
From: Busch, Stephen (DEQ)
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2015 11:40 AM
To: Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ); Benzie, Richard (DEQ)
Subject: FW: Flint Water Question from a Pregnant Flint Resident

FYI. Note the second paragraph in the response from Rita regarding sampling technique.

Stephen Busch, P.E.
 Lansing and Jackson District Supervisor
 Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance
 MDEQ
 517-643-2314

From: Crooks, Jennifer [mailto:crooks.jennifer@epa.gov]
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2015 8:50 AM
To: Busch, Stephen (DEQ); Prysby, Mike (DEQ); Cook, Pat (DEQ)
Cc: Philip, Kris (DEQ)
Subject: FW: Flint Water Question from a Pregnant Flint Resident

FYI—our response to a citizen complaint from Flint,
 Jennifer

From: Mona Munroe-Younis [mailto:mona.m.younis@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2015 7:45 AM
To: Bair, Rita
Cc: Crooks, Jennifer; Deltoral, Miguel; Harris, Kimberly; Porter, Andrea
Subject: RE: Flint Water Question from a Pregnant Flint Resident

Hi Rita,

Thank you very much for your detailed response. It is helpful and I appreciate it greatly.

All the best,
 Mona

On Jul 14, 2015 5:22 PM, "Bair, Rita" <bair.rita@epa.gov> wrote:

We are responding to your email of July 11, 2015 to Miguel Del Toral. He is out of the office today, but has provided the following information to your lead questions. Overall, he agrees with Marc's responses on the water filter. Filters that are certified to remove lead are typically designed to remove 99 percent of the lead. They are also designed with additional capacity as a safety measure, but you should still change the filter in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. If you identify elevated lead levels from other taps that do not have water filters, we suggest either adding a filter to those, such as the bathroom tap, or only using the filtered tap water for consumption.

If you are still interested in having your water tested you should use a laboratory that has been certified by the State for drinking water analyses (a list is available from the following link: http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,4561,7-135-3307_4131_4156-36940--,00.html). Please note that a first-draw sample, regardless of pre-flushing, is best for identifying lead that comes from the faucet and other in-home piping or fittings close to the faucet. First-draw sampling does not give a good indication of the lead contribution from sources further from the faucet (i.e. lead service line, leaded brass meter, etc.). Information for residents about first-draw sampling instructions can be found on the last page of the 2006 memo on aerators and LCR sampling at the following link: http://www.epa.gov/ogwdw/lcrmr/pdfs/memo_tapsamples-aerators_10202006.pdf. In addition, below are two graphics from our Region 5 website with information about how to identify if you have a lead service line coming into your home and for faucets that do not have filters on them, how to clean the aerators.

Regarding your TTHM question, EPA has considered developmental and reproductive risks from multiple intake routes of exposure (e.g., ingestion, inhalation, and dermal) in our 2006 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts (DBPR) rule. Some studies did suggest associations between TTHM exposure and various adverse reproductive and development health effects. However, studies available overall showed inconsistent results. As such, our Agency could not conclude whether exposure to TTHMs could cause adverse reproductive/developmental health effects. However, we did note in our findings that there was the potential for concern.

Currently, we are in the process of re-evaluating our DBPR rules and considering new toxicological data regarding reproductive and developmental health effects. Until our evaluation is complete, pregnant women can elect to take additional precautionary measures such as taking shorter showers, venting the room while showering/bathing, and not ingesting water with high TTHM concentrations.

We hope this information is helpful to you.

Rita D. Bair

Section 2 Chief

Ground Water and Drinking Water Branch

USEPA-Region 5

phone: [312-886-2406](tel:3128862406)

fax: [312-692-2132](tel:3126922132)