

Michigan's new Lead & Copper Rule is now in effect

Following much debate, this regulation is now the strictest in the nation

Michigan's new Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) was filed with the State's Office of the Great Seal in June 2018, putting it into effect immediately.



The Rule is under the authority of the Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act. With this new LCR, Michigan now has the toughest protections in the United States against lead in drinking water. Lead is a known neurotoxin and can lead to significant and irreversible mental development effects on human health, especially in children.

The new LCR affects Michigan community water supplies by requiring water system owners and managers to provide full inventories of their water service line materials, to be transparent in communicating the quantity and location of all lead service lines, and to remove all lead service lines by 2041.

Here are some of the specific requirements and deadlines outlined in the rule.

Community Water Suppliers are Responsible for Lead Service Lines from the Water Main to the House/Building Water Meter

- Partial lead service line replacements are now banned.
- Preliminary service line material inventories are due to the MDEQ by January 1, 2020. Verified service line material inventories are due to the MDEQ by January 1, 2025.
- Communities that have lead service lines must begin replacing them by January 1, 2021 to ensure all lead service lines are removed by January 1, 2041.

Lower Lead Action Level by 2025

- The Action Level for lead in drinking water will be lowered from the current 15 Parts per Billion (PPB) to 12 PPB on January 1, 2025.
- Lead sampling involves the first Liter draw and the fifth Liter.

Public Communication

- Public water suppliers must send notices to residents that are known to have lead services lines to their homes.
- Service line inventories are to be published in Consumer Confidence Reports.

If you have questions about Michigan's Lead and Copper Rule and how it affects your community water supply, please contact P&N Engineer **Dan Sorek, PE** at 616-364-8491 or email him at dsorek@preinnewhof.com.

EPA Emerging Water Contaminants—PFAS

What are PFAS? What can we do about them?

When water goes through the hydrologic cycle, it's filtered naturally. Unfortunately, advanced science and historical events have shown us that some elements and compounds in our world, and thus in our water, can be harmful to human health when consumed at certain concentrations.

You have certainly heard concerns this year about "contaminated drinking water" in some Michigan communities. The opponent—PFAS.

PFAS are a large group of man-made chemicals that are resistant to fire, oil, grease, and water. For decades, we have enjoyed the benefits of these chemicals that were used in many industrial applications and consumer products, such as cookware, carpeting, upholstery, waterproof clothing, food wrappings, fire retardants, and metal plating.

The very essence of what makes these chemicals desirable for these uses makes them difficult to remove from our water system. In 2012, six PFAS compounds were classified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as "emerging contaminants". *An emerging contaminant is not currently subject to any drinking water regulation, but it is known to occur in public water systems and may require regulation.*

Between 2013 and 2015, large water systems were required to monitor for these six PFAS under the Third Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 3).

In 2017, the State of Michigan established the Michigan PFAS Action Response Team (MPART) that is comprised of multiple state agencies working together to learn more about PFAS and its impacts on human health and the environment.

Michigan is now also requiring that all public drinking water systems across the state test for PFAS. If you have a private well, it is your responsibility to test for PFAS.

Prein&Newhof's Laboratory routinely tests both municipal drinking water and private wells. If you are concerned about lead or PFAS in your water, contact our Lab Manager **Steve Bylsma** at 616-364-7600. We can sample your water and test it for lead or PFAS, as well as any of the other regulated contaminants.

Technology enables us to know more about our water today than ever before. With that knowledge comes the responsibility to solve new, complex problems. We accept that challenge. We want clean water too.

Prein&Newhof

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Are you concerned about lead or PFAS in your water?

At our Laboratory, Prein&Newhof can test your drinking water for lead or PFAS. Call our Lab Manager **Steve Bylsma** at 616-364-7600.

Visit our new webpage www.pncleanwater.com to learn more about both lead and PFAS in drinking water, and to learn what P&N is doing to help Michigan communities address these drinking water issues.



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CADILLAC OFFICE MOVE

We recently moved into the historic Cobbs & Mitchell Building in downtown Cadillac. Our new address is:

**100 E. Chapin Street, Ste A
Cadillac, MI 49601**



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P&N chosen for 2018 Circle of Excellence Honor

For the fifth consecutive year, Prein&Newhof has been selected by PSMJ Resources as a 2018 Circle of Excellence member. This award distinguishes those firms that are not only good at their practice, but also good at running their practice as a business.

PSMJ Resources, Inc. is a leading management consulting firm for the architecture and engineering industries. Each year it conducts a financial performance benchmark survey of firms, recognizing the top 20% of survey participants on 13 key performance metrics in a wide range of business management areas. Here at Prein&Newhof, we believe that this notable honor reflects the quality of our clients, our business relationships, and the foundation of integrity we strive to stand on.



Prein&Newhof specializes in:

- Civil & Environmental Engineering
- Environmental Consulting
- Surveying
- Geographic Information Systems
- Laboratory Testing
- Landscape Architecture

Governor Appoints Vice President Mark Prein to MDEQ Advisory Commission



Prein&Newhof is proud to announce that P&N Vice President and Senior Project Manager **Mark Prein, PE** was recently appointed by Governor Snyder to the Environmental Permit Review Commission.

Established by Public Act 268 of 2018, the Environmental Permit Review Commission was created within the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to act in an advisory capacity. The commission is comprised of 15 members appointed by the Governor with experience in engineering, geology, hydrology, hydrogeology and other technical fields related to air or water. The department director may call a panel of three commission members, based on their area of expertise, to form an Environmental Permit Panel to review and advise on permit applications.

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