

Revised Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Regulations for Lead in Water

June 7, 2016

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) recently identified several enhancements to public health protection in support of federal drinking water requirements. These enhancements include seven actions that are intended to reduce the risk of lead in drinking water and that all municipalities and operators of public water systems must implement.

The Village is one of several agencies that play a part in ensuring drinking water is clean and safe. In general, the Village, the DuPage Water Commission and the City of Chicago are delivery agencies, while the federal and state Environmental Protection Agencies are regulatory agencies that establish standards with which the Village and other delivery agencies must comply.

Regulations for testing for lead falls under the [Lead and Copper Rule](#) that was put into place in 1991. Water quality tests are performed by the Village, the DuPage Water Commission and the City of Chicago. The water in the Village of Downers Grove complies with the federal regulations for lead ([water quality report](#)).

The Village is taking steps now to comply with the new IEPA requirements.

IEPA Requirement	Village Target Implementation Date
Reevaluate the testing sites that have been established to ensure they are the best indicators of potential lead contamination	Prior to testing in 2017 unless a new date is set by IEPA
Provide new instructions to sampling sites	Prior to testing in 2017 unless a new date is set by IEPA
Provide additional operational and water quality reports to the IEPA as required	As soon as required by IEPA
Notify affected customers within 10 days if a lead result is above the 15 ppm threshold	The next required testing is 2017
Notify any residents on the block where watermain construction could put them at higher risk of lead exposure. Based on EPA communications, this requires the Village to notify homes built prior to 1986.	June 2016
Meet updated IEPA requirements for notifying all affected water service connections as part of the IEPA permit required prior to watermain construction	June 2016
Make additional information available to customers on the Village's website, including an inventory of known lead service lines	June 2016

Implementing the new requirements will likely have many impacts to the Village and its residents. The likely impacts include:

- Notification of approximately 2,000 residents each year about watermain repair or replacement and the potential impact of elevated lead levels.
- Significant increase in resident inquiries about water testing, risk of exposure to lead, lead service line replacement and other similar topics.
- Significant increase in staff time spent communicating with residents.
- Increase in resident requests for Village financial and technical assistance for service line replacements.
- Increase in the number of service lines replaced.

Community Education Plan

In anticipation of the impact of additional notification requirements, the Village will be proactive in public education. The purpose of the education plan is to provide information to the community in advance of general notification using the letter required by the IEPA.

Key components of the education are:

- General Public Education Plan
 - Hometown Times article in June edition
 - Website top story concurrent with Hometown Times delivery and supporting website information, including FAQs and lead testing information
 - Instructional videos
- Specific targeted communications to residents impacted by watermain construction
 - General letter as required by IEPA during construction projects beginning in late June/early July and going forward. IEPA has provided a suggested letter that will be customized by the Village (provided as an attachment).
 - Specific information for residents whose lines are identified as lead during the construction project.
- Follow-up information for concerned residents, including further instructions for mitigating the risk, including information on replacing lead service lines.

INTRODUCTION

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) has recently identified several enhancements to public health protection in support of federal drinking water requirements. These enhancements include seven actions that all municipalities must implement to comply with state and federal water regulations. The actions are intended to reduce the risk of lead in drinking water.

The report provides information about:

- I. Roles and responsibilities of public agencies participating in the supply of water
- II. The Village of Downers Grove water system
- III. Water quality testing procedures and results
- IV. Recent changes to Illinois EPA requirements
- V. Village implementation and the likely impacts of the new requirements
- VI. Frequently Asked Questions



I. ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES OF AGENCIES

The Village is one of several agencies that play a part in ensuring drinking water is clean and safe. In general, the Village, the DuPage Water Commission and the City of Chicago are delivery agencies, while the federal and state Environmental Protection Agencies (United States EPA and Illinois EPA) are regulatory agencies, which means they set standards with which the Village and other delivery agencies must comply.

Below is a summary of each agency's responsibilities:

- ***United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)*** The USEPA is a federal agency that sets standards for the quality and safety of drinking water. The USEPA has had a Lead and Copper Rule in place since 1991. It sets the standards for excessive lead in water as well as the requirements for testing, notification and mitigation in the case of elevated lead.
- ***Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA)*** The IEPA enforces USEPA guidelines with specific requirements for all municipal water utilities. It also oversees the standards for infrastructure and facilities, including oversight of the source and treatment of water (in this case, Lake Michigan).
- ***City of Chicago*** The City of Chicago is responsible for the initial collection and treatment of water. It collects water two miles off the Lake Michigan shoreline and then, after treatment, manages the system that distributes the water to its own customers and to suburban customers. The City of Chicago performs water quality testing.
- ***DuPage Water Commission (DWC)*** The DWC receives treated water from the City of Chicago and is responsible for the pumping system to deliver it to member municipalities, including the Village of Downers Grove. The DWC performs water quality testing.
- ***Village of Downers Grove*** The Village of Downers Grove purchases water from the DuPage Water Commission. The Village owns and maintains all infrastructure to deliver water. It also authorizes new connections and maintains the metering system for billing users. The Village performs water quality testing.

II. DOWNERS GROVE WATER SYSTEM

The Village operates a water utility, which means that it distributes drinking water to customers, including residents and businesses in Downers Grove. The water utility is self-supporting; it is funded entirely through the water fees paid by customers. Water rates are structured to cover the cost of operating the water system; they are not used for general Village operations.

The Village has the following goals for the water system:

- Provide safe and reliable drinking water
- Operate and maintain the water system in the most cost effective manner
- Achieve stable and sufficient water rates

The Village is one of 23 member municipalities of the DuPage Water Commission (DWC), which purchases and distributes Lake Michigan water from the City of Chicago. The Village has been a DWC member since 1986.

Village of Downers Grove Water System - By the Numbers

The water system infrastructure includes:

- 7 elevated water storage tanks with a storage capacity of 8 million gallons
- 6 rate control stations
- Over 233 miles of water distribution main
- 2,800 fire hydrants
- 2,800 main line valves
- Automated control system, referred to as SCADA

Lake Michigan Comes to You

A Summary of the Water Delivery Process by the DuPage Water Commission

The Long Journey Begins

The water's journey begins two miles off the Chicago shoreline in Lake Michigan at water intake structures called "cribs." These cribs, located in 35-foot deep water, have served the Chicagoland area since their construction about 100 years ago.

Lake Michigan water enters the cribs through openings 20 feet below the lake's surface. The water rises around the outside of a large pipe inside the crib then flows through a 20 foot diameter tunnel to the James W. Jardine Water Purification Plant, the largest water treatment plant in the world, located just north of Chicago's Navy Pier.

Upon reaching the plant, the water is pumped to a height of about 20 feet above lake level. Water flows, by gravity, through the chemical application channels and basins of the plant. In the first treatment channel, chemicals like alum are added to collect and remove impurities from the water. Then, powdered activated carbon is added as necessary to improve taste and remove odors, enhancing the quality of the water.

Next, the water flows into chambers called flocculation basins. Here large paddles stir the water slowly to form flocs, clusters of impurities that look like snowflakes. The water then moves to the settling basin, where these flocs sink to the bottom and are removed.

The final steps in the purification process take place in the filtration chamber where filters trap any remaining impurities. Chlorine and fluoride are then added: chlorine to kill bacteria, fluoride to help tooth decay. The water then flows to reservoirs where it is stored until needed. This filtration and purification process takes approximately eight hours, producing water that meets or exceeds all water quality standards established by federal and state agencies

The DuPage Connection

Treated water leaves the reservoirs at the Jardine Plant and flows to eight pumping stations located throughout Chicago. The water serving DuPage County initially flows to the Central Park Pumping Station. Central Park is where the Commission first tapped into the Chicago lake water supply.

The Commission added 2.4 miles of a 12 foot diameter tunnel to the City's distribution system. This was constructed through limestone, 150 feet below the surface. The tunnel ends at the Lexington Pumping Station, located at Lexington and Laramie, near Chicago's western city limits. The Lexington Station and the tunnel connecting it to the Central Park Station were constructed for the City of Chicago by the Commission under a buy back agreement.

The Lexington Pumping Station is one of the largest treated water pumping station in the State of Illinois. Excavating all the way down into bedrock, 90 feet deep, the construction of this station took 36 months to complete. Currently, the station can pump 220 million gallons of water per day. With modifications, it will be capable of pumping even more when required in the future.

There are eight pumps that send water to DuPage County. Each pump has a daily capacity of 37 million gallons. In addition, two 120 million gallon per day pumps are used to fill a 30 million gallon reservoir just east of the station. The reservoir water supplements the City's tunnel system during high demand periods. Each of the large pumps, by itself, could fill the reservoir in

about six hours.

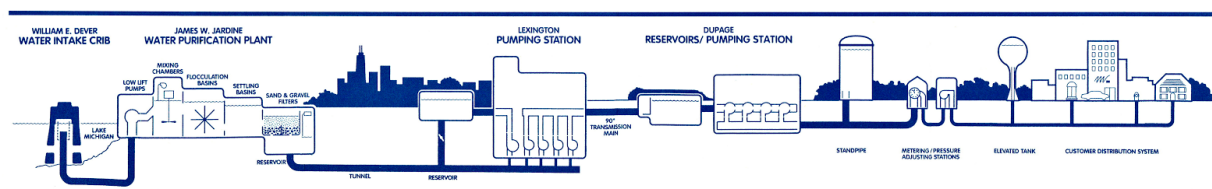
The Lexington Pumping Station draws water from two 96-inch diameter pipes connected to the end of the 12-foot diameter tunnel. The eight 37 million gallon per day pumps push the water up to the discharge pipes. The water then continues its journey to DuPage County through a 90-inch and a 72-inch diameter water transmission main. These mains, constructed by the Commission, transport water west to the reservoirs at the DuPage Pumping Station in Elmhurst.

The treated water travels 9.3 miles from the Lexington Pumping Station to the DuPage Pumping Station. This facility houses the administrative offices of the DuPage Water Commission. The DuPage Station's nine distribution pumps have a pumping capacity of 185 million gallons of water per day. The station's reservoir, like the Lexington Station's reservoir, holds 30 million gallons. The complex control center is equipped with sophisticated computers that monitor the delivery of water through more than 185 miles of transmission and feeder mains to the Commission's wholesale customers.

Each Utility Controls Its Own Supply

After leaving the pumping station, the water flows through the distribution pipes to storage tanks and metering stations serving the Commission's wholesale customers. Once it travels ten feet beyond these metering stations, the water becomes the property of the receiving utility.

Each wholesale customer owns and operates pressure adjusting stations to increase or decrease the water pressure it needs for its own particular water works system. After leaving the pressure adjusting stations, water flows to local distribution systems where it is used for commercial and industrial purposes, as well as for fire fighting and residential consumption.



The Village water distribution system connects to individual customers using a service line. There are two sections in each line, separated by a buffalo box (b-box), also known as a curb stop. The first portion of the service line extends from the watermain through the buffalo box, which is a valve usually located in the street right-of-way in front of the house. The second portion extends from the b-box into the house.

Most service lines were installed at the time the home was constructed. Some were installed in conjunction with a significant remodel or addition to a house. In many old homes, these are often lead pipes. In some cases, the service lines have been replaced by the owners.

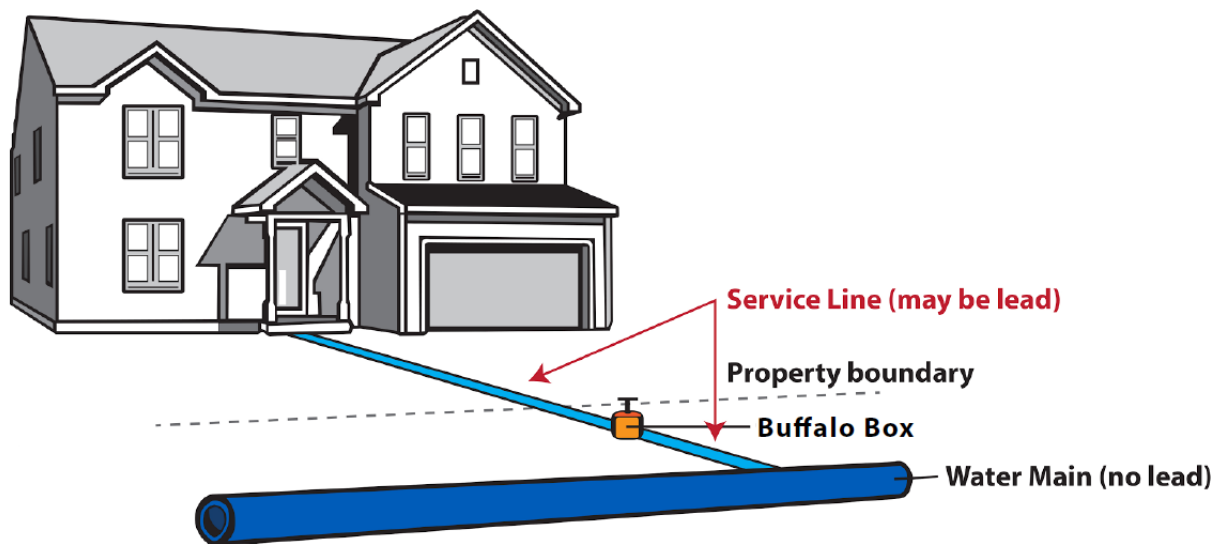


Image Source: Milwaukee.gov

- Homes built **prior to 1930** most likely have lead water service lines (unless upgraded during a remodel).
- Homes built **between 1930 and 1960** might possibly have lead service lines.
- Homes built **after 1960** are likely to have copper service lines.

Between 1960 and 1980, plumbers began using copper rather than lead, but some lead pipe was still installed. The service line to homes built after 1980 was constructed of copper. A homeowner can look at the pipe material prior to water meter to determine the type of pipe. Lead pipe will have a grey color whereas copper pipe is dark orange in color.

These are general rules based on historic trends and should not be used as a definitive guide to whether a home has a lead service line. The only way a homeowner can identify if their home has a lead service line would be to check themselves using a guide with pictures, or to hire a licensed plumber to check for a lead line.

The Village does not maintain records about the type of water service in each home; however, based on the age and condition of the housing stock in the Village, it is estimated that 1,500 to 2,000 properties may have lead services. When the Village replaces water mains the portion of all services between the watermain and the buffalo box are replaced with copper pipes as part of the project.

Lead service lines are generally a dull gray color and are very soft. They can be easily identified by carefully scratching with a key. If the pipe is made of lead, the scratched area will turn a bright silver color.



A lead pipe can be easily scratched with a key



Lead service lines often have a "bulb" shaped connection

Regulations related to lead in drinking water have focused in the past on treating water to make it less corrosive. The City of Chicago adds phosphate to water, which reduces its corrosivity, coats the lead pipes and prevents lead from leaching into the water. The USEPA recently completed a [study](#) that shows that this lining may be disrupted by watermain construction projects. As a result, water that is delivered to the customer free of elevated lead levels may be contaminated when it passes through the customer's lead service line. The IEPA has made it the responsibility of the community water suppliers, such as the Village, to notify water customers of the potential for an elevated lead level when construction occurs.



Jardine Water Purification Plant in Chicago

III. WATER QUALITY TESTING

Regulations for testing for lead falls under the [Lead and Copper Rule](#) that was put into place in 1991. Water quality tests are performed by the Village, the DuPage Water Commission and the City of Chicago. The test reports are available here:

[Village of Downers Grove](#)

[DuPage Water Commission](#)

[City of Chicago](#)

Based on IEPA rules, the Village began testing for lead with 60 sample sites located throughout the Village. Because the Village has complied with the requirements for lead levels, the required number of sites was reduced to 30 sites. The Village continues to monitor 30 sites every three years, as required by the USEPA. The threshold for lead is 15 parts per million (ppm). As long as 10% or less of the samples do not exceed the 15 ppm level, the Village is compliant with regulations.

There are three tiers of monitoring sites according to the USEPA. Primarily the testing is aimed at homes with lead service lines (the first tier). Downers Grove distributes lead sample bottles to the residents at the 30 sites around town. The resident is responsible for collecting the sample, because it needs to be the first draw of water in the morning after the water has been sitting in the lead service line pipe for at least 6 hours. The Village collects the samples from the resident and take them to the lab to be analyzed.

In the last sampling period in 2014, the Village had one home that had ~22 ppm of lead, the threshold is 15 ppm. This was the only home that had levels above the USEPA limit. One of 30 is approximately 3%, which does not exceed the lead limit. That was the first time for that site the limit was exceeded. All of the others sites came back with levels below 5 ppm, which is the lowest level the test can detect for the Lead and Copper rule.

IV. NEW IEPA REQUIREMENTS

In response to the Flint, Michigan water crisis, the IEPA has updated several of its regulations related to testing and public notification. Current lead testing programs require the Village to test on a three-year cycle at locations approved by the IEPA. Samples were last taken in 2014 and will next be taken in 2017.

The IEPA notified the Village of new regulations related to lead. The new regulations apply to ALL municipalities that have water utilities. There are two primary areas:

1. New testing requirements
2. New proactive communications requirements and public information requirements

New Testing Requirements

Under the new testing requirements, the Village must do the following:

- Reevaluate the testing sites that have been established to ensure they are the best indicators of potential lead contamination. This will be audited by the IEPA.
- Provide new instructions to sampling sites that are intended to reduce the risk of a false negative.
- Provide additional operational and water quality reports to the IEPA as required by their monitoring program.

New Proactive Communications and Public Information

- Notify affected customers within 10 days if a lead result is above the 15 ppm threshold and provide appropriate support. Encourage those customers that see repeated high lead levels to replace plumbing or service lines containing lead.
- Notify residents in homes built prior to 1986 on the block where watermain construction could put them at higher risk of lead exposure. Provide them with information to reduce the risk immediately (flush their lines and use other precautions) or reduce the long-term risk by replacing a lead service line.
- Meet updated IEPA requirements for notifying all affected water service connections as part of the IEPA permit required prior to watermain construction.
- Make additional information available to customers on the Village's website, including an inventory of known lead service lines.

V. VILLAGE IMPLEMENTATION & LIKELY IMPACTS

The Village is taking steps now to comply with the new IEPA requirements. The schedule for implementation is outlined in the table below.

New Requirement Implementation Schedule

IEPA Requirement	Village Target Implementation Date
Reevaluate the testing sites that have been established to ensure they are the best indicators of potential lead contamination	Prior to testing in 2017 unless a new date is set by IEPA
Provide new instructions to sampling sites	Prior to testing in 2017 unless a new date is set by IEPA
Provide additional operational and water quality reports to the IEPA as required	As soon as required by IEPA
Notify affected customers within 10 days if a lead result is above the 15 ppm threshold	The next required testing is 2017
Notify residents in homes built prior to 1986 on the block where watermain construction could put them at higher risk of lead exposure	June 2016
Meet updated IEPA requirements for notifying all affected water service connections as part of the IEPA permit required prior to watermain construction	June 2016
Make additional information available to customers on the Village's website, including an inventory of known lead service lines	June 2016

Implementing the new requirements will likely have many impacts to the Village and its residents. The likely impacts include:

- Notification of approximately 2,000 residents each year about watermain repair or replacement and the potential impact of elevated lead levels.
- Significant increase in resident inquiries about water testing, risk of exposure to lead, lead service line replacement and other similar topics.
- Significant increase in staff time spent communicating with residents.
- Increase in resident requests for financial and technical assistance for service line replacements.

- Increase in the number of service lines replaced.

Notification to Residents as Part of Watermain Replacements & Repairs and Posting of Information on Website

The new requirements related to communication and public information require that all homes built prior to 1986 “within the block where water main repair/replacement is planned” be notified of the planned work. The IEPA has not responded to requests for clarification, but it is staff’s understanding this notice applies to watermain construction projects, new watermain installation, the repair of watermain breaks and the replacement of meters.

The Village has nine watermain replacement projects scheduled in 2016 (see attached). As part of the new regulations, the Village will begin notifying residents prior to construction. In addition to Village initiated construction, there are also water construction projects related to private improvements. An example of this is the proposed Nelson Meadows subdivision. Similar to public improvements, notice will be required to be sent to customers in the vicinity of projects such as this. **Based on the construction work anticipated for 2016, it is estimated that several hundred water customers will receive this notice.**

The Village performs a variety of repairs to the water system. Over the past five years, the Village has averaged 75 watermain breaks per year. The majority of the time water must be shut off in order for the repair to be made. The typical number of customers to have their water shut off because of a water main break repair is about 25. **Therefore, on an annual basis, about 1,875 customers will have their water shut off due to a watermain repair.**

In addition to the individual notices to be delivered to homeowners, the IEPA is requiring that additional information related to lead be made available on community websites. The IEPA is also requiring that all communication to customers recommend that they consider replacing their lead services. Additional information will be made available on the Village’s website in compliance with the IEPA regulations.

Community Education Plan

In anticipation of the impact of additional notification requirements, the Village will be proactive in public education. The purpose of the education plan is to provide information to the community in advance of general notification using the letter required by the IEPA.

Key components of the education are:

- General Public Education Plan
 - Hometown Times article in June edition
 - Website top story concurrent with Hometown Times delivery and supporting website information, including FAQs and lead testing information

- Instructional videos
- Specific targeted communications to residents impacted by watermain construction
 - General letter as required by IEPA during construction projects beginning in late June/early July and going forward. IEPA has provided a suggested letter that will be customized by the Village (provided as attachment).
 - Specific information for residents whose lines are identified as lead during the construction project.
- Follow-up information for concerned residents, including further instructions for mitigating the risk, including information on replacing lead service lines

Increase in Resident Inquiries and Time Spent Communicating with Residents

With the significant increase in the number of residents notified about risk of lead in the drinking water, staff expects that many residents will contact the Village with questions related to water testing, risk of exposure to lead, lead service line replacement and other similar topics. Staff will respond to all resident inquiries and requests for service. Additional time and resources will likely be required in this area.

Increase in the Number of Service Lines Replaced & Requests for Village Financial & Technical Assistance

With the significant increase in the number of residents notified about risk of lead in the drinking water due to lead service lines, staff expects an increase in the number of water service line replacements. Approximately 85 to 120 water service lines are replaced each year. Staff expects that this number could increase. When replacing the private water service line, the resident is required to replace the connection to the watermain.

A resident seeking to replace a water service is required to obtain permits from the Village for the water connection and for work in the public right of way. The water connection permit includes a tap fee and an inspection fee totalling approximately \$400 for a one (1) inch service. When work is done in the parkway a right of way permit must also be obtained. This permit requires the posting of a minimum \$1,000 refundable bond.

The cost of replacing a water service varies significantly depending upon the length of the service and disturbance to paved areas and landscaping. In most cases, it will cost a homeowner \$5,500-\$7,500 to install a new water service line from the house to the watermain.

The Village replaces the portion of all water service lines from the main to the buffalo box when it completes a watermain construction project. Therefore, the Village will be able to notify residents whose lines are specifically identified as having lead during watermain construction projects.

The planned Water Fund budget does not include funding for large-scale replacement of the public or private portion of service lines. The total cost to reconstruct private service lines ranges from \$8.25 million to \$15 million. The Village's current plan for water rates provides for approximately \$3 million in capital projects annually. Staff would reevaluate planned projects expect that some projects would have to be reduced in scope or deferred to pay for this work. It is difficult to project how many people might want to undertake this work.

Estimated Cost of Replacing a Service Line

	Resident Cost
Tap & Inspection Fee	\$400
Construction	\$5,500 to \$7,500
Total	\$5,900 to \$7,900
Right of Way Bond (Refundable)	\$1,000

VI. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Does the Village test the drinking water for lead?

Yes. Based on IEPA rules, the Village began testing for lead with 60 samples sites located throughout the Village. Because the Village has complied with the requirements for lead levels, the required number of sites was reduced to 30 sites. The Village continues to monitor 30 sites every 3 years as required by the EPA. The threshold is 15 parts per million.

What are the results of the testing?

In the last sampling period in 2014, the Village had one home that had ~22 ppm of lead, the threshold is 15 ppm. This was the only home that had levels above the EPA limit. One of 30 is approximately 3%, which does not exceed the lead limit of 10%. That was the first time for that site the limit was exceeded. All of the others sites came back with levels below 5 ppm, which is the lowest level the test can detect for the Lead and Copper rule. The complete water quality report can be found here:

<http://www.downers.us/res/water/water-quality>

Can the water in my house be tested?

Yes. The Village does not have an in-house laboratory and uses Suburban Labs of Geneva, Illinois to perform its required testing. Village staff has referred residents who are interested in testing their water to Suburban Labs. The cost of an analysis for lead is approximately \$40.

What can I do to reduce the risk of lead in the water?

The Chicago Water Department, the agency that treats the water provided by the DuPage Water Commission, is adding blended phosphates for corrosion control to comply with the Lead and Copper Rule.

What can residents do to reduce exposure to lead?

- Use only fresh water from the cold water tap for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula. If a faucet has not been used for more than 6 hours, get fresh water from the main. Run the cold water faucet until the water is noticeably colder (usually about 15-30 seconds).
- If you need hot water for drinking or cooking, draw fresh water from the cold water tap and heat it.
- Use only lead-free solder when making plumbing repairs. It's the law: Illinois banned the use of lead-based solder in water systems in 1988.
- When selecting a new faucet, check the label for information on lead content or lead leaching potential.

If work is done on a private water service, the American Water Works Association (AWWA) recommends to flush all your faucets using these steps to minimize exposure to any lead that may have been released.

- Remove faucet aerators from all cold water taps in the home.
- Beginning in the lowest level of the home, fully open the cold water taps throughout the home.
- Let the water run for at least 30 minutes at the last tap you opened (top floor).
- Turn off each tap starting with the taps in the highest level of the home. Be sure to run water in bathtubs and showers as well as faucets.
- Do not consume tap water, open hot water faucets, or use icemaker or filtered water dispenser until after flushing is complete.

Customers may also wish to use a home filter for water to be used for drinking and cooking.

Do I have a lead service line?

The only way a homeowner can identify if their home has a lead service line would be to check themselves using a guide with pictures, or to hire a licensed plumber to check for a lead line.

Lead service lines are generally a dull gray color and are very soft. They can be easily identified by carefully scratching with a key. If the pipe is made of lead, the scratched area will turn a bright silver color. **Do not use a knife** or other sharp instrument and take care not to puncture a hole in the pipe.



A lead pipe can be easily scratched with a key (2)



Lead service lines often have a "bulb" shaped connection (3)

Can I replace a lead service line?

Yes. Residents wishing to replace a water service line should contact a licensed plumber to perform the work. Replacement of a water service is requires a permit from the Village for the water connection and for work in the public right of way. The water connection permit includes a tap fee and an inspection fee totalling approximately \$400 for a one (1) inch service. When work is done in the

parkway a right of way permit must also be obtained. This permit requires the posting of a \$1,000 refundable bond.

How much does it cost to replace a lead service line?

The cost of replacing a water service varies significantly depending upon the length of the service and disturbance to paved areas and landscaping. In most cases, it will cost a homeowner \$5,500-\$7,500 to install a new water service line from the house to the watermain.

ATTACHMENTS

List of Planned Watermain Projects
IEPA Lead Information Letter

Planned Improvements for 2016

2016 water main replacements are scheduled for the following street segments:

Grand Avenue from Burlington Ave to Hill St

Grant Street from Linscott Ave to Prince St

Lincoln Avenue from Douglas Rd to Fairview Ave

Indianapolis Avenue from Douglas Rd to Fairview Ave

Florence Avenue from 75th St to 77th St

Dunham Road from 63rd St to Norfolk St

Webster Street from Valley View Dr to Jay Dr

Jay Drive from Webster St to Lyman Ave

Lyman Avenue from Jay Dr to Valley View Dr

Lead Informational Notice

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Dear Water Customer:

Today's Date: _____

Our water system will soon begin a water line maintenance and/or construction project that may affect the lead content of your potable water supply. Lead, a metal found in natural deposits, is harmful to human health. The most common exposure to lead is swallowing or breathing in lead paint chips and dust. However, lead in drinking water can also be a source of lead exposure. In the past, lead was used in some water service lines and household plumbing materials. Lead in water usually occurs through corrosion of plumbing products containing lead; however, disruption (construction or maintenance) of lead service lines may also temporarily increase lead levels in the water supply. This disruption may be sometimes caused by water main maintenance/replacement. As of June 19, 1986, new or replaced water serviced lines and new household plumbing materials could not contain more than 8% lead. Lead content was further reduced on January 4, 2014, when plumbing materials must now be certified as "lead-free" to be used (weighted average of wetted surface cannot be more than 0.25% lead).

The purpose of this notice is for informational purposes only. While it's not known for certain whether or not this particular construction project will adversely affect the lead (if present) plumbing in and outside your home, below describes some information about the project and some preventative measures you can take to help reduce the amount of lead in drinking water.

Project Start Date: _____ Project expected to be completed by: _____

Project location and description:

What you can do to reduce lead exposure in drinking water during this construction project:

Run your water to flush out lead. If the plumbing in your home is accessible; you may be able to inspect your own plumbing to determine whether or not you have a lead service line. Otherwise, you will most likely have to hire a plumber.

- If you do not have a lead service line, running the water for 1 – 2 minutes at the kitchen tap should clear the lead from your household plumbing to the kitchen tap. Once you have done this, fill a container with water and store it in the refrigerator for drinking, cooking, and preparing baby formula throughout the day.
- If you do have a lead service line, flushing times can vary based on the length of your lead service line and the plumbing configuration in your home. The length of lead service lines varies considerably. Flushing for at least 3 – 5 minutes is recommended.

Use cold water for drinking, cooking, and preparing baby formula. Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap; lead dissolves more easily into hot water. Do not use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula.

Look for alternative sources or treatment of water. You may want to consider purchasing bottled water or a water filter that is certified to remove "total lead".

Clean and remove any debris from faucet aerators on a regular basis.

Do not boil water to remove lead. Boiling water will not reduce lead.

Purchase lead-free faucets and plumbing components.

Remove the entire lead service line.

Test your water for lead. Call us at: _____ to find out how to get your water tested for lead.

While we do not do the testing, we can provide a list of laboratories certified to do the testing. Laboratories will send you the bottles for sample collection. Please note that we are not affiliated with the laboratories and they will charge you a fee.

- If test results indicate a lead level above 15 ug/L, bottled water should be used by pregnant women, breast-feeding women, young children, and formula-fed infants.