



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

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DRINKING WATER PROGRAM (DWP)

VERY IMPORTANT NOTICE

Get Ready for the Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI)- Compliance Planning

Did you Know DWSRF Funding is available right now on a first-come, first-serve, rolling application basis for identifying unknowns and replacing lead service lines? Communities/Public Water Suppliers are strongly encouraged to submit their applications as soon as possible while funds are available. Applications can be submitted through the SRF Portal. Please contact Kaitlyn Connors, Director of Water Investment, Kaitlyn.Connors2@mass.gov, for more information.

Re: Your PWS has been identified as having lead, GRR and/or unknown service lines. The information in this email is provided to help you prepare for and plan your implementation of the LCRI.

01/05/2026

Dear Public Water Supplier (PWS),

Your PWS is receiving this notification as your reported required Service Line Inventory identifies your PWS as having one or more lead, Galvanized Requiring Replacement (GRR) and/or unknown service lines in your distribution system. See the **Attachment** below for information on how to access your MassDEP and USEPA inventory report information. Under the upcoming USEPA Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) starting November 1, 2027, in addition to identifying all unknowns and replacing all lead and GRR service lines and other actions, your PWS will be required to start standard monitoring under the LCRI if by January 2028, your system's Baseline Service Line Inventory (SLI) contains lead or GRR service lines.

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) Drinking Water Program (DWP) encourages all PWS with lead, GRR and/or unknowns to **get ready and plan for the following requirements, if applicable to your PWS:**

1. **Develop and submit a Lead Service Line Replacement Plan (LSLRP) to MassDEP/DWP by November 1, 2027 (or as soon as possible to access currently available DWSRF funding for LSL**

identification and removal): If your PWS has lead, GRR, and/or Lead Status Unknown service lines, have a plan in place to prioritize identifying unknowns and replacing all lead service lines (both public and privately owned) prior to the LCRI required timeline, if possible. MassDEP DWP has created an LCRI compliant LSLRP Form for PWS to complete here: [LCRI LSLRP Form](#). See the [Preparing for the LCRI Factsheet](#) for more information on the LSLRP.

Please Note: **DWSRF Funding is currently available on a first-come, first-serve, rolling application basis for identifying unknowns and replacing lead service lines. Applications can be submitted through the [SRF Portal](#). Contact Kaitlyn Connors, Director of Water Investment (Kaitlyn.Connors2@mass.gov) for more information.**

2. **Identify/Replace all lead, GRR and unknown service lines by December 31, 2037, or sooner if MassDEP/DWP determines that your PWS can meet a shorter deadline to expedite safe drinking water public health protection compliance (40 CFR 141.84(d)(5)):** This date can only be extended if PWS meet certain criteria including entering into a compliance agreement/ order with MassDEP.

Please Note: Having a LSLRP is the first step for service line replacement and identification. See #1 above for more information.

3. **Return to standard monitoring:** Begin to plan and allocate funding to return to standard monitoring if you meet any of the LCRI standard monitoring criteria, including having lead/GRR service lines, if you are not already on standard monitoring.

Should a PWS be moved to standard monitoring under the LCRI, the PWS must meet the LCRI requirements in the [Preparing for the LCRI Factsheet](#) to apply for a reduced monitoring frequency. Please note that PWS must receive written approval from MassDEP to reduce their monitoring frequency, in addition to meeting the requirements listed below.

4. **24-Hour Tier 1 Public Notice (PN):** In accordance with 310 CMR 22.04(13), prepare a drafted Lead 24-Hour Tier 1 Public Notice (PN) and PN distribution plan in case you exceed the 15-ppb action level. **PWS with a 90th percentile exceeding 10 ppb are strongly encouraged to start thinking about their Tier 1 PN now by developing a pre-approved PN template and distribution plan with their MassDEP regional office ahead of any future exceedance.**
5. **Additional activities required after exceeding the LCRI lead action Level multiple times:** Beginning November 1, 2027, a PWS that exceeds the lead action level (10 ppb) at least three times in a rolling five-year period must conduct additional activities after learning of the third exceedance. See the [Preparing for the LCRI Factsheet](#) for the additional requirements on top of normal activities required when a PWS exceeds the lead 90th percentile under the LCRI.

6. **Corrosion Control Treatment:** Plan your budgeting for any future installation, optimization, or re-optimization of your corrosion control treatment. Under the LCRI, all water systems will be required to install, optimize, or re-optimize optimal corrosion control treatment (OCCT) a minimum of once if they exceed either the lead action level or copper action level, unless they meet certain criteria (40 CFR 141.81(d)(7)) including entering into a compliance agreement/order with MassDEP.
7. **Community Education and Outreach:** Begin working with your community now to educate them on lead and copper and document your activities in the LSLRP mentioned in #1 above. Early outreach helps build trust and ensures that your customers are better prepared should you need to conduct public meetings or provide additional communication if your system exceeds the lead action level once or multiple times under the LCRI. **MassDEP/ DWP encourages all PWS to educate their customers on how to address/remove lead in premise plumbing including copper pipes connected with lead solder.**

Opportunities and Resources to Assist PWS Prepare for the LCRI

Did you know DWSRF Funding is available right now on a first-come, first-serve, rolling application basis for identifying unknowns and replacing lead service lines? Communities are strongly encouraged to submit their applications as soon as possible while funds are available. Applications can be submitted through the [SRF Portal](#). Please contact Kaitlyn Connors, Director of Water Investment, Kaitlyn.Connors2@mass.gov, for more information. PWS must have a Lead Service Line Replacement Plan to receive SRF funding. PWS can get ahead of this requirement by completing the LCRI LSLRP Form before applying: [LCRI LSLRP Form](#).

For more information on Drinking Water funding, visit the MassDEP [Water Resources Grants Financial Assistance](#) website and the [Funding Resources For Public Water Suppliers Communities Quick Reference Guide](#).

Thank you for your commitment to safe drinking water and public health protection. If you have any questions, please contact the MassDEP Drinking Water Program at program.director-dwp@mass.gov or 617-292-5770.

Sincerely,



Yvette DePeiza

Program Director

Drinking Water Program | Boston

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

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MassDEP/DWP Attachment:

How to Access your Service Line Inventory Information

PWS should note that all PWS must have a saved Service Line Inventory (SLI) on file, which is updated as the PWS conducts routine distribution system work, and during work to identify unknowns and replace lead/GRR service lines. If your PWS does not have a copy of your SLI on file, please make sure to download a copy and keep your SLI up to date.

Accessing your SLI Information From MassDEP

Option 1: [Massachusetts Service Line Inventory Map](#)

Instructions:

1. Navigate to the [Massachusetts Service Line Inventory Map](#) webpage. This webpage can be accessed through the provided link, and is also linked to the [Lead and Copper Rule Revisions](#) webpage.
2. Search your PWS ID or PWS Name in the search bar on the right-hand column of the map, in the column with the title “Public Water Systems (PWS) that have submitted their Service Lines Inventories (SLI)”.
3. Select “here” in the sentence “To see the submitted SLI (unless under MassDEP review) click here”.
 - This should bring your PWS to the most recently imported SLI that MassDEP has uploaded to the state database. Please note, if your PWS has submitted an updated SLI recently, it will not be uploaded until the SLI review is completed.

Option 2: [Public Water Supplier Document Search](#)

Instructions:

1. Navigate to the [Public Water Supplier Document Search](#) webpage.
2. Scroll down to the PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM DOCUMENT SEARCH, which is indicated with a blue banner under the Instructions section.
3. Select your PWS ID or PWS Name in the provided fields.
4. Select “Retrieve Documents”.
5. Scroll in the section “Documents Available for Download” until you see the section “Service Line Inventory”.
6. Select the latest download year available; this will bring you to a csv file which can be downloaded.

Accessing your SLI Information From USEPA

Please note the following:

- The information provided by USEPA is updated on a quarterly basis.

- This option will allow your PWS to see the number of service lines your PWS has reported by classification (NON-LEAD, GRR, LEAD, and LEAD STATUS UNKNOWN). This does not provide the full inventory file for download.

Instructions:

1. Select the link: [EPA Service Line Inventory Dashboard](#)
2. If you would like to only review Massachusetts SLIs, go to the lefthand column of the webpage.
 - a. If you are looking for a previous quarter, select a different quarter in the “Submission Year/Quarter” drop down options.
 - b. Select “Region 1” for Region.
 - c. Under “Primacy Agency”, make sure that only “Massachusetts” is selected.
3. Scroll down to “Public Water Systems”.
4. In the search bar, enter either part or the full PWS Name, or your PWS ID. Note, Massachusetts PWS IDs in EPA reporting are labelled with “MA” in front of the PWS ID.

If you have any questions on this information please contact MassDEP Drinking Water Program at program.director-dwp@mass.gov