



# City of Madison Heights

City Hall Municipal Offices  
300 W. Thirteen Mile Road  
Madison Heights, MI 48071

Department of Public Services  
300 W. Thirteen Mile Road  
Madison Heights, MI 48071

Fire Department  
31313 Brush Street  
Madison Heights, MI 48071

Police Department  
280 W. Thirteen Mile Road  
Madison Heights, MI 48071

[www.madison-heights.org](http://www.madison-heights.org)

## **Public Information Flyer – Lead Water Service Lines in the City of Madison Heights** **August 2016**

With the Flint water crisis making national and international news, the City of Madison Heights would like to take this opportunity to assure our residents and business owners that their water is safe to drink and that it meets or exceeds all prescribed standards.

There are no lead City water mains in Madison Heights; however, while copper is the most common material for service lines, which are the pipes connecting the City water main to the meter, lead water services were installed in many older communities during the 1940s due to a lack of available copper on account of the war. Small amounts of lead are also present in solder joints on copper plumbing and brass fixtures. As a result, in the early 1990s, the Environmental Protection Agency mandated that copper and lead testing be performed nationwide. The test result numbers in Madison Heights were found to be under the action levels for both copper and lead and continue to be. As a response related to this legislation, in the late 1990s, the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) instituted a vigorous corrosion control program, wherein phosphate is added to the water which coats the interior of the pipes and fixtures, helping to prevent lead and copper from leaching into the drinking water.

Considering the significant amount of information being released regarding Flint, it is worth noting that the water provided to Madison Heights from the DWSD, now the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA), has not lacked in this corrosion control since the program was started. The situation in Flint is a twofold problem; corrosion control was not maintained and the Flint River source water was particularly corrosive, both resulting in the protective pipe coating being removed, and allowing lead and copper to leach into their drinking water. These conditions are not present in Madison Heights or the GLWA system.

Copper and lead testing is performed according to regulations prescribed by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) every three years at certain sites with identified lead and copper services. Again, to date, none of our tests have come back near, at, or above the action level; however, in light of the situation in Flint and subsequent expected legislative changes regarding lead, the City of Madison Heights is taking a proactive approach to lead services, as follows:

- Homes and businesses with water services noted as lead in our meter records from the 1990s are being field-verified by the Department of Public Services (DPS) in conjunction with the upcoming water meter changeout program. The results of this survey to-date are encouraging, as a considerable number of services listed as lead have been replaced with copper since the records were created. Based on the data and the survey results so far, we expect the total number of confirmed lead services in Madison Heights to be less than 100.
- For those homes with confirmed lead service lines, DPS will immediately begin taking the following actions which will continue through the four-year City-wide meter changeout program:
  - DPS staff will test the water to determine copper and lead levels. To date, all results have come back below the action level.
  - Regardless of the test results, and despite the fact that the service line from the stopbox to the meter is the homeowner's/business owner's responsibility, the City will replace the lead service line to the meter at no cost to the homeowner/business owner. As part of the upcoming meter changeout program, the water meter will also be replaced at this time.
  - After the service line replacement, the water will be tested again to verify acceptable copper and lead levels.

We take pride in the fact that the water purchased from the DWSD/GLWA and provided by the City of Madison Heights to its residents and businesses has always been of the highest quality, and we will continue to ensure that these high standards are consistently met and maintained. If you have any questions, please call the DPS at (248) 589-2294.

### **Area Code (248)**

City Clerk.....583-0826  
City Manager.....583-0829  
Community Development.....583-0831  
Department of Public Services.....589-2294  
Finance .....583-0846

Fire Department.....583-3605  
43rd District Court.....583-1800  
Housing Commission.....583-0843  
Human Resources.....583-0828  
Library.....588-7763  
Mayor & City Council.....583-0829

Nature Center.....585-0100  
Police Department.....585-2100  
Purchasing.....837-2602  
Recreation.....589-2294  
Senior Citizen Center.....545-3464  
Water & Treasurer.....583-0845