

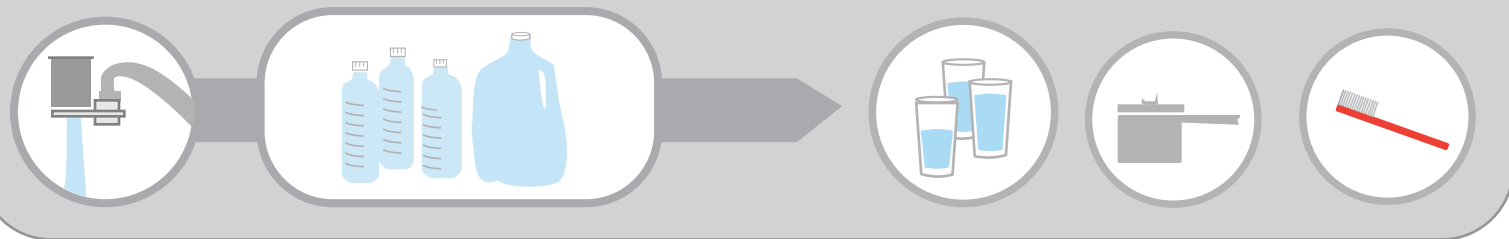


# Updates on Flint Water Safety & Steps You Can Take

October 2016

## What water is safe to use?

Flint residents should continue to use filtered or bottled water for drinking, cooking and brushing teeth. Make sure your filter is properly certified and installed.

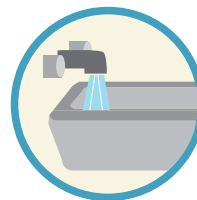


## What else can I do?

Every time you run your water - whether from your faucet, your bathtub or even your hose - you are helping improve the condition of the pipes in your home.



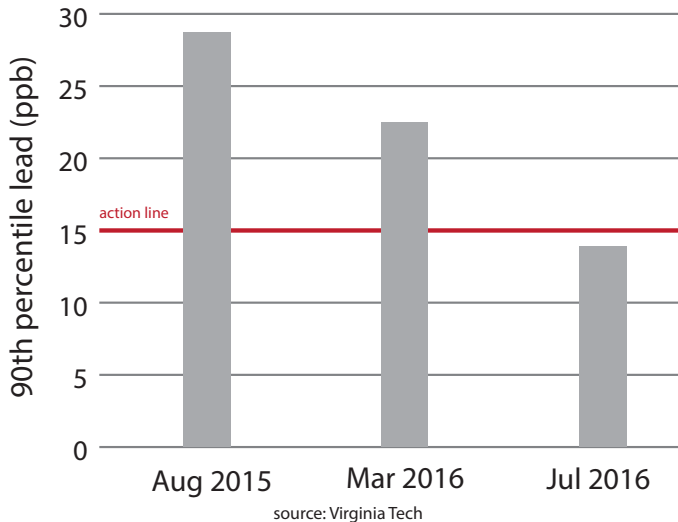
Running your water for a few minutes every day is especially important if construction is happening in your area.



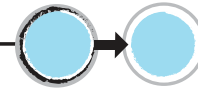
For more information: [www.epa.gov/flint](http://www.epa.gov/flint)

# Flint Drinking Water System Status

Lead levels in Flint's drinking water system continue to improve, as shown in the graph below. Sampling data also shows a difference in lead levels from home to home, meaning further review is necessary through the end of the calendar year. Experts believe that low water use in some homes and disturbances (from construction, pipe replacement, etc.) are the primary cause of some higher lead levels. EPA sampling will continue for the next several months.



EPA funded Virginia Tech to sample homes in Flint. Overall lead levels are improving. As of September, 95% of samples are at or below the action level of 15 parts per billion (ppb) for lead.



Orthophosphate treatment, to rebuild the protective scale in pipes, is being maintained throughout the system.



EPA is monitoring chlorine in the system to ensure that there is an adequate barrier against bacteria. When levels are low in an area, the City of Flint flushes lines to improve chlorine concentration.

\*Regular water use by residents and businesses will improve orthophosphate and chlorine levels and overall water quality in the system.