Lead pipes: Lead pipes with a key-lead pipes will turn a shiny silver color and are easily scratched. Try the magnet—magnets will not stick to lead pipes.

Copper pipes: Scratch with a key—copper pipes will turn a bright copper color and are easily scratched. Try the magnet—magnets will not stick to copper pipes.

Galvanized pipes: Scratch with a key—galvanized pipes are hard and look dull when scratched. Try the magnet—magnets will stick to galvanized pipes.

Plastic pipes: Scratch with a key—plastic pipes will sound dull when hit with the key and will not change color when scratched. Try the magnet—magnets will not stick to plastic pipes.

[Cleaning Your Aerators \(Arabic\)](#)

[Cleaning Your Aerators \(Bengali\)](#)

[Cleaning Your Aerators \(Russian\)](#)

[Cleaning Your Aerators \(Simple Chinese\)](#)

[Cleaning Your Aerators \(Spanish\)](#)

Fact Sheets

Sample Bottle Selection When Testing Water for Lead

Sample Bottle Selection When Testing Water for Lead

When testing your drinking water for lead, the amount of water collected (bottle size) can help identify where the lead may be coming from. Talk with the certified laboratory you choose about the options available. Not all laboratories will have the sample bottle sizes described on the next page.

For a successful test, do not use any water in the house for at least six hours before sampling. While the water sits still, lead can move from the plumbing into the water, allowing lead to be measured. It is important to follow the instructions provided by the lab for reliable results.

Step 1: Know where your drinking water comes from.

Your drinking water at home or where you live is supplied by one of the following water supply types. Learn more about each one at EPA.gov/leadandcopperstates.

Community Public Water Supply	Type 3 Public Water Supply	Private Residential Well
Check with your supplier or their Consumer Confidence Report to see if lead was recently detected (found) in the water supply.	Check with your landlord or property manager to learn if the drinking water has ever been tested for lead.	Check your records to learn if the drinking water has ever been tested for lead.

Step 2: Consider these facts when testing your water for lead.

How lead gets into drinking water

The most common source of lead in drinking water is plumbing made with lead—the pipes, fittings, fixtures, and faucets. When plumbing breaks down, pieces (particulates) can break away. Lead can also dissolve into the water.

- Older faucets, fittings, and valves sold before 2014 may contain as high as 80 percent lead even if marked "lead free".
- Homes built before 1988 with copper plumbing may have lead soldered joints.
- Homes on a Community Public Water Supply. Some older homes have lead or service lines. The service line is the underground plumbing that connects the home to the water main.
- Homes on a private residential well or a type 3 public water supply. Parts of a well system like a pump or brass components of a submersible pump, may contain lead.

February 2012 Version 2

How to Use Your PUR Faucet Filter Certified to Reduce Lead in Drinking Water

How to Use Your PUR® Faucet Filter Certified to Reduce Lead in Drinking Water

A certified filter can be used as a temporary way to reduce lead in drinking water. Filters are made to reduce lead, but do not guarantee that all lead will be removed from your drinking water. It is important to follow manufacturer's directions.

If you're buying a filter, read the packaging to be sure it says the filter is certified to NSF/ANSI Standard 53 for lead reduction. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency also recommends that the filter be certified for NSF/ANSI Standard 42 for particulate reduction (Class I).

What's in the box

- Filter unit
- Filter cartridge
- Adapters (you'll only need one of these)
- Rubber gaskets (they match up with the adapters)

Adapter installation

Most sink faucets have an aerator at the end that can be removed. Remove and remove the aerator on your faucet. Try the different adapters (C) to find the one that best fits your faucet. Once you find the best fit, put the rubber gasket (B) on the adapter and screw the adapter onto your faucet.

Filter installation

Step 1
Unscrew the top of the filter unit (A).

Step 2
Remove your filter cartridge (B) from its plastic wrapping and place the cartridge into the top of the filter unit (A). The "front" on the filter cartridge should line up with the PUR logo on the front of your filter unit. Screw on the top of the filter.

Step 3
Install the filter unit onto the adapter attached to your faucet by simply pushing it on until you hear a click.

See the next page for information about how to use your new filter.

[PUR Faucet Filter \(Arabic\)](#)
[PUR Faucet Filter \(Spanish\)](#)

How to Use Your PUR Pitcher Filter Certified to Reduce Lead in Drinking Water

How to Use Your PUR® Pitcher Filter Certified to Reduce Lead in Drinking Water

A certified filter can be used as a temporary way to reduce lead in drinking water. Filters are made to reduce lead, but do not guarantee that all lead will be removed from your drinking water. It is important to follow manufacturer's directions.

If you're buying a filter, read the packaging to be sure it says the filter is certified to NSF/ANSI Standard 53 for lead reduction. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency also recommends that the filter be certified for NSF/ANSI Standard 42 for particulate reduction (Class I).

What's in the box

- Filter unit
- Filter cartridge
- Pour tray
- Pitcher

Getting your pitcher ready to use

Step 1
Take the filter cartridge (B) out of the box and in wrapping. Soak in cold water for 15 minutes. Only use cold water. Using warm or hot water may harm the filter cartridge.

Step 2
While the filter cartridge is soaking, hand wash the lid (A), pour tray (C), and pitcher (D) with mild soap (such as dish soap) and water. Try not to submerge the lid. Rinse well. Some filter cartridge models may have a removable cover. Remove the cover and follow the same washing steps.

Step 3
After 15 minutes, remove filter cartridge (B) from water and rinse under cold water for 30 seconds. Let any extra water drain out.

Step 4
Place filter cartridge (B) into the pour tray (C), push down, and turn clockwise to lock in place. Fit the pour tray (C) with cold water. Do not use warm or hot water. Allow the water to drain completely from the pour tray (C) into the pitcher (D). If you notice water dripping down the inside of the pitcher, this means the water is not properly going through the filter cartridge. During the water in the pour tray and pitcher and repeat step 4.

How to Use Your BRITA Faucet Filter Certified to Reduce Lead in Drinking Water

How to Use Your BRITA® Faucet Filter Certified to Reduce Lead in Drinking Water

A certified filter can be used as a temporary way to reduce lead in drinking water. Filters are made to reduce lead, but do not guarantee that all lead will be removed from your drinking water. It is important to follow manufacturer's directions.

If you're buying a filter, read the packaging to be sure it says the filter is certified to NSF/ANSI Standard 53 for lead reduction. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency also recommends that the filter be certified for NSF/ANSI Standard 42 for particulate reduction (Class I).

What's in the box

- Filter cartridge
- Filter base
- Adapters (you may or may not need one of these)
- Rubber washers (they match up with the adapters)

Adapter installation

Most sink faucets have an aerator at the end that can be removed. Unscrew and remove it. If your faucet has threads on the O-ring, you will need an adapter or rubber washer. If your faucet has threads on the O-ring, you will need to use one of the adapters.

To suit the different adapters (C) to find the one that best fits your faucet. Once you find the best fit, put the rubber washer (B) on the adapter and screw the adapter onto your faucet.

Filter installation

Step 1
Place the filter base (B) under your faucet with the cartridge cap to the left of your faucet. Twist the mounting collar onto the faucet and tighten by hand. Do not over tighten or use pliers.

Step 2
Place your hand under the filter base cartridge cap. With the filter cartridge (A), align the cap on the bottom of the cartridge with the tabs in the cartridge cap and push down until you hear a click.

Using your filter

There is a white filter handle on the right side of the filter base. Move the handle towards the Brita logo (front of the base) to use the filter. Only use COLD water through the filter at all times.

When you are done filter for the first time ONLY run cold water for five minutes. Prior to each use, run cold water for five seconds to activate the filter. If the filter has not been used for a few days, let the water run for thirty seconds before use.

[PUR Pitcher Filter \(Arabic\)](#)
[PUR Pitcher Filter \(Spanish\)](#)

How to Use Your BRITA Pitcher Filter Certified to Reduce Lead in Drinking Water

How to Use Your BRITA® Pitcher Filter Certified to Reduce Lead in Drinking Water

A certified filter can be used as a temporary way to reduce lead in drinking water. Filters are made to reduce lead, but do not guarantee that all lead will be removed from your drinking water. It is important to follow manufacturer's directions.

If you're buying a filter, read the packaging to be sure it says the filter is certified to NSF/ANSI Standard 53 for lead reduction. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency also recommends that the filter be certified for NSF/ANSI Standard 42 for particulate reduction (Class I). The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) recommends using a lead reducing filter if your home has a known, suspected, or unknown lead or galvanized plumbing, service line, or portion of service line.

What's in the package?

- Lid with filter indicator
- Elite™ Filter: Note: Only Elite™ filters are certified to remove lead.
- Standard filters are not certified to remove lead.
- Reservoir
- Pitcher

Getting your pitcher ready to use.

Step 1
Hand wash the lid (A), reservoir (B), and pitcher (C) with mild soap (such as dish soap) and warm water. Rinse well.

Step 2
Wash your hands before unwrapping the filter (B). Take the filter out of its wrapping. Place filter (B) into the hole in the reservoir (B), aligning the long groove on the side with the notch in the reservoir. Press firmly into place.

Step 3
Press the lid (A) onto the reservoir.

Open and hold the Status button until the green light flashes three times next to the "Original" Filter icon to activate the filter indicator.

[PUR Pitcher Filter \(Arabic\)](#)
[PUR Pitcher Filter \(Spanish\)](#)

EPA: A Consumer Tool for Identifying Point of Use (POU) Drinking Water Filters Certified to Reduce Lead

EPA A Consumer Tool for Identifying Point of Use (POU) Drinking Water Filters Certified to Reduce Lead

POINT OF USE FILTERS

Point of use, or POU, drinking water filters are used to remove impurities from water in the point of use. It is important to know what you are buying. Although there are many POU filters on the market, only those certified to NSF/ANSI Standard 42 for particulate reduction (Class I) and NSF/ANSI Standard 53 for lead reduction (Class I) are certified to reduce lead.

The table below provides the certification bodies' approval marks and the text that indicates a filter has been certified for lead reduction. Some filters can be certified by more than one certification body and have multiple certification marks.

Certification Marks

Best for NSF/ANSI Standards 42 & 53 lead for certification marks:

- Example text on packaging: "Tested and Certified to NSF/ANSI Standard 42 for particulate reduction (Class I) and NSF/ANSI Standard 53 for lead reduction (Class I)."
- Example text on packaging: "Tested and Certified to NSF/ANSI Standard 42 for particulate reduction (Class I) and NSF/ANSI Standard 53 for lead reduction (Class I)."
- Example text on packaging: "Tested and Certified to NSF/ANSI Standard 42 for particulate reduction (Class I) and NSF/ANSI Standard 53 for lead reduction (Class I)."

Is certification required for POU drinking water filters?

There is no mandatory federal requirement for the use of POU drinking water filters for reducing third party certification under the Safe Drinking Water Act. However, consumers can increase their level of confidence by purchasing filters that have been tested by an accredited third party certification body for lead reduction and particulate reduction (Class I). Capabilities include both NSF/ANSI Standard 42 and 53, although particulate reduction (Class I) is not required for lead reduction certification.


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[Filters Certified to Reduce Lead \(Spanish\)](#)

Poster

Get Your Water Moving!

You can reduce the amount of lead in your home's drinking water by flushing water that has been sitting in your plumbing for several hours.



Take a shower

Run a load of laundry


Wash dishes

Run faucets

Do one of the activities above for:

- at least 5 minutes, if you have a lead service line or don't know if you have a lead service line.
- at least 2 minutes, if you know you do NOT have a lead service line.*

After that, always run your water until it's cold before using it for drinking, cooking, rinsing foods, or brushing your teeth. Repeat this every time water has been sitting in plumbing for several hours.



To learn more, visit Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe.


*For those in Action Level Exceedance communities, contact your public water supply to learn your specific flushing time.

Flyer


REMEMBER

to change your filter's cartridge!


You'll know it's time by checking the color of the flashing light on your filter.



Your filter cartridge is working.




Your filter cartridge is working, but you will need to change it soon.



Your filter cartridge needs to be changed now.

For more information about filter use and lead exposure, visit Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe.

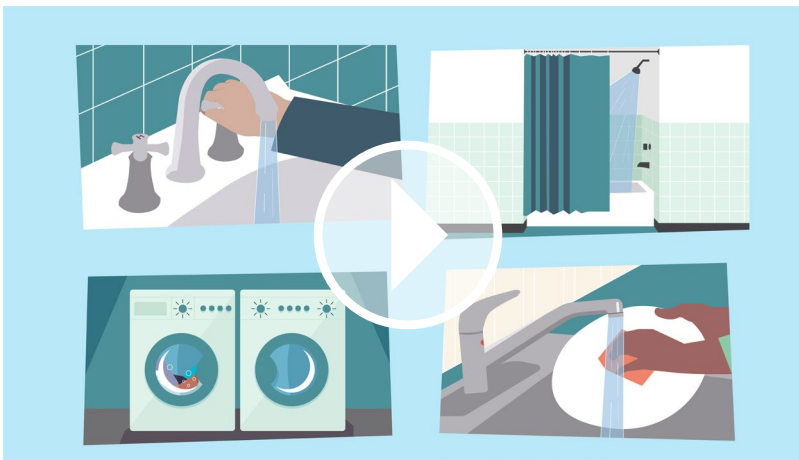


Videos

How Lead Gets into Drinking Water



Lead in Drinking Water Safety Tips



PUR Faucet Filter Installation



Videos

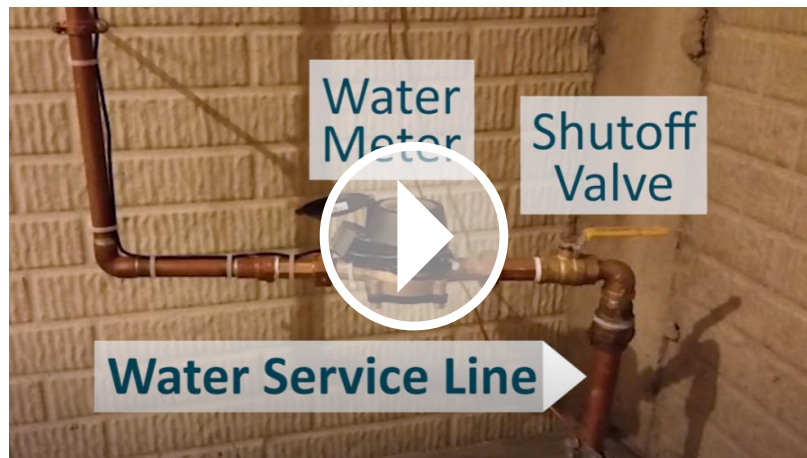
PUR Pitcher Filter



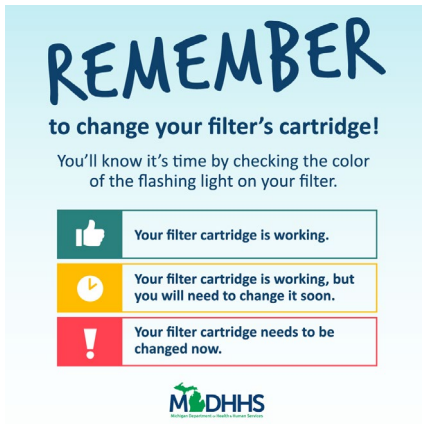
Brita Faucet Filter Installation



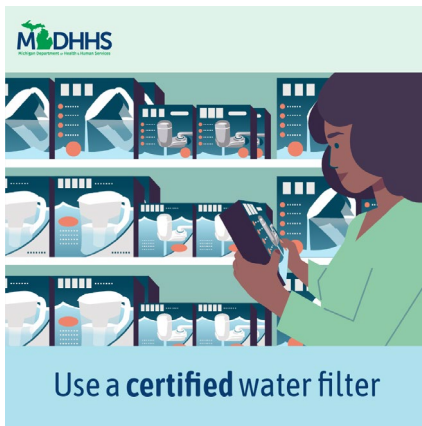
How to Find Out if You Have a Service Line Made of Lead



Social Posts



Maintaining your water filter and replacing the cartridge is an important step to reduce lead exposure. Learn about water filters at Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe.



Consider using a certified water filter to protect you and your family from lead in drinking water. Filters fight lead. Learn about certified water filters at Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe.

Paint and Dust

Postcard



Brochure

Paint Chip



Social Post



Lead-based paint (which can sometimes be found in homes built before 1978) is the #1 source of lead exposure in Michigan. Learn more about the sources of lead at Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe.

Soil

Fact Sheets

How to Garden Safely When You Are Concerned About Lead in the Soil

How to Garden Safely When You Are Concerned About Lead in the Soil

It is normal for soil to have some lead, but it can reach harmful levels when it is contaminated by other sources of lead. Extra care to avoid lead should be taken if your home:

- Was painted with **lead-based paint**. If your home was built before 1978, it may have been painted with paint that has lead in it. Lead paint may have chipped off and landed in the soil next to the house.
- Is near a **historically busy roadway**. Until the mid-1990s, car exhaust released lead into the air, which settled onto the soil around heavily traveled roadways.
- Is your **neighbor's business that can lead**. Lead can be released into the air through different industrial activities, such as the production of iron and steel, lead acid battery manufacturing, or the burning of solid waste. When lead is released into the air, it may travel long distances before settling onto the soil.
- Is built on an area that was formerly a **fruit orchard**. Pesticides that contained lead were commonly used in orchards to control insects from the late 1800s through the 1950s. Lead can remain in the soil if the soil was not removed.

How lead from garden soil can get into your body

- Lead can get into your body when you breathe in or swallow soil that has been contaminated with lead from paint chips, dust, or air pollution.
- Children can get soil in their mouth and swallow it when playing outdoors.
- People and pets can track lead contaminated soil into your home.
- People can also be exposed to lead in the soil through fruits and vegetables grown in lead contaminated soil.
- Some plants may take in some of the lead from the soil as they grow.
- It is sometimes difficult to wash fruits and vegetables well enough to be sure you've removed all the contaminated soil.

Gardening practices that can help you avoid exposure to lead

You can take steps to protect yourself and those in your household from lead in soil.

1. Local gardeners away from heavily traveled streets and painted houses where lead may have chipped off and landed in the soil.
2. Use mulch in your garden beds to reduce dust and soil from getting on fruits and vegetables.
3. Cover walkways with grass, mulch, landscape fabric, stones, or bricks to help keep soil off your shoes so that you do not accidentally bring soil into your house or car.

[How to Garden Safely \(Spanish\)](#)

Your Health and Soil Lead Testing

Your Health and Soil Lead Testing

This fact sheet provides information about how you could be exposed to lead in soil, soil lead testing and what to do to limit your exposure.

When soil lead levels are higher, the possibility that you will be exposed to lead is higher, too.

When you garden, you can accidentally swallow soil. Most often, this can happen because you accidentally swallow lead that is in the soil that gets on your hands or homegrown fruits and vegetables. In general, the more lead there is in soil or the more often people contact that soil through activities such as gardening, the more lead they can swallow, and their blood lead levels may increase.

Why do soil lead levels matter to health?

Swallowing lead can cause health problems and can be a serious issue for children because their bodies and nervous systems are still developing. Too much lead can cause problems with:

- Learning
- Behavior
- Speech
- Hearing

For a more complete list about possible health effects of lead exposure, visit MICHIGAN's webpage, "[Lead and Your Health](#)" (URL: bit.ly/leadandhealth).

To limit the amount of lead getting into your body or your child's body, **MICHIGAN recommends you always use gardening practices that help limit contact with the soil.** The MICHIGAN fact sheet, "[How to Garden Safely When You Are Concerned About Lead in the Soil](#)" (URL: bit.ly/leadandgarden) provides suggested practices for keeping lead out of your body. Those practices include wearing gloves while gardening, mulching to reduce soil and dust getting on fruits and vegetables, locating gardens away from heavily traveled streets and avoiding tracking soil into the house.

[Your Health and Soil Lead Testing \(Spanish\)](#)

Frequently Asked Questions About Lead and Garden Soil

Frequently Asked Questions About Lead and Garden Soil

1. **How can I tell if there is lead in my soil?**
All soil contains some level of lead, which is called the background level. The only way to tell if the lead level is above background amounts is to test for it. Because all soil contains some lead, it is important to avoid accidentally swallowing it.
There are a few situations that might cause higher soil lead levels:
 - If you live in an area close to a street that had a lot of traffic on it when gas had lead in it. Most gas was unleaded by the mid-1990s.
 - If you live in an urban or industrial area. These areas are more likely to have soil lead levels that can be a health concern.
 - If you live in an older house built before 1978. Lead was taken out of paint in 1978, but lead is still present in the paint that remains on many homes, though it may be under several coats of newer lead-free paint. Outside, the concern is the older paint may have chipped off the house and landed in the soil close to the house.
 - You live on land that was formerly a fruit orchard. Pesticides that contained lead were commonly used in orchards to control insects from the late 1800s through the 1950s. Lead can remain in the soil if the soil was not removed.
2. **What might cause soil lead levels to be higher than the background level?**
There are a few situations that might cause higher soil lead levels:
 - If you live in an area close to a street that had a lot of traffic on it when gas had lead in it. Most gas was unleaded by the mid-1990s.
 - If you live in an urban or industrial area. These areas are more likely to have soil lead levels that can be a health concern.
 - If you live in an older house built before 1978. Lead was taken out of paint in 1978, but lead is still present in the paint that remains on many homes, though it may be under several coats of newer lead-free paint. Outside, the concern is the older paint may have chipped off the house and landed in the soil close to the house.
 - You live on land that was formerly a fruit orchard. Pesticides that contained lead were commonly used in orchards to control insects from the late 1800s through the 1950s. Lead can remain in the soil if the soil was not removed.
3. **If I want to purchase "lean soil" for raised beds or container gardening, how do I know it does not contain lead?**
To know for sure, the soil would have to be tested by a lab. One organization that provides soil lead testing is Pennsylvania State University. You can find the fee schedule and contact information on the PSU Environmental Soil Testing website (URL: agsci.psu.edu/soil/soil-testing/environmental/). (There may be other labs that offer soil testing. MICHIGAN does not endorse this lab or any others.)
4. **Should I water my garden with water that has tested positive for lead?**
Irrigating (watering) your garden with lead-contaminated water does not significantly increase soil lead levels. If you are concerned about watering with lead-contaminated water, you can purchase a lead filter that attaches to your garden hose or purchase a rain barrel to make a rainwater catchment system.
5. **What ways can my family and I be exposed through gardening and the soil around my house?**
 - Children can be exposed to lead in soil by swallowing or brushing up lead-contaminated soil while playing.
 - Lead-contaminated soil particles can also be brought inside as lead dust on shoes, clothing, or pets.
 - You can accidentally swallow lead when you eat unwashed fruits and vegetables grown in or near lead-contaminated soil.

[Frequently Asked Questions About Lead and Garden Soil \(Spanish\)](#)

Social Post



Lead-contaminated soil can be tracked into the home and absorbed into the body. Do you know how to reduce the risk of exposure? Fight off lead, an invisible threat. Learn more at Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe.

Household and Imported Goods

Fact Sheets

Spices, Cosmetics and Remedies From Other Countries May Contain Lead



[Spices, Cosmetics, & Remedies \(Arabic\)](#)
[Spices, Cosmetics, & Remedies \(Spanish\)](#)

Spices and Remedies From Other Countries May Contain Lead

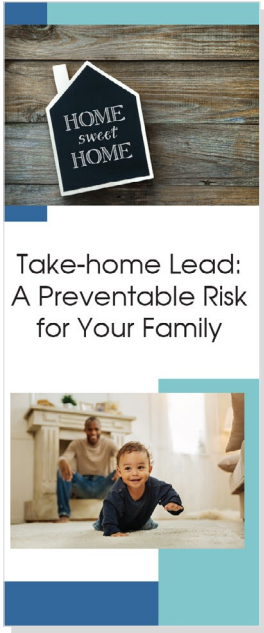


[Spices & Remedies \(Arabic\)](#)
[Spices & Remedies \(Spanish\)](#)

Jobs and Hobbies

Brochure

Take Home
Lead Brochure



[Take Home Lead
\(Arabic\)](#)

[Take Home Lead
\(Spanish\)](#)

Contact Us

To request printed materials, visit [HealthyMichigan.com](https://www.healthymichigan.com). You can also call the MDHHS Lead Hotline at 866-691-5323 to request supplies or if you have any questions about the materials provided.