

(517) 290-8817

prysbym@michigan.gov

The most likely cause of the brown water (iron deposits and sediments from the very old cast iron pipes that make up the distribution system in Flint), is incorrect use of fire hydrants by demolition contractors in the area during this time. The fire hydrants are turned on for the contractors to use, and since the water is under pressure, the fast flow of the water scours the insides of the pipes, causing sediment and rust to become free floating. The City conducts this type of cleaning of the pipes in a regulated/controlled process, and requires at least ten minutes for all the sediment to be flushed out of the water main. However, the contractors do not always let the water flush for ten minutes, thus sediment remains in the water main. The City's flushing of the water mains should alleviate the sediment and brown water issues. You can contact the Flint Water Service Center to request that your lines be fully flushed.

Telephone numbers for you to call if you have further concerns:

Flint Water Service Center deals with problems in the distribution system: 810-766-7202

Water Treatment Plant deals with the actual treatment of the water prior to its pumping into the distribution system: 810-787-6537

If you have additional questions, please contact me at (312) 886-0244 or crooks.jennifer@epa.gov.

Jennifer Kurtz Crooks
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Ground Water and Drinking Water Branch
United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5
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From: howard.donna@epa.gov [mailto:howard.donna@epa.gov]

Sent: Wednesday, October 15, 2014 11:46 AM

To: Poy, Thomas

Subject: FWD: (SDWA - FY15-122649-3715-CV) Referred to Region - Michigan

10/15/2014

SUBJECT: FWD: (SDWA - FY15-122649-3715-CV) Referred to Region - Michigan

FROM: howard.donna@epa.gov

TO: poy.thomas@epa.gov

CC:

-----Original Message-----

10/14/2014 9:07 AM

HQ LEAD NUMBER: FY15-122649-3715-CV

SUBJECT: Referred to Region - Michigan

FROM: janburgess52@comcast.net

TO:

Name: Jan Burgess

Address: 720 Commonwealth Ave

City: Flint

State: Michigan

Zip: 48503

Phone: 810-235-6530

Alleged Violator's Name: City of Flint

Alleged Violator's Address: 1101 S. Saginaw St.

Alleged Violator's City: Flint

Alleged Violator's State: Michigan

Alleged Violator's Zip: 48502

Tip or Complaint: Earlier this year, the City of Flint, MI changed its water supply from the City of Detroit [Lake Huron] to the Flint River. This river has a very long history of pollution. Since this change, our drinking water has tripled in cost and the quality varies daily. Some days it smells like an over-chlorinated swimming pool; other days, like pond scum. It often is brown in color and frequently has visible particles floating in it. We've been under several boil water advisories due to e-coli contamination. Just this morning our local paper reports that General Motors Engine plant has shut off Flint River water to the plant due to the over-chlorination and the fears that the water will cause corrosion.

http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/10/general_motors_wont_use_flint.html#crpid=nsitr_storyheadline.

People in Flint have had to resort to buying bottled water or having purification systems installed in their homes. Some residents have even had private wells dug. The water is not safe to drink, cook or wash dishes with, or even give to pets. We worry every time we shower. The City of Flint is still very economically depressed and most citizens cannot afford to do anything other than use the river water. Many of them have NO water at all due to the extremely high water bills. There is reasonable suspicion that reports have been falsified. Some residents have had water tested privately and the results are not even close to those reported by the City. Calls to the City and State have resulted in no action whatsoever.

Violation Still Occurring? Yes

State DEP/DEQ/DEM Notified? No