



LEAD IN WATER FACT SHEET

Lead pipes have been used to carry drinking water for centuries. Lead is stable under proper conditions but can easily corrode. Modern technology to prevent corrosion is the addition of chemicals- usually phosphates- that coat lead pipes. The phosphate coating is not tremendously stable.

Flint was the catalyst for the modern lead-removal movement. Flint saw corrosive water release lead into homes' drinking supply without the chemical treatment. Flint was unique because:

- 1) Water was visibly contaminated
- 2) Ongoing blood studies showed damage of lead
- 3) Political tensions between state and local government. Flint citizens still not paying water bills.

Flint prompted research into this issue. The results were: partial lead service line replacement (LSLR) is bad, disturbance of pipes increases lead concentrations, water sitting in pipes results in increased lead levels, and lead release is unpredictable and hard to prevent, even with corrosion control.

Other research found direct relationships between lead concentrations and drop in IQ. IQ drop is lifelong, and has real effects on test scores, behavior, and socioeconomic status. Other effects exist as well, such as prenatal problems and premature death from cardiovascular disease. More science has revealed "no safe level of lead exposure".

Governments are intent on assuring no more scenarios like Flint. Hence, new laws have been enacted to protect water consumers and deal with the problem of lead water pipes.

IL LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT AND NOTIFICATION ACT

- Mandatory LSLR
- No Partial LSLR
- Inventory
- Plan

LEAD AND COPPER RULE REVISIONS

- Sampling- 5th L, schools, exclusively LSLs.
- Notification- Consumer Confidence Report changes, annual notification if customer has LSL, Sample results and inventory are available upon request.
- Action- Trigger Level, Filters, Find and Fix, Post replacement sampling, LSLR Plan

1st step: Inventory lead service lines in your community.

2nd step: Funding- ARPA, Booker Act, Infrastructure Bill. Pursue 100% forgiveness. There is a lot of funding, but not enough for everyone. First come, first served.

3rd step: Get the lead out. - Public engagement, access agreements, inspections, construction, restoration.

Get in line now, prior to mandatory LSLR in 2027. Eliminate LSLs as an issue without burdening citizens.

Robinson Engineering can help, we know how to do the projects and get the money. We have five LSLR projects out to bid and \$22M in funding approved (43% of state total).