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Subject Free Technical Assistance: MassDEP Service Line Inventory & Lead Service Line Replacement Plan for Small PWS

Important Notice on Free Technical Assistance: MassDEP Service Line Inventory & Lead Service Line Replacement Plan for Small PWS

Survey is available for eligible PWS to notify MassDEP of their interest in receiving technical assistance for the service line inventory and lead service line replacement plan LCRR requirements.

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Dear Public Water Suppliers,

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) is announcing a new free Assistance Program which will provide technical assistance to small Community (COM) and Non-Transient, Non-Community (NTNC) Public Water Systems (PWS) serving less than 10,000 individuals for Service Line Inventory (SLI) and Lead Service Line Replacement Plan (LSLRP) development ahead of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) requirements.

USEPA's LCRR requires that all PWS develop a SLI by October 16, 2024, which must include both the utility- and privately-owned portions of the service lines. All PWS with lead service lines, galvanized service lines requiring replacement, or service lines of "unknown" material must additionally develop a LSLRP by the deadline. MassDEP recognizes that these are challenging tasks for small PWS

and therefore has developed the SLI and LSLRP Assistance Program to provide support to small PWS as they work to comply with the LCRR.

To support MassDEP's public health protection planning goal of removing all lead service lines within five years, MassDEP is working with its partner the University of Massachusetts, Amherst (UMass) and selected qualified environmental consulting firms to provide the free technical assistance to small PWS to develop and submit their LCRR required SLIs and LSLRPs. This Assistance Program is funded from the Lead Service Line Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) grant small systems set-aside funds. Congress made this funding available specifically for small PWS assistance.

WHAT TO DO TO GET TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE?

Small PWS must notify MassDEP of their interest in this technical assistance and provide an update on how they are preparing for the LCRR requirements by submitting **the survey form located [here](#)**. PWS will be contacted, and technical assistance will be provided virtually or in person, depending on need and resources.

WHAT ASSISTANCE WILL BE PROVIDED?

1) Service Line Inventory Assistance – Small PWS will be provided with assistance in completing a SLI that will meet both federal and state LCRR requirements. Assistance will consist of help with:

- * compiling and validating service line records,
- * developing a public outreach strategy encouraging customers to report their service line materials and providing general information about lead health effects and lead service lines,
- * combining and digitizing inventory records for appropriate submittal to MassDEP, and
- * making the inventory publicly available online.

2) Lead Service Line Replacement Plan Assistance – Small PWS will be provided with assistance in establishing a proactive and comprehensive LSLRP. The replacement plan will include but not be limited to:

- * a plan to identify the composition of service lines of unknown material,
- * a procedure for conducting lead service line replacement,
- * a customer outreach strategy,
- * risk management policies,
- * a prioritization strategy for service line replacement, and
- * a funding strategy to accommodate customers unable to replace their portion of the line.

MassDEP is committed to continuing efforts to address lead service lines and exposure to lead in drinking water and to work with PWS to meet the MassDEP public health protection goal of removing all lead service lines in five years.

For more information about lead in drinking water and MassDEP's efforts to address these contaminants, [click here](#). For more information on preparing for the LCRR, [click here](#). If you have further questions about the Assistance Program, please contact MassDEP's Drinking Water Program at program.director-dwp@mass.gov (Subject: Lead Service Line Assistance Program) or 617-292-5770.

Thank you for your interest in this work to inventory and replace lead service lines in your service areas and to protect public health throughout the Commonwealth.

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