

CITY OF ST. IGNACE WATER DEPARTMENT
396 N State Street
St. Ignace, MI 49781
(906) 643-9670

August 24, 2022

To Whom it May Concern:

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this situation does not require that you take immediate action, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We treat our water to maintain control corrosion and prevent lead and copper in the pipes from dissolving into the water. To ensure we are maintaining optimal corrosion control, we routinely sample the water at the entry point to the distribution system (EPTDS) and in the distribution system for Water Quality Parameters (WQP) such as pH and alkalinity. We are required to maintain these parameters within state-designated ranges. We did not maintain these parameters within the set ranges for more than nine days during the January through June 2022 monitoring period.

What should I do?

You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

What does this mean?

This situation does not require that you take immediate action. If it had, you would have been notified immediately. This is a treatment violation, but it does not mean there is lead or copper in your drinking water. The most recent monitoring indicates that lead and copper levels were below the action levels in at least 90 percent of residential drinking water taps sampled. However, it is important that everyone takes measures to control lead and copper levels in the water because ingesting lead or copper can cause serious health consequences.

Lead: Infants and children who drink water containing lead could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

Copper: Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's disease should consult their personal doctor.

What happened? What is being done?

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy set ranges for our WQPs on June 9, 2021. After these ranges were designated, we collected samples at the EPTDS throughout the January to June 2022 monitoring period that were below the required minimum value for alkalinity. We received

excursion days for the days of March 28, April 25, May 8, May 15, May 19-23, May 25, and May 29. Even though the majority of samples were above the minimum value for alkalinity, we still have more than nine days below the minimum state-designated value. We are working on following up with all WQP results timely to prevent this from happening again.

For more information, please contact Russell Winberg, rwinberg@cityofstignace.com, 906-643-9670, or 396 North State Street, St. Ignace, Michigan 49781.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by the City of St. Ignace.