

Morning Call – 8/2/2023

Lead water pipes in your home? Lehigh County Authority is developing a plan to replace them in Allentown

LCA Lead Program Documents

Board of Directors Review
March 25, 2024



Seth Perlman / AP FILE PHOTO

The Lehigh County Authority plans to replace lead service lines in 150 Allentown homes, thanks to a state grant and low-interest loans. (Seth Perlman / AP FILE PHOTO)

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Lead Health Risks

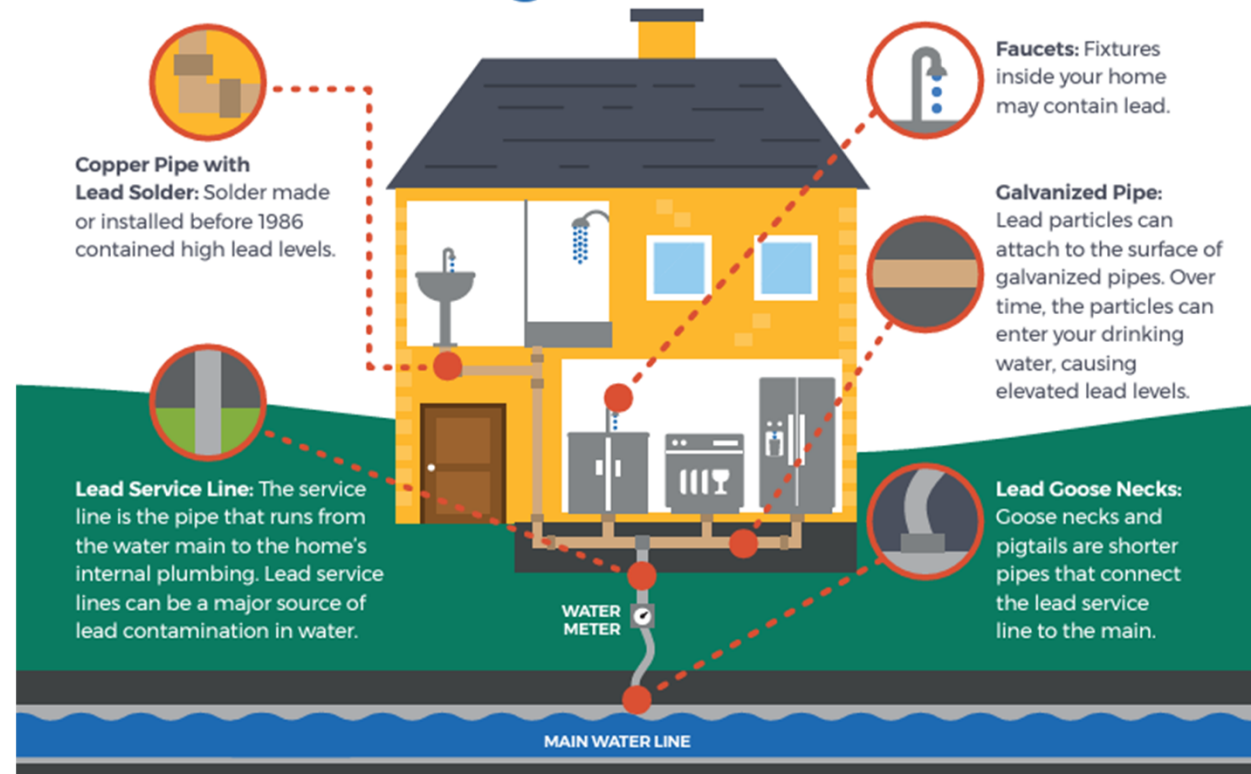
Lead is not naturally found in our water supplies but can get into your drinking water if you have lead pipes or lead solder joints in your home.

Lead is toxic to humans and consuming it through your drinking water can lead to a number of serious health concerns. Exposure to lead poses the greatest risk of health problems to pregnant women and children ages 6 and under, as studies have shown that it can slow normal mental and physical development.



CONCERNED ABOUT LEAD IN YOUR DRINKING WATER?

Sources of LEAD in Drinking Water



Replacing Lead Service Lines - Regulatory Review

EPA Proposed Rule

- New sampling methods
- Lead service line inventory
- **Replacement program**
- Public education
- Risk Mitigation

LCA Lead Service Lines (LSLs)

Allentown Division:

4,700 – public side LSLs

9,000 – public side “unknown”

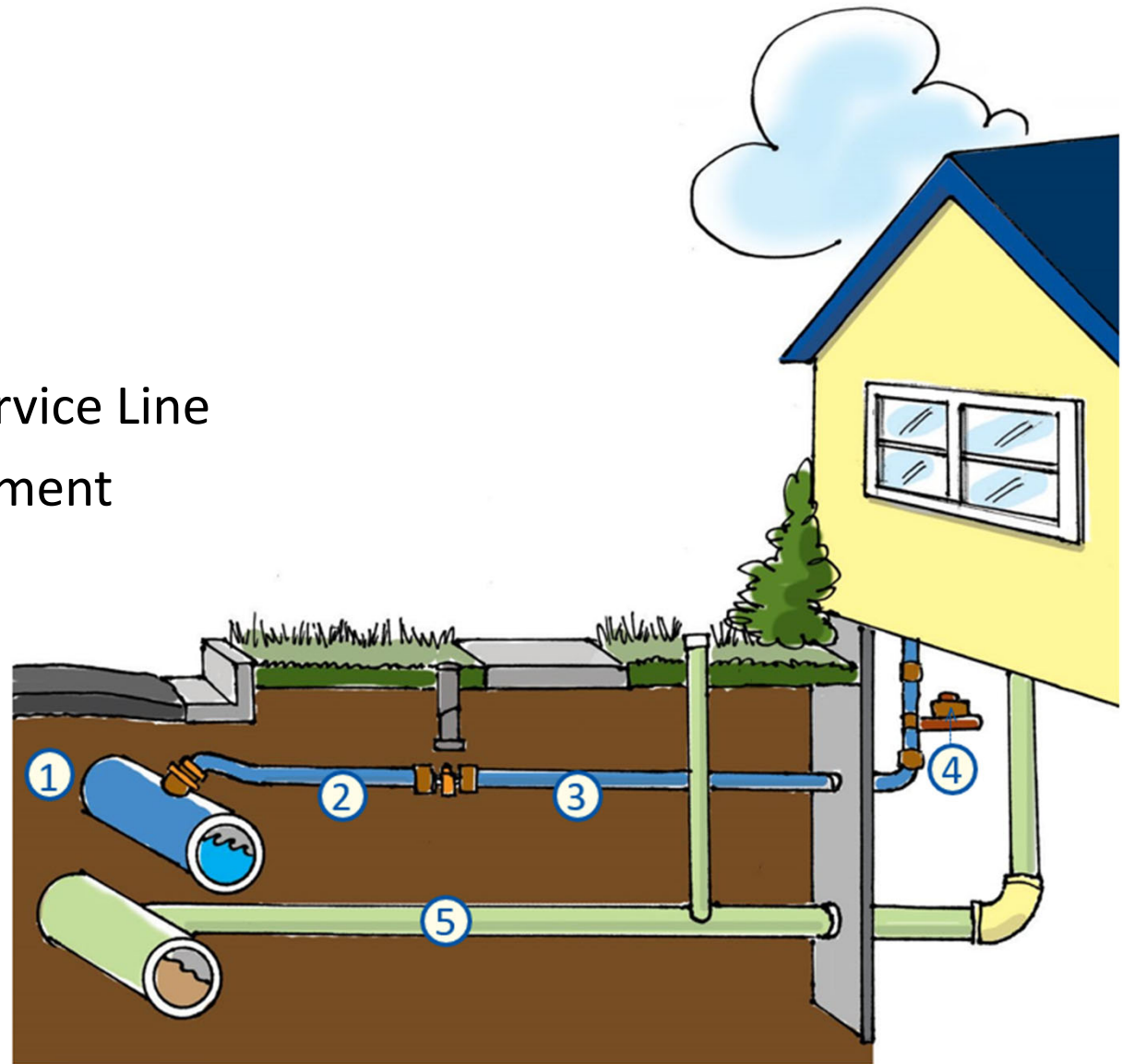
7,700 – private side LSLs

7,000 – private side “unknown”

Suburban Division: TBD

Definitions

- Lead Service Line (LSL)
- Authority vs. Customer Service Line
- Full vs. Partial LSL Replacement





Reducing Public Health Risk

- Partial LSL Replacements → avoid them whenever possible!
- Risk Mitigation Measures → after LSL replaced

Scenarios for LSL Replacement

LCA Sets Schedule & Budget – Grant Funding Available



LSL REPLACEMENT
PROJECT



WATER MAIN
REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Routine Operations



EMERGENCY
MAINTENANCE

Program Documents – LCA Board Review

- Lead Service Line Replacement Policy
 - Establish LCA commitments to replacing LSLs
 - Including privately owned customer service lines
 - Including use of public funds to make it happen
- Customer Agreement – Service Line Replacement
 - LCA and customer responsibilities for LCA to replace a customer service line
 - Requires property owner signature
 - After multiple attempts to gain customer participation, customer may opt out



Learn more: www.lehighcountyauthority.org/leadfree

Customer Notices

[Read the Initial Notice](#) – mailed Nov. 2023

[After service line replacement](#) – Jan. 2024

[Siguiendo la línea de servicio de agua reemplazo](#) – Jan. 2024

Learn about Service Line Responsibilities

View a graphic on [Service Line Responsibilities](#)

Our Vehicles & Inspectors



Schedule an Appointment for Inspection

If you weren't home when we were in your neighborhood you can schedule an inspection on a day that works for you. [Schedule now.](#)

Reduce Lead Exposure from Drinking Water

If you have lead pipes in your home, it is important to take steps to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water. [Learn how.](#)



Thank you!

Discussion / Questions?

