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Four water systems honored for fluoridation efforts by the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors

LANSING, Mich. - The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services announced today that four community water systems received fluoridation awards from the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors.

These awards recognize communities that achieved excellence in community water fluoridation by maintaining a consistent level of fluoride in drinking water. Michigan was among 26 states that received awards for fluoridation longevity.

Bay Area Water was awarded the 2025 Community Water Fluoridation 10 Year Award, while the public water systems in Jonesville and Schoolcraft were awarded the 2025 Community Water Fluoridation 50 Year Award for continuously adjusting and maintaining the amount of fluoride in drinking water for the prevention of tooth decay in adults and children. Marquette received the 2025 Community Water Fluoridation Reaffirmation Award for retaining fluoridation.

“Time tested and cost effective, water fluoridation is one of the best investments that a community can make in maintaining the oral health of all its residents Water fluoridation helps reduce and prevent tooth decay by 25% in children and adults,” said Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian, chief medical executive. “It is recognized as one of the top 10 public health achievements of the 20th century.”

Water fluoridation began in the United States in 1945 and is currently used in approximately 25 countries worldwide. Studies continue to show that the economic benefit of fluoridation programs exceed their costs, including saving money for families by reducing the need for dental treatment.

To learn more about community water fluoridation, visit Community Water Fluoridation.

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