

Responding to the Flint Water Crisis:  
Federal, State, County and City Partners  
Update: Week of March 4, 2016

Federal agencies continue to coordinate with state and local officials to provide support for the people of Flint, Michigan, as all respond to the water contamination crisis. Some 70 representatives from federal agencies are co-located in Flint with state and local partners.

For Flint Resident Questions

For questions about safe water: Email [flintwater@epa.gov](mailto:flintwater@epa.gov), or call EPA's free hotline **810-434-5122**, English, Spanish and other languages.

To get water tested for free: Email [flintwater@cityofflint.com](mailto:flintwater@cityofflint.com) or call the Flint Water Plant: 810-787-6537. Pick up a free water testing kits at fire stations 1, 3, 5, 6, or 8, from 9 a.m. – 9 p.m.

To get your blood tested or ask about skin rashes call your doctor's office, or call 2-1-1

For deliveries to people who are homebound or have functional needs, call 2-1-1

If your cell phone won't allow calls to 2-1-1, call this toll-free number: 1-844-875-9211.

For help installing a faucet filter, call 2-1-1

If you're worried about the smell of your water: call 810-787-6537

For Health Information and Water Test Results: [www.michigan.gov/flintwater](http://www.michigan.gov/flintwater). You can also sign up for daily information updates on that web site.

Crisis Counseling and Support: call 1-800-985-5990 or text TalkWithUs to 66746

Small Business Recovery Center: Call 1-800-659-2955 or email [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov)

Health Recommendations for People in Flint

For babies under 1 year old: use only bottled water for water, food and formula

For pregnant or breastfeeding women and children under 6 years of age: bottled water is the safest choice

### Water Recommendations for People in Flint

- DO NOT drink unfiltered water. It's not safe!
- DO NOT cook or brush teeth with unfiltered water
- DO NOT allow babies and children to drink bathwater
- DO USE an NSF-certified water filter rated to remove lead
  
- DO RUN cold water throughout the house for 5 minutes every morning to flush pipes
- EVERYONE CAN wash hands, bathe, and shower with unfiltered water
- DO clean aerators in your faucet once a week until Flint's water system has recovered
- DO carefully follow the instructions that came with your water filter and replace the filter when the light turns red.

### Actions to Improve Water Quality

To address immediate needs, government partners are coordinating to provide safe drinking water for all Flint residents, by:

- Conducting tests on about 2,500 samples of water collected from Flint homes, including 200 water samples from existing filters in homes
- Testing is conducted upon request through state's 2-1-1 helpline, where the state lab results showed very high levels, or as random samples
- Providing more than two million liters of water, with additional water contributions from private individuals and organizations
- Providing more than 236,000 filter replacement cartridges
- Providing nearly 55,000 water and pitcher filters
- Sampling by the State of Michigan of home water systems every two weeks to monitor the city's water system
- Posting sampling results by location on interactive maps at [www.epa.gov/flint](http://www.epa.gov/flint)
- Distributing water bottles and water filters to home-delivered meal recipients;
- Showing residents how to clean accumulated debris from their home faucets, hot water heaters, and whole-house water filtration systems; and
- Helping seniors and the disabled community install their water filters.

### Actions to Strengthen Community Health

Federal, state, county and city officials are working to ensure that children have the opportunity to have their blood sampled and analyzed for lead levels and that they have access to medical care.

Government partners are helping Flint officials tap into existing government funds to help address lead contamination in water and follow-up challenges.

- **HHS** is extending [Medicaid coverage](#) and services to an additional 15,000 children and pregnant women, and is expanding services available to 30,000 current Medicaid beneficiaries in the area. Now, children up to age 21 and pregnant women in families earning less than four times the federal poverty level will be able to receive comprehensive health and developmental services, including lead-blood level monitoring and behavioral health services.
- **HHS** is expanding [Head Start](#) and Early Head Start services for Flint residents, providing \$3.6 million in emergency funding to open more classrooms to help more children; lengthen the current Head Start school year; increase the intensity of health, behavioral health and nutrition services; provide families more home visit support; increase transportation to assist families who need to make increase doctor and WIC appointments and to pick up bottled water for their homes; increase parent education activities and staff training relevant to lead poisoning and toxic stress; and provide Head Start comprehensive services to 78 preschoolers enrolled in the school's special education program.
- **EPA** Community Involvement Coordination (CIC) and public engagement staff, scientists, and regional and headquarters staff have been working with more than 90 places of worship, schools, libraries, community centers, and senior living facilities across Flint to distribute information and speak with residents. CIC teams also are talking with residents during water sampling in homes.
- **CDC's** National Center for Environmental Health and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry is conducting an Assessment of Chemical Exposure (ACE) investigation to help find the cause of rashes and other skin concerns for Flint residents.
- **American Red Cross and state and federal agencies** are supporting Flint residents and local groups as they come together to address long-term recovery issues.
- State of Michigan Department of Health and Human Services is working with the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan of Flint to provide **12 truckloads of foods rich in calcium, Vitamin C and iron**. More than 100 truckloads of healthy food will be delivered to Flint neighborhoods throughout the year.
- Michigan State University (MSU) Cooperative Extension, partially funded by USDA, is offering [nutrition and cooking classes](#) at the Flint Farmer's Market that feature foods high in vitamin C, calcium, and iron; these types of foods can keep lead from staying in your body. Everyone who attends receives a guide and recipes to help your family prevent lead poisoning.

### Actions to Strengthen Local Economy

- Small Business Administration (SBA) opened a local Business Recovery Center to help local businesses apply for and receive low-interest economic injury disaster loans.
- SBA committed approximately \$400,000 in additional funding through a number of small business programs.