



## City Manager's Report: July 2, 2020

### COVID-19 UPDATES:

- As of 6/29/20, the State increased the Lansing region to High Risk for COVID 19 due to a one week increase of 40, due to the Harper's outbreak in East Lansing.
- The State has released the [MI Safe Schools: Return to School Roadmap](#) outlining requirements for schools, including Mason. This will likely require the City to continue to be flexible with our employee's schedules related to child care.
- Please see the Continuity of Operations document, as of June 11, 2020, available on the City's website: [here](#).
  - City Hall will be open to public wearing masks starting June 15, 2020
  - Building Permits - Service has resumed for applications and inspections. Permits can be submitted through the online application or by drop off in the drop box at City Hall.
- Please see the COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan, as of June 3, 2020 available on the City's website: [here](#). This document complies with Executive Order 2020-59.

### ACTIVE PROJECTS STATUS UPDATES (PROJECTS NOT COORDINATED BY THE CITY)

Project Name	Status
<b>BUILDING PERMITS – COMMERCIAL PROJECTS UNDER CITY REVIEW</b>	
118 W. Oak St. <b>PENDING</b>	Two permits pending for this address. 1. Change of Occupancy permit has been filed for Nail Tech in small office space. 2. Change of Occupancy permit has been filed to proceed with opening of the Arcade on the first floor only.
205 S. Cedar - DSN <b>PENDING</b>	Two building permits pending for this address. Both filed after code enforcement violations were noted. 1. Sign permit. 2. Installing door on front of building.
110 W. Oak – Mason Energy Group <b>ACTIVE</b>	Building permit active for siding, fascia, and soffit work.
117 & 119 E. Maple – Fiedler Insurance <b>ACTIVE</b>	Building permit is active for replacement storm doors, replacement windows, exterior painting, and brick exterior re-pointing.
124-136 W. Ash St. <b>ACTIVE</b>	Building permit active for 2 <sup>nd</sup> story interior renovations and replacement of all 2 <sup>nd</sup> story windows. *Historic District Commission approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for replacement of windows on June 22, 2020.
125 E. Kipp Rd – Dollar Tree <b>ACTIVE</b>	Building permit is active for a 5,460 sq. ft. addition to accommodate up to four new retailers.
132 S. Cedar, Ste. 500 – Peak Performance <b>ACTIVE</b>	Building permit is active for renovating space for physical therapy clinic.
213 N. East St. – ServiceMaster <b>ACTIVE</b>	Building permit active to add overhead door, open doorways to meet ADA code and build necessary ramps.
230 Temple St. – Sparrow Medical Services <b>ACTIVE</b>	Building permit is active for tear off and re-roof of building.
301 Bush – Ingham County <b>ACTIVE</b>	Building permit active for tear off and re-roof of building.
402 S. Jefferson (former Baja Grill) <b>ACTIVE</b>	Building permit is active for interior and exterior renovations.
652 Hull Rd- New Goodwill <b>ACTIVE</b>	Building permit application is active and construction of a new 15,772 square foot commercial building for a Goodwill retail store.
700 Buhl – Ingham 911 <b>ACTIVE</b>	Building permit is active for installation of antennas, microwave dishes and associated mounts on existing tower. Install unmanned equipment shelter.
801 N. Cedar St.- City Limits <b>ACTIVE</b>	Building permit is active to construct a 4,828 sq. ft. addition along with additional parking.

1133 S. Cedar – MSU Federal CU <b>ACTIVE</b>	Building permit is active for interior renovations.
706 S. Cedar – State Farm Insurance <b>COMPLETED</b>	Building permit finalized for tear off and re-roof of building.
525 N. Cedar- Timeless Treasures <b>TEMPORARY OCCUPANCY PERMIT ISSUED</b>	A Temporary Certificate of Occupancy has been issued for Timeless Treasures. Remaining work includes the installation of the approved landscaping, repairs to parking lot lighting, and a site plan revision if the owner intends to include the outdoor flea market.
549 W. Ash- Dog Groomer <b>TEMPORARY OCCUPANCY PERMIT ISSUED</b>	A Temporary Certificate of Occupancy has been issued to assist in opening the business. Staff is working with owner on a revised parking plan to address safety requirements and pre-existing, non-conforming layout. Once the new parking area is complete, a final Certificate of Occupancy will be issued. <b><i>Parking updates have been delayed until spring.</i></b>
<b>BUILDING PERMITS – FIRE RESTORATION</b>	
Private Residence – Hall Blvd. <b>ACTIVE</b>	Building permit is active for reconstruction of residence.
111 Mason St. – Mason Depot <b>ACTIVE</b>	Building permit is active for reconstruction after fire.
575 N. Cedar St. – Heb’s Inn <b>ACTIVE</b>	Building permit is active for reconstruction after fire.

## OPERATIONS

- City Summer Tax bills will be arriving in mailboxes later in the week. For contact-less payments, residents are encouraged to make tax payments and all other payments by mail, online, or place in our drive up drop-box in the City Hall parking lot. We are asking residents to limit the use of cash and prepare checks before you enter City Hall. If a receipt is requested, please provide an email address or enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.
- The City increased utility rates became effective June 2020. We created the [Utility Billing FAQ](#) to assist with some common questions.
- The City has issued 1,629 Absentee Ballots for the August 4, 2020 election as of Monday, June 29, 2020. Voters may request an Absentee Ballot up to July 31, 2020 for the ballot to be mailed. Voters also can request an Absentee Ballot in person on Saturday, August 1, 2020 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM or Monday, August 3, 2020 from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM.
- The 2019 Water Quality Report has been reviewed by EGLE and is now available on the City’s website at: [mason.mi.us/WaterQualityReport](http://mason.mi.us/WaterQualityReport)

## Staffing Updates:

- City Manager has implemented a hiring freeze due to COVID-19.

## Traffic Updates:

- For speed complaints, officers will be assigned targeted enforcement for new complaints, but the speed trailer will remain in storage for now and complaints related to school traffic will be re-evaluated in the fall.

## LARGE CITY PROJECTS

FY 2019-2020			
Project	Project Name/Description	Status	Completed
<b>STREETS, SIDEWALKS, BRIDGES (S)</b>			
2018-S1 (FY 18/19)	MDOT- Temple Street Safety Grant <i>MPS/ City support smaller scope and rejecting grant due to costs.</i>	City will contribute \$20,000 (previously committed match) and MPS will contribute \$10,000. Plans are being revised for review. <b>Delaying due to COVID-19</b>	
2017-S5	Walnut- Columbia St. to North End	Final cleanup and restoration as applicable remain.	October
2017-S10	Sidewalk Program- NW Quadrant	Bid Opening April 1; five bids were received, <b>delaying award due to COVID-19</b>	
2017-S11/ 2017-U19/ 2018-P3	Kerns Road- Cedar Street to Howell Rd./ Hayhoe Riverwalk Trail Extension	Base course of the pedestrian path is complete. Base course for road and remaining concrete work to be done week of July 6.	
2017-S12/ 2017-U20	W. Elm St.- Henderson St. to Jefferson St.	Restoration and final clean up as applicable.	November
2017-S13/ 2017-U21	Park St.- Elm Street to Oak St.	Complete	November
<b>UTILITIES: SANITARY SEWER, STORM WATER, AND WATER DISTRIBUTION (U)</b>			
2017-U11	Turbine Aeration Blower at POTW	Awaiting Insurance Paperwork from L.D. Docsa, then will schedule Pre-construction Meeting.	
2017-U15	Replace Hydrants at Mason Plaza	Discussions with owner about relocations occurring. <b>Delaying due to COVID-19</b>	
2017-U23	Well No. 6 Rebuild	Moved to FY 2020-2021	
2017-U24	Study of Sewer Flow on Mason St.	Data collection underway	
2017-U25	Gutters for Water Treatment Plant	Moved to FY 2020-2021	
2019-U1	WWTP- Design	RFQP planned for Spring, <b>delaying due to COVID-19</b>	
2019-U2	DPW- Design	<b>Delaying due to COVID-19</b>	
<b>PARKS/ CEMETERY/ FORESTRY/ NONMOTORIZED (P)</b>			
2017-P8	Laylin Park - Phase II	<b>Delaying due to COVID-19</b>	
<b>MOTOR VEHICLE POOL (MVP)</b>			
2017-MVP11	Vehicle No. 13 Replacement	Complete	March
2017-MVP12	Mower No. 75 Replacement	Complete	July
2017-MVP13	Vehicle No. 6 Replacement	Complete	March
2019-MVP1	Vehicle No. 25 Equipping	Complete	January
<b>BUILDING, PROPERTY, EQUIPMENT (B)</b>			
2017-B5	Library Improvements, Phase 1	Contractor has begun preparing final design/construction documents.	
2017-B7 2018-B16	City Hall Parking Lot Repairs Station 1 Rear Approach	Bids received, <b>delaying due to COVID-19</b>	
2017-B10	Fire Station 1- Furnace/AC	<b>Delaying due to COVID-19</b>	
2017-B11	Fire Station 1- Washer/ Dryer	Dryer has been received and installed (May 2020); <b>delaying washer due to COVID-19</b>	
2017-B12	City Hall New Servers	Email Server to Office 365 Complete. City Hall server replacement <b>delaying due to COVID-19</b>	
2018-B10	BS&A Module for Online Permitting	This service is live and we are accepting applications.	May
2018-B12	City Hall Carpet Replacement	<b>Delaying due to COVID-19</b>	
2018-B13	Extrication Tools Replacement	All items have been received.	February
2018-B15	Sprinkler System in Truck Bay	<b>Delaying due to COVID-19</b>	
2018-B19	Wireless Connectivity- City Hall to Jefferson St (DPW and POTW)	Working on new estimates with alternate routes. <b>Delaying due to COVID-19</b>	
2019-B1	Election Tabulator Machines	Tabulator Machine has been received and will be used in the August 4, 2020 Election in the Absent Voter Counting Board	June
2019-B2	City Hall- Phase 1	Received bid for design, <b>delaying due to COVID-19</b>	

FY 2020-2021			
Project	Project Name/Description	Status	Completed
<b>STREETS, SIDEWALKS, BRIDGES (S)</b>			
	2020 Local Streets	<p>Concrete completed on Brookdale. Final grade for road base completed. Paving to be completed the week of July 6. Center Street has been pulverized and concrete work on the north side of road completed. Waiting for Consumers Energy to complete work to continue on Center Street.</p> <p>With the savings realized by the Eaton Street and Maple Street local street construction projects, staff are considering including Henderson Street (between W. Elm and W. Cherry) and the alley between S. Jefferson and S. Park Street (South of W. Columbia) this year. Henderson will be complete along with W. Cherry (only affecting four houses, one of which is vacant) and the alley will follow the completion of Henderson Street at the end of August/beginning of September. Staff will start notifying property owners of the possibility and if it is feasible, staff will recommend a change order to the current contract at the next City Council meeting.</p>	

Please Note: The next Manager's Report will remove FY 2019-2020 completed projects and add all FY 2020-21 proposed projects.



# UTILITY BILLING FAQ

## Why did the City increase my utility bill?

We increased utility bills to cover our operational needs. This increase does not include any money for capital projects intended for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

The increase breakdown is as follows:

One unit= 1,000 gallons, Average Residential Customer = 4 units or 4,000 gallons

Rate Type	July 2018	June 2020
Water Charge – zero unit	\$2.18	\$2.42
Water Charge – per unit	\$3.81	\$4.23
Water Capital Improvement – per unit	\$2.69	\$2.99
Sewer Charge – zero units	\$3.55	\$3.94
Sewer Charge – per unit	\$5.38	\$5.97
Sewer Capital Improvement – per unit	\$.73	\$.81

## Why would you increase this on July 1, 2020? COVID-19 has affected my income and I'm concerned.

Ideally, we would like to wait, but costs to run a utility continue to increase beyond our control: increased regulations, cost of equipment and chemicals, health care costs for our employees, etc. It's necessary to cover our costs in order to sustain our system. If we fail to do so, the State will eventually step-in to manage the utility, which will ultimately be more expensive for our users with no local control on rates.

## Could tax dollars be used to pay for the water and sewer utility costs?

The Water and Sewer Fund is an Enterprise Fund. An Enterprise Fund is a self-supporting fund, meaning all revenue generated from providing services and user charges must pay for the expenditures of the system.

## What happened to the projected large utility rate increase that was discussed this winter?

Prior to COVID-19, the City was in the final stages of completing a water and sewer rate study based on our required large capital projects. The required large capital projects include moving the Public Works facility to allow for the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) to be expanded in the floodplain. This expansion is due, in part, to be in line with the Consent Order from the State to improve our Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) due to discharges into the creek during high rain events.

The increase was planned for this July and was anticipated to be just under 40% to address operational increases, the Lead and Copper Rule, rebuilding and expanding the Wastewater Treatment Plant, and relocating the Public Works Facility. All of these items are required under the permits the City has with the State. These capital projects have been delayed and removed from the 2020-2021 budget to avoid a large increase during COVID-19. The final costs and usage may vary and will be evaluated at the time that this project is resumed to determine the necessary utility rates.

## How do our rates compare to other communities?

Community size, contracting for services, age of equipment, level of service, asset management, lead lines, water source, etc. affect every community's utility rates. Every system is unique; therefore, it is not recommended to compare rates. However, a rate comparison chart is below for reference.

Please note: Rates are as of January 2020; based on data provided by the community or their website. All rates are converted to monthly billing and gallons rates are based on 5/8" meter and residential charges.

Community (How it is similar to Mason)	Population	Water Total @ 4,000 gallons	Sewer Total @ 4,000 gallons	Total Water & Sewer
Williamston (location)	3,960	\$48.83	\$47.77	\$96.60
Delhi (location)	25,877	\$34.06	\$50.76	\$84.82
Flushing (population)	7,915	\$52.28	\$31.87	\$84.15
BW&L/Lansing (location)	118,427	\$34.06	\$49.43	\$83.49
Grand Ledge (location)	7,854	\$38.80	\$44.42	\$83.22
St. Johns (location)	7,865	\$28.95	\$52.03	\$80.98
Lapeer (population)	8,621	\$30.42	\$47.36	\$77.78
Chelsea (population)	5,474	\$31.52	\$45.86	\$77.38
Marshall (population)	6,996	\$37.26	\$39.52	\$76.78
East Lansing (location)	48,844	\$30.52	\$42.91	\$73.43
Charlotte (location)	9,088	\$25.44	\$44.98	\$70.42
Leslie (location)	1,884	\$36.07	\$32.52	\$68.59
Hillsdale (population)	8,049	\$26.04	\$39.44	\$65.48
Tecumseh (population)	8,390	\$24.44	\$37.22	\$61.66
Alma (population)	8,920	\$23.28	\$37.86	\$61.14
Howell (population)	9,618	\$29.59	\$30.07	\$59.66
<b>Mason - NEW RATES</b>		<b>\$30.83</b>	<b>\$27.12</b>	<b>\$57.95</b>
Dewitt (location)	4,511	\$34.06	\$23.24	\$57.30
Brighton (population)	7,657	\$14.80	\$39.47	\$54.27
<b>Mason- CURRENT RATES</b>	<b>8,458</b>	<b>\$27.95</b>	<b>\$24.44</b>	<b>\$52.39</b>
Hastings (population)	7,315	\$18.54	\$33.53	\$52.07
Hudsonville (population)	7,349	\$19.30	\$28.45	\$47.75
Meridian (location)	42,636	\$24.08	\$23.36	\$47.44
Delta Charter Twp. (location)	32,408	\$25.40	\$18.40	\$43.80

**Resources:** More Questions? Please Contact our Customer Service Desk at 517.676.9155.



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# 2019 WATER QUALITY REPORT

CITY OF MASON

Revised – April 2020

This report covers the drinking water quality for the City of Mason for the 2019 calendar year. This information is a snapshot of the quality of the water we provided to you in 2019. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards.

Your water comes from seven groundwater wells, each well averaging from 215 to 400 feet in depth. The State of Michigan Department of Environment Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) performed an assessment of our source water in 2007 to determine the susceptibility or the relative potential of contamination. The susceptibility rating is on a seven-tiered scale from "very-low" to "very-high" based on geologic sensitivity, well construction, and water chemistry and contamination sources. The susceptibility of our source water is moderately high as of that evaluation. There are no significant sources of contamination in our water supply. We are making efforts to protect our sources by updating our well head protection plan in 2020.

If you would like to know more about the report, please contact Customer Service at 517.676.9155.

- **Contaminants and their presence in water:** Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the **EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791)**.
- **Vulnerability of sub-populations:** Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune systems disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the **Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791)**.
- **Sources of drinking water:** The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. Our water comes from wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity
- **Contaminants that may be present in source water include:**

**Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

**Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

**Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agricultural and residential uses.

**Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban Stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. United States Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which provide the same protection for public health.



## Water Quality Data

The provided table lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2019 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 – December 31, 2019. The EGLE allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. All of the data is representative of the water quality, but some are more than one year old.

### Terms and abbreviations used below:

- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** means the highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** means the level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- **N/A:** not applicable
- **ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter
- **ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter
- **ppt:** parts per trillion or nanogram per liter
- **pCi/l:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity).
- **AI:** Action Level which is the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

### Lead Service Line Transparency

Number of lead service Lines	Number of service lines of unknown material	Total number of service lines
601	1415	2918

On December 23, 2019, the City of Mason did an evaluation of potential lead lines within the City of Mason. Lead is defined to also include galvanized lines that were once connected to lead. The information above is based on data we have on timing of housing construction and available records. The City has not visually confirmed all lead service lines at this point.

## Results

Regulated Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Range	Year Sampled	Violation Yes / No	Typical Source of Contaminant
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	.69	.67 - .76	2019	No	Erosion of natural deposits discharge from fertilizer & aluminum factories
TTHM - Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	80	N/A	4	N/A	2019	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	60	N/A	8	N/A	2019	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Radioactive Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Range	Year Sampled	Violation Yes/No	Typical Source of Contaminant
Alpha Emitters (pCi/L)	15	0	2.5	2.5	2018	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	5	0	2.1	2.1	2019	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine (ppm)	MRDL	MRDLG	.78	.47 – 1.02	2019	No	Water additive used to control microbes
	4	4					
Contaminant Subject to AL	Action Level	MCLG	90% of Samples ≤ This Level		Year Sampled	Samples Above AL	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb) *	15	0	3.0		2019	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)**	1.3	1.3	1.43		2019	4	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Special Monitoring and Unregulated Contaminant ***			Level Detected		Year Sampled	Comments	
Sodium (ppm)			14.4		2019	Typical source is erosion of natural deposits	
Hardness (ppm)			356		2019	Typical source is erosion of natural deposits	
Chloride (ppm)			17.6		2019	Typical source is erosion of natural deposits	
Sulfate (ppm)			44.8		2019	Typical source is erosion of natural deposits	
Emerging Contaminant ****	LHA		Level Detected	Range	Year Sampled	Violation Yes / No	Typical Source of Contaminant
PER-Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (ppt) *****	70		0	0	2018	No	Industrial and consumer product runoff

The City of Mason is responsible for providing safe, high quality drinking water to its residents but cannot control the verity of materials used in plumbing components inside homes. Elevated lead and copper levels are sometimes found in some residences due to corrosion of household plumbing pipes and fixtures made of, or containing, lead and copper.

**\*Information about Lead:** If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Mason is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can

minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to two minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. City residents concerned about lead levels in their drinking water can be added to the sampling pool for this next round of testing by calling 517.676.9155. There is no cost to participate in this sampling. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791 or at <http://water.epa.gov/drink/info/lead/index.cfm>.

**\*\*Information about Copper:** As required by Federal and State laws and regulations, regular testing is conducted on various aspects of the water system. Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson’s Disease should consult their personal doctor. Testing completed as recently as 2014 determined that copper was not detected in the City’s wells, which supply the City’s water. The City’s recent testing in homes for copper, conducted in August and September of 2019, found four of twenty-two samples exceeded the EPA’s maximum contaminant level goal (MCLG) for copper. In accordance with Federal and State laws and regulations, those four residents were notified of their results. They were also given a fact sheet on how to flush their pipes before using the water for cooking and drinking if the water has been sitting in their pipes for an extended period of time.

The EGLE has advised the City of Mason is not in violation of the Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act, but the exceedance requires more homes to be tested in the next round of sampling to take place in the first six months of 2020. City residents concerned about copper levels in their drinking water can be added to the sampling pool for this next round of testing by calling 517.676.9155. There is no cost to participate in this sampling. Beginning in 2020 the City will undergo a corrosion study to investigate for adjustments in the current corrosion control program.

The City recommends that residents, especially with copper plumbing, follow published guidance about flushing pipes before using tap water for drinking, cooking, rinsing food, brushing teeth, and preparing powdered baby formula. To flush your pipes, turn on any faucet and let it run cold for about two minutes. Taking a shower, doing a load of laundry, or running the dishwasher will also accomplish the goal of flushing your pipes.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) recommends that homes with a formula-fed infant use cold, flushed water for drinking and making powdered infant formula. Formula-fed infants under twelve months old get their needed copper from the formula itself—and if tap water containing copper is used to prepare the powdered formula, the infant can end up with too much copper in their body. This may cause stomach upset or other health issues. If your infant is experiencing persistent stomach upset symptoms, consult your healthcare provider. People with disorders of copper metabolism (for example: Wilson’s Disease) should continue to avoid potential sources of copper, including drinking water from the City of Mason.

If you have questions about copper exposure and your health, call the Ingham County Health Department at 517.887.4312 or the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) at 844.934.1315. If you choose to purchase a water filter, MDHHS recommends filters that are tested and certified to NSF/ANSI Standard 53 for copper reduction. Be sure to follow manufacturer’s instructions for set-up and maintenance.

**\*\*\*Unregulated contaminants** are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. Monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants.

**\*\*\*\*Per - and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances:** (PFAS), sometimes called PFC’S are a group of chemicals that are resistant to heat, water, and oil. PFAS have been classified by the EPA as an emerging contaminant on the landscape. For decades, they have been used in many industrial applications and consumer products such as carpeting, waterproof clothing, upholstery food wrappings, fire-fighting foams, and metal plating. They are still in use today. PFAS have been found at low

levels both in the environment and in blood samples from the general U.S. population.

These chemicals are persistent, which means they do not break down in the environment. They also bio-accumulate, meaning the amount builds up over time in the blood and organs. Although our understanding of these emerging contaminants is constantly evolving, elevated levels of PFAS have the potential to cause increased cholesterol, changes in the body's hormones and immune system, decreased fertility, and increased risk of certain cancers. Links to these health effects in humans are supported by epidemiologic studies and by laboratory studies in animal models.

If any resident has additional questions regarding this issue, the State of Michigan Environmental Assistance Center can be contacted at 800-662-9278. Representatives may be reached to assist your questions Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. The State has created a website where you can find information about PFAS contamination and efforts to address it in Michigan. The site will be updated as more information becomes available. The website address is: <http://michigan.gov/pfasresponse>.

### **Conclusion**

The EGLE and EPA require us to test our water on a regular basis to ensure its safety. We met all the monitoring and reporting requirements for 2019.

We will update this report annually and will keep you informed of any problems that may occur throughout the year, as they happen. Copies are available at Mason City Hall at 201 West Ash Street and on the City of Mason website ([www.mason.mi.us](http://www.mason.mi.us)).

For more information about your water, or the contents of this report, contact , Customer Service 517.676.9155 For more information about safe drinking water, visit the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency at [www.epa.gov/safewater/](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/).

Revised 4.7.20 (Public Works)