

10 FACTS

You need to know

COMMUNITY WATER FLUORIDATION

WE SUPPORT



Fluoride is nature's cavity fighter, present in all water sources. Fluoridation adjusts the natural concentration of fluoride in a public water supply to the recommended level for preventing tooth decay.

Studies show that community water fluoridation prevents at least 25 percent of tooth decay in children and adults, even in areas where fluoride toothpaste is used.

For most cities, every \$1 invested in water fluoridation saves \$38 in dental treatment costs. The average cost per person to fluoridate a water supply is less than the cost of one dental filling.

Fluoridation protects against tooth decay throughout life, benefiting children and adults. Inadequate exposure to fluoride puts children and adults at high risk for tooth decay.

An estimated 51 million school hours are lost each year in the U.S. due to dental-related illness.

In 2014, 74.4 percent of the U.S. population on public water systems (211 million people) received fluoridated water. The Healthy People 2020 goal is to increase this to 79.6 percent.

Since 2004, 393 Mississippi public water systems serving 1,989,721 people have begun water fluoridation programs with grant funding through the Mississippi State Department of Health.

The American Dental Association (ADA), the American Medical Association (AMA), and the Mississippi State Department of Health endorse fluoridation of community water as safe and effective for preventing tooth decay.

Fluoridation is the single most effective public health measure to prevent tooth decay and improve lifetime oral health for both adults and children.

The national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has proclaimed community water fluoridation one of the 10 greatest public health achievements of the 20th century.



Sources: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 2016
American Dental Association, 2016