



UM-FLINT CAMPUS WATER INFORMATION

IS THE WATER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN-FLINT SAFE?

The University of Michigan-Flint has taken all necessary measures to ensure drinking water on campus — in all facilities including classrooms, residence halls, childcare, and cooking facilities — is safe, filtered, and regularly tested.

The University began water testing in the fall of 2014 in response to a “boil water advisory” from the city of Flint. The University was not within the geographic area impacted by the advisory, but it raised concerns about water quality in the Flint water system. The University responded by proactively instituting regular, independent testing of water quality across campus.

Our testing found elevated lead levels in January and February 2015 in the Northbank Building, which is primarily used as an office building and is one of the oldest buildings on campus. Problem water fountains were removed and water filters were installed throughout the building. A secluded water fountain in the Central Energy Plant also had high lead levels in February 2015 and it was removed.

Testing also found a kitchen sink in a library break room with elevated lead levels in June. That sink — and other similar model sinks — were replaced. These were all isolated instances of elevated lead levels and all were addressed quickly and thoroughly.

Water filters have now been installed across campus and the University is continuing ongoing testing to ensure water quality. The most recent tests were in October 2015, which found the water filters installed throughout campus were working and that campus water is safe.

WHAT KIND OF WATER FILTERS DOES UM-FLINT USE?

The University uses NSF 42 and 53 certified water filters. Fountains and faucets throughout campus have “Filtered Water” stickers affixed to them so you can be sure your water is filtered. For a complete list of campus filtered water locations see the campus water information page.

Source: UM-Flint Environmental Health and Safety

HOW IS UM-FLINT HELPING THE COMMUNITY?

In this time of crisis, the University has both the opportunity and the obligation to be of service. Part of the central mission of the University of Michigan-Flint, as a regional comprehensive university, is to contribute to the wellbeing of our community. The University is working in partnership to identify needs and contribute to a greater education and awareness. In fact, the University’s faculty, staff and students are involved in the water crisis at every level.

- Campus hosted the first large-scale community filter distribution in October, giving out 3,000 filters in a single day.
- UM-Flint’s GIS mapping center is the primary organization analyzing Flint’s water infrastructure and identify its problems
- Public Health and Health Sciences is providing a course on the Flint water crisis free of charge to the community
- Nursing faculty and students are committed to providing free lead screening until 100 percent of at-risk children are tested
- Our expert health and safety staff as well as faculty serve on a number of community boards that have been leading voices in identifying and now responding to the water crisis.
- All three campuses of the University of Michigan are coming together to provide faculty expertise and U-M President Mark Schlissel has provided \$100,000 in seed funding for university faculty research initiatives.