Finance Committee Meeting Topic: Lead Pipe Replacement Program



City of Lockport, NY May 10, 2023

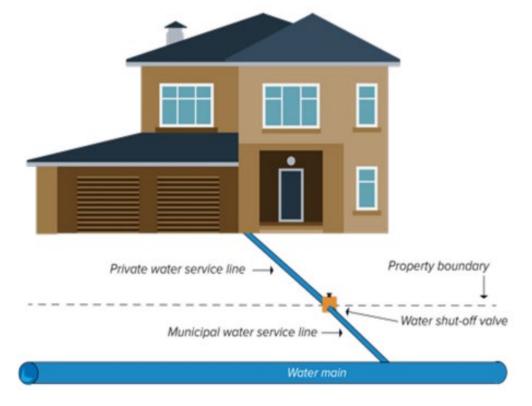
What is the Lead and Copper Rule (LCR)?

- The LCR (Lead and Copper Rule) is a set of regulations developed by the U.S.
 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to protect public health by reducing exposure to lead and copper in drinking water.
- Compliance requires testing and monitoring of lead and copper, public education, inventory, and replacement of lead lines. Lockport will need to comply with 5 deadlines discussed in this PowerPoint.
- The LCR is a critical component of ensuring safe drinking water for all Americans.



Deadline #1 - Inventory lead service lines

- Municipalities must complete an initial inventory of lead service lines by October 1, 2024. Inventory must include both the private and municipal water service line portions for each address.
- Some municipalities have homeowners report or request a City inspector to determine material.



Deadline #2 - Replace lead service lines

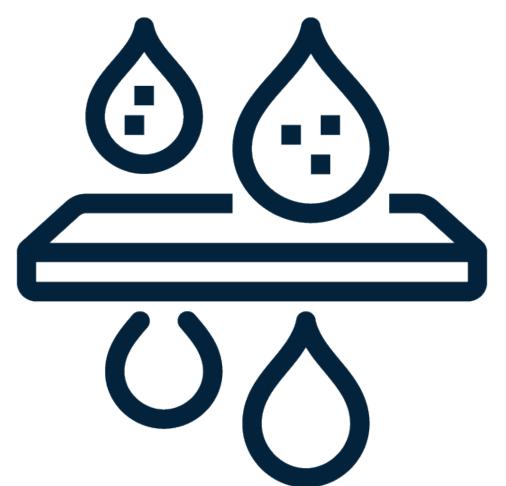
Water systems serving more than 10,000 people with more than 10 percent of samples above the action level of 0.015 mg/L need only replace 3 percent of their LSLs per year. These systems may stop their LSLR programs in as little as two years if the system meets the action level in four consecutive 6-month monitoring periods.

• This would equate to \$1.3 to \$2 million annually when testing levels are in excess. As noted, the City would not be obligated to 100% replace all lines, as it would be dependent on testing levels.

Deadline #3 - Compliance with lead and copper action levels

 Public water systems must comply with the lead and copper action levels within six months of receiving a high lead result.

 Compliance requirements may require 6-month liquid cash for replacements.



Deadline #4 - Public education and outreach

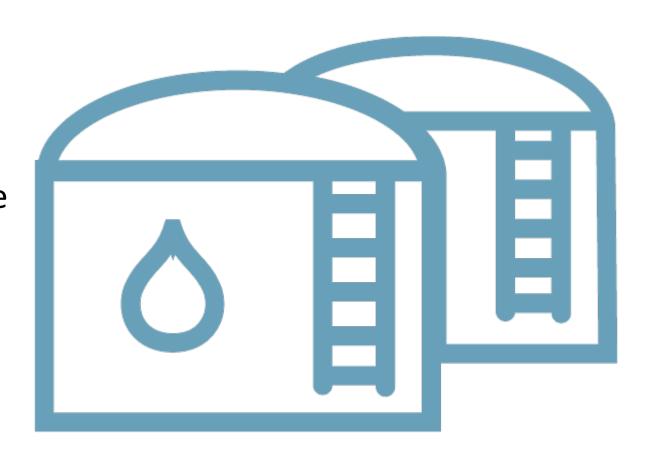


• Public water systems must provide educational materials to customers about the health effects of lead in drinking water and steps to reduce exposure. This must be done annually or within 30 days of a high lead level.

Deadline #5 - Sampling and reporting

 Public water systems must collect water samples for lead and copper at customer taps every six months and report the results to the state regulatory agency.

 Tests will be performed by water filtration.



Funding Opportunities

- NYS appropriates funding from the Clean Water Infrastructure Fund to individual municipalities in form of awarded grants.
- The Federal Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) has provided <u>loans</u> that directly supported lead pipe replacement projects in cities across the United States.
- The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is a flexible program that provides communities with resources to address a wide range of unique community development needs.
- Some municipalities are using ARPA and/or water fund balance as well.

Next Steps

- Begin compiling inventory data. Data for all water service billing lines creates a starting point that can be added to with building inspection data.
- 2. City must define parameters about the program- how inventory will be collected, how to allocate funds, who will perform work, how work will be prioritized, etc...
- 3. City must formalize our own Lead Service Line Replacement Program containing implementation and funding plans.
- 4. The City must locate and be awarded funding sources.

What are Other Municipalities Doing?

- Albany, NY Reimbursement up to \$2k per full replacement, \$1k for partial. Coordinated with paving schedule to reduce costs.
- Buffalo, NY Free replacement of broken or leaking lead pipes, assistance with non-leaking pipes.
- Rochester, NY Seems to be paid fully by City.
- Batavia, NY City coordinated and paid for replacements and schedule.



Sources

- https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/lslrp/index
 .htm
- https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/fundinglead-service-line-replacement
- https://www.albanyny.gov/1932/Lead-Service-Replacement-Program#:~:text=The%20Albany%20Water%20Board%20is%20committed%20to%20help,the%20full%20replacement%20of%20a%20lead%20service%20line.

~Lead Pipe Replacement Takeaways~

- The LCR (Lead and Copper Rule) is a set of regulations developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to protect public health by reducing exposure to lead and copper in drinking water.
- While seemingly far in the future, the first major deadline will be arriving soon in October, 2024.
- The City will need to clearly define the program and parameters of the program.
- If paid by the City in full, the City will need to secure upwards of \$65 million in funding to support the replacement of all estimated lead lines.