



August 18, 2017

*Re: Invitation to participate in household water filter study*

Dear Homeowner or Renter,

Many people in the United States attach water filters to their kitchen faucets to reduce lead and improve their water. Studies do show that the filters work for reducing lead. NSF International is now beginning a study to find out how well these filters perform when harmful bacteria could be present. NSF International, an independent, not-for-profit, non-governmental public health and safety organization with global headquarters in Ann Arbor, Michigan, will conduct a study of faucet filters to find out how well they trap harmful bacteria. Virginia Tech will assist NSF International with this study.

The study will begin August 2017 and end in October 2018. Water samples will be collected from homes that use faucet filters in the cities of Flint, Pontiac and Detroit. These cities were chosen because they all get their drinking water from Lake Huron and all have water infrastructure of a similar size and age.

NSF International is looking for homeowners and renters to help with this important study. NSF International will visit each selected home during the summer of 2017 and may do a follow-up visit to some of the homes during the summer of 2018.

The study needs volunteer households (homeowner or renter) that meet the following:

- You live in the city limits of Flint, Detroit or Pontiac.
- You expect to live in the same home until the end of 2018.
- You use a kitchen faucet filter.
- You agree to complete a short survey about your filter, how you use it and some other simple questions.
- You agree to allow two NSF International staff members to visit your home to collect water samples from the kitchen faucet with the filter in place. NSF International will come to your home when it is convenient for you.

- You will agree to be home when we have arranged a visit and will not use the water filter for at least 6 hours before NSF International arrives. We would also like to know when the last time the water was used from this faucet before NSF International collects the water sample.

Each home that cooperates and takes part in the study will receive \$50 from NSF International and a new water filter when the study is finished.

If you are interested in being a part of this important study please send an e-mail to [POUfilterstudy@nsf.org](mailto:POUfilterstudy@nsf.org) or call Nikki Beetsch at 1-734-913-5718. We will ask you a few questions to see if you qualify for the study. Volunteers will be accepted on a first come, first served basis. The State of Michigan's Department Environmental Quality (MI DEQ) has contracted with NSF International, an independent public health organization, to perform this study.

Thank you,



*Nikki Beetsch, MS*

**Technical Manager, Government and Professional Sector Services, Applied Research Center**

NSF International | 789 N. Dixboro Road | Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Office: 734-913-5718 | [beetsch@nsf.org](mailto:beetsch@nsf.org)