

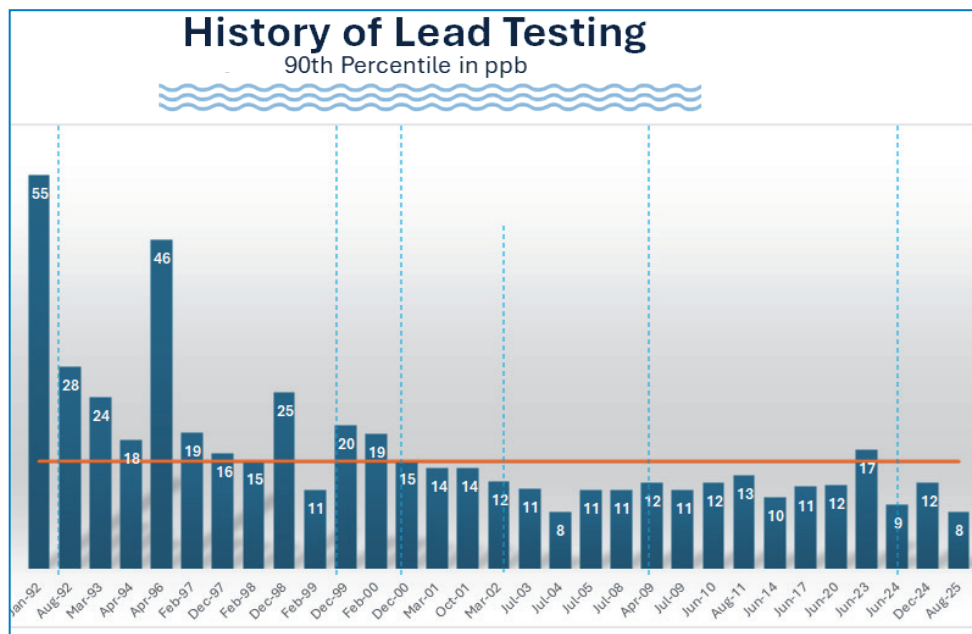
Pipeline Express

Provide high-quality water and exceptional services to the people and communities we support.

Lead Testing in our System: Passing the Mark

Saint Paul Regional Water Services (SPRWS) is proud to announce that we've passed the 2025 Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) testing with results well below federal limits. In our most recent round of sampling this past summer, the 90th percentile for lead was 8 parts per billion (ppb), meaning 90% of the homes tested had lead levels at or below that number. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) action level is 15 ppb, so we're continuing to provide safe, high-quality drinking water that meets federal standards.

Since 1991, SPRWS has been actively working to minimize lead exposure from drinking water. There is no lead in the water leaving our treatment plant. When lead is found in drinking water, it typically comes from lead-bearing materials in the service line leading to the home or from plumbing inside the home itself. These can include copper



The results of lead testing over the last few decades show that we are well below the action level of 15 parts per billion, at 8 ppb this last summer.

pipes with 50/50 lead solder, faucets, and fixtures. Before 1986, plumbing solder could contain up to 50% lead. Over the years, regulations have continued to strengthen; faucets were allowed to contain up to 8% lead in 1997,

but as of 2024, "lead-free" plumbing products must have a weighted average lead content of no more than 0.25% by weight.

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Lead Testing Results In

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This work is rooted in decades of commitment to public health. Congress passed the Safe Drinking Water Act in 1974, the first federal law to establish national drinking water standards. Then, in 1991, the EPA introduced the Lead and Copper Rule, which changed how lead and copper are regulated. The LCR replaced the standard of 50 ppb measured at the entry point to the system. With the LRC, the rule requires utilities to collect samples at customers' taps, where exposure risk is highest.

To comply, utilities must ensure that 90% of sampled homes have lead levels below 15 ppb. Over the past few years, SPRWS has remained below that threshold. Our latest results of 8 ppb at the 90th percentile continue that record of safety and reliability. The graph below shows our 90th percentile lead levels over time, demonstrating our ongoing success in keeping lead levels low.

At SPRWS, protecting public health isn't just a regulatory requirement, it's our mission.

FALL SAFETY PICNIC BRINGS STAFF TOGETHER

The fall safety picnic took place on Oct. 7 offering a chance to celebrate our safety record and each other. The winners of the dessert contest were Kerry Barbetti in first, Richelle Nicosia in second, and Holly Overton in third. Thank you to everyone who brought a dessert.



Staff enjoy a meal together while celebrating safety at the utility on Oct. 7 outside of the admin building.



Chuck Olson addresses the crowd at the safety picnic.

VACATION DONATION

Hugo Lopez -Pallares is seeking vacation donation



Hugo Lopez-Pallares

Vacation donation has been approved for Hugo Lopez-Pallares, a water utility worker. He has exhausted all sick and vacation time due to a medical situation.

Please consider donating vacation time to Hugo by notifying the utility payroll person at Pakou.C.Moua@ci.stpaul.mn.us of your donation amount.

Thank you for considering this request.



Open Enrollment for Benefits Ends October 31

The City of Saint Paul open enrollment period will run from October 20 through October 31. Enrollment ends at midnight (CST) on October 31, 2025. Employees must make their open enrollment selections online via their employee self-service portal (Infor Cloud Suite ESS under the “SPRWS Favorites” tab).

More information on open enrollment can be found at: <https://stpaulmn.sharepoint.com/SitePages/OpenEnrollment.aspx>

Just a reminder to keep a copy of your successful enrollment by printing it out or making a PDF of your benefit statement. You will need this if you run into any issues with enrollment. City benefits staff will be unable to assist you with enrollment issues without that statement.

Information Session Oct. 23

The SPRWS Open Enrollment Information Session is scheduled for October 23 from 7:30am – 10:30am in the administration building lunchroom. Representatives from the following vendors will be onsite to answer your questions: Medica, HealthPartners, VSP Vision, Voya, MNDCP, Standard Insurance, Securian Financial, and LifeSecure Insurance Company. Representatives from the City’s Benefits Department will also be on hand to answer questions and help you navigate the online open enrollment portal.

Free Flu Shots With Insurance

Flu Clinic- Nurses will be onsite to administer free flu shots to employees who currently carry health insurance. Bring your insurance card with you to the appointment. Those without insurance can purchase a flu shot for \$45. Use this link to schedule your appointment today: <https://signup.com/group/851283028093>

New Offerings or Changes:

- Kavira Health – Primary and urgent care via telehealth and home visits. Full family coverage with Kavira is included with your Medica plan for 2026.
- Hospital Indemnity Insurance with Securian- This coverage pays you directly, so you can use it for medical bills or everyday expenses while you focus on recovery. Coverage is available for you and/or your family.
- Short Term Disability (STD)- Rate Decrease
- Long Term Disability (LTD) – Rate Increase
- HealthPartners Dental Insurance- Rate Increase
- Flex Spending – Dependent Care maximum has increased to \$7,500 per household. If two parents are electing this FSA, the maximum would be \$3,750 per parent.

Reminders:

Partnership with LSS Financial

Counseling: Offers all City of Saint Paul employees and their immediate family members up to six one-on-one financial coaching sessions per year at no cost. This is not just for benefited employees, but for temporary, seasonal, and Right Track workers, too. Many people struggle with their finances, and this is a great service to take advantage of. Appointments are available in person, by phone, video conference, or online. To find out more, visit lssmn.org/cityofstpaul or call: 888-577-2227.

The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is available to ALL employees.

The EAP program provides information up to five free and confidential counseling services on a per issue basis. You do not have to be enrolled on the city’s medical plan to use this service.

Call 1-800-626-7944 or visit www.liveandworkwell.com and use the password Medica.

Life insurance, PERA, and deferred compensation should have beneficiaries designated. Because of life events such as marriage, divorce, and dependent additions – they should be reviewed annually.

EVACUATION DRILL GOES SMOOTHLY AS STAFF MOVE TO VADNAIS

By Jodi Wallin

The water utility held an evacuation drill on October 7 to test the process for getting staff off campus and to the gathering site at Vadnais Lake facilities should a chemical leak occur. It allowed staff unfamiliar with the location to find the best route for escape while also testing the Everbridge notification calling and emailing system.

Staff received the announcement to evacuate over the loudspeakers as well as by phone, text, and email via Everbridge. Employees then drove to Vadnais Lake facilities where monitors took attendance and provided updates on employees' whereabouts in real time to determine how long an evacuation would take. It also allowed leaders to determine who stayed behind to keep operations flowing or were working out in the field at the time of the drill.

The entire process took about an hour from announcement to staff returning to McCarrons.



Renee Huset and Rich Hibbard from the engineering division take attendance at Vadnais during the drill.



Tom Miller addresses staff after the drill was complete and all staff accounted for during the evacuation.



Justina Ross takes notes and double checks attendance for the administration staff during the drill.



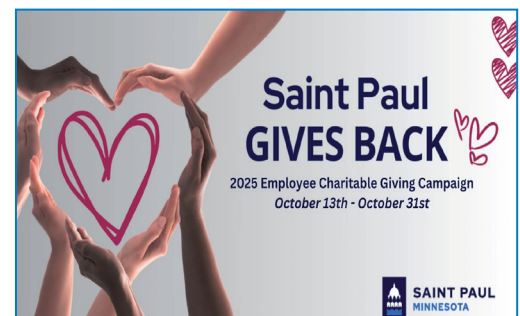
Employees gather in their designated locations to make sure they were accounted for during the evacuation drill.

Join Co-Workers in Giving Back During Charitable Giving Campaign

Join your fellow coworkers in making a difference in your community by participating in "Saint Paul Gives Back: 2025 Employee Charitable Giving Campaign" from October 13 to 31. This year, as in the past, the City of Saint Paul will offer employees the opportunity to donate to charity organizations at work – through a one-time gift or via recurring payroll deductions. Even \$1/ paycheck can make a huge difference!

This year's campaign, "Saint Paul Gives Back", provides us the privilege of helping others in need and enhancing the quality of life for children and families in our commu-

nity and beyond. You may choose to participate by giving what you can to one or more of these federated nonprofits: CHC: Creating Healthier Communities, Open Your Heart to the Hungry Homeless, Greater Twin Cities United Way, United Negro College Fund, Como Friends, St. Paul & Ramsey County Domestic Abuse Intervention Project, St. Paul Fire Foundation, St. Paul Police Foundation, Survivor Resources, The Friends of the Saint Paul Library, and Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity. You may also select from a list of other nonprofits throughout the state. Chances are, at least one of these



important organizations is helping someone close to your home and heart!

Sign up at <https://give.chcimpact.org/p/SaintPaulGivesBack>