
From: Paciorek, Josh (GOV)
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http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/state_water_plan_for_flint_inc.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+michigan-news+%28Michigan+News%2C+Updates%2C+Photos%2C+Videos+and+Opinions+-+MLive.com%29&hootPostID=187256a301e56dc0d6b65e2db7b0d71d

Flint River will remain as city water source in state plan to address lead

The city would continue to use the Flint River as its water source, according to a plan expected to unveiled today, Oct. 2, by state officials.

A person with knowledge of the plan said it includes the immediate testing of water in all Flint schools, faucet filters for city residents and expanded testing for lead among city residents.

The plan is being unveiled at a 1:30 p.m. news conference at Kettering University.

The person familiar with the plan said it does not include reconnecting to the Lake Huron water through the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department.

Parts of the plan include:

- Immediately test water at Flint schools at state expense, working with administrators.
- Expand lead exposure testing for individuals.
- Continue offering free water testing to Flint residents at no charge.
- Expedite optimization of corrosion control
- Expediting completion of the Karegnondi Water Authority
- Appointing a Flint Drinking Water Public Health Advisor
- Providing water filters to Flint residents
- Expanding a comprehensive lead education initiative

Today's news conference comes after an avalanche of disastrous news about Flint water and a drastic change in direction among city and state officials, who have defended the safety of city water for months.

Calls for the city to end its use of the Flint River for drinking water increased after a Hurley Medical Center doctor's study showed the number of children in the city with elevated blood levels nearly doubled after the city started using it as a water source in 2014.

State officials initially questioned the data, but Snyder this week acknowledged problems with lead.

The state oversees water quality in Flint, and state-appointed emergency managers were running city government when decisions were made not to negotiate a short-term agreement to continue buying Lake Huron water from Detroit and to instead use the river as a water source.

Although the city is not currently in violation of the Safe Drinking Water Act, bacteria, the level of total trihalomethanes and lead have been problems in the water system since then.

Stay with MLive for more developments on this story.