

Water System Advisory Council

The Grand Rapids Water System (water supply) is establishing a Water System Advisory Council (Council) as required by the new state standard for the federal Lead and Copper Rule. Per the 2018 revision to the State of Michigan's Lead and Copper Rule, "Water Systems that serve a population of 50,000 or more, shall create a Water System Advisory Council". The Council shall operate as followed:

- a) The Council shall consist of at least 9 members, recommended by the Utility Advisory Board and approved by the Grand Rapids City Commission. To be eligible for appointment to the council, an individual shall have an interest in or knowledge about lead in drinking water and its effects. Membership shall consist of the following:
 - a. A local resident who does not formally represent the interest of any incorporated organization.
 - b. A representative from the Kent County Health Department or Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
 - c. Three (3) representatives from the City of Grand Rapids
 - d. A representative from the wholesale community of East Grand Rapids
 - e. A representative from the wholesale community of Ada Township
 - f. A representative from a Grand Rapids Neighborhood Association
 - g. A representative from the Grand Rapids Lead Free Task Force
- b) The business that the council performs shall be conducted at a public meeting of the council and held in compliance with the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.26 to 15.275.
- c) The first meeting of a council shall be called by the water supply. At the first meeting, the council shall elect from its members a chairperson and other officers as it considers necessary.
- d) Council members shall serve 3 year terms with no term limits. After the first meeting, the council shall meet at least annually.
- e) The Council must include a member from each consecutive water supply served that is responsible for reporting out and complying with the State of Michigan's Lead and Copper Rule.
- f) Writing prepared, owned, used, in the possession of, or retained by the council in the performance of an official function is subject to the freedom of information act, 196 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246.
- g) The Council may independently seek advice, direction, and assistance from the department or the statewide advisory council.
- h) The Council will go into effect immediately after both the appointments are made by the Utility Advisory Board and the Grand Rapids City Commission approves of the appointments.

- i) The council shall do the following:
 - i. Develop plans for continuing public awareness about lead in drinking water, even when the action level is not exceeded.
 - ii. Review public awareness campaign materials provided by the statewide drinking water advisory council to ensure the needs and interests of the community, considering the economic and cultural diversity of its residents, are addressed.
 - iii. Advise and consult with the water supply on the development of appropriate plans for remediation and public education to be implemented if a lead action level is exceeded.
 - iv. Advise and consult with the water supply on efforts to replace private lead service lines at locations where the owner declines a lead service line replacement.
 - v. Assist in promoting transparency of all data and documents related to lead in drinking water within the water supply service area.
 - vi. Collaborate with local community groups to ensure that residents have the opportunity to be involved in efforts to educate the community about lead in drinking water.