Lead Service Line Replacement Grant (LSLR) Program
The purpose of the Lead Service Line Replacement (LSLR) Program

Who is eligible

How the LSLR Program works
HOW DID WE GET HERE?
Timeline and Purpose

In 1986
Safe Drinking Water Act
Lead Ban

In 1992
Targeted monitoring of specific locations

LSLR Program Purpose:

To help offset the cost of lead service line replacements for property owners and remove sources of lead from the City’s Water Distribution System.
Timeline and Purpose

In 2018 LSLR Program began

In 2019 LSLR Program continued

In 2022 LSLR Program continues

322 LSLR completed to date
How would I know if I may have a lead or galvanized piping?
Identifying Lead Pipe

Identifying a Lead Service Line:
- Lead piping is soft, dull, and silvery gray in color.
- A magnet will not stick to a lead pipe.
- There is a bulb-looking section near connections.
- If unsure, perform a Scrape Test.

Scrape Test Procedure:
1. Grab a coin, like a penny.
2. Scratch the pipe with a coin. If the scraped area is shiny silver and flakes off, it is lead.
Identifying a Galvanized Service Line:

- Galvanized piping is **rigid**, dull, and silvery gray in color.
- A magnet **will** stick to a galvanized pipe.
- If unsure, perform a Magnet Test.

*Magnet Test Procedure:*

1. Grab a strong magnet.
2. Place the magnet on the pipe, if it's sticks, it's **galvanized**.
WHO QUALIFIES FOR THE LSLR PROGRAM?
Eligibility

Must be in the City

Must have a lead service line

Must have a galvanized service line

Must not be in arrears with the City

You are eligible
HOW DOES THE LSLR PROGRAM WORK?
Administration of the Program

- Program administration by the **Department of Public Utilities (DPU) Development Services**

- Reimbursement cost for lead or galvanized water service lines on private properties

- **NO** internal plumbing replacement cost covered by the LSLR Program

- The **Department of Housing and Community Development** can assist homeowners with replacement costs for internal lead or galvanized plumbing through the **Healthy Homes Program**
Certified Plumbers

- DPU conducts **Plumber’s Certification Training** sessions for the LSLR Program.

- Proper documentation of the replacement work is needed for reimbursement.

- A list of **Certified Plumbers** can be found on the City’s website.

- **Only Certified Plumbers are authorized** to do work for the LSLR Program.
LSLR Program Process

1. Application submitted by Owner
2. Grant Acceptance Letter with Agreed LSLR Cost to Owner
3. Executed Agreement and Water Filter Flyer
4. Notice to Proceed Letter to Plumber and Flushing Procedure Flyer
5. Plumber performs and documents the work
6. Plumber submits documentation of the work for Reimbursement to DPU
7. DPU reviews and approved Reimbursement Package
8. Plumber is reimbursed by DPU
Application Submitted by Owner

• Homeowner chooses, contacts, and schedules an onsite visit with a Certified Plumber

• If the presence of lead or galvanized pipe is confirmed, the plumber will provide the following items to the homeowner to submit with the LSLR Application:
  – A photo documentation as evidence of lead or galvanized piping in the property
  – A photo of the front exterior of the home for location verification
  – An itemized cost estimate for the replacement work
Grant Acceptance Letter and Agreed LSLR Cost to Owner

- DPU reviews the application package once submitted by the homeowner

- The review process can take up to **14 business days**

- If accepted, a **Grant Acceptance Letter** is issued to the property owner with an **Agreed LSLR Cost** for the replacement work. The Certified Plumber is copied on the correspondence as well as the **Department of Housing and Community Development**.

- The **Grant Acceptance Letter** does not authorize you or the Certified Plumber to begin work.

- **Grant Acceptance Letter** to include:
  - Confirmation of eligibility, presence of lead or galvanized pipe, and **Agreed LSLR Cost** for replacement work
  - City Document: **Owner – Plumber Agreement**
  - **A Water Filter Flyer**
The Agreement and Water Filter Flyer

• **Owner – Plumber Agreement** to be executed and returned to DPU. It outlines what the Owner and Plumber agree to do as participants of the LSLR Program.

• **Water Filter Flyer**
  – City supplies a **free** water pitcher and filter
  – The water filter is NSF/ANSI 42 & 53 certified.
  – **6 months recommended use** after replacement work
  – **Use water filter for drinking and cooking**
  – Flyer includes instructions and helpful tips on the cleaning and usage of the water pitcher and filter.
  – **Use only cold water** when filling the water filter
  – **Free** replacement filters for the **first 6 months**
Notice to Proceed Letter

• Upon receipt of executed Agreement DPU will issue a **Notice to Proceed Letter**. The homeowner will be copied on this correspondence.

• **Notice to Proceed Letter** to include:
  – Guidance of whether coordination with DPU Water Maintenance is required for a full-service line replacement
  – VDH Document: **Contractor Compliance Certification Statement**
  – A **Flushing Procedure Flyer**
Flushing Procedure Flyer

- Six steps to conduct the initial flushing on all pipes in the home immediately after replacement work is completed.

- Additional steps to reduce risk of lead exposure after the initial flush.

- Initial flushing: 30 minutes

- City advises not to use hot water to prevent sedimentation of lead particles in hot water tanks.

- Contact the City’s Housing and Community Development Department to inquire if your hot water tank is eligible for replacement at no cost to you through the Healthy Homes Program.

- Use water filter for purposes of drinking and cooking; only use cold water when filling your water filter.
Certified Plumber Performs and Documents the Work

- **Certified Plumber** will schedule a date for the replacement work.
- DPU may be present if a full-service line replacement is required.
- If DPU is present, a separate flushing procedure will be conducted by DPU and the Plumber for the portion of water service line underground.
- This flushing is required by the American Water Works Association Standards.
- The flushing will last a minimum of **10 minutes at maximum water velocity**.
- This flushing is **in addition to** the flushing to be conducted by the homeowner or tenant for the internal piping in the home.
Examples of Documentation of Work

Picture of Home and Location of Meter

Excavation of Water Service – Ex. Lead

Excavation of Water Service – Replaced

Water Meter

Before City: Lead
Owner: Lead

After City: Copper
Owner: Poly
Examples of Documentation of Work

Front Picture of Home

Rear Picture Location of Meter

Location of Meter in Rear of Home
Examples of Documentation of Work

Before
City: Copper
Owner: Lead

Closeup of Lead Service

After
City: Copper
Owner: Poly

Closeup of Replaced Service
Examples of Documentation of Work

Closeup of Lead Service

Closeup of Replaced Service
Examples of Documentation of Work

Closeup of Lead Service

Lead Pipe

Isolation valve in home

Closeup of Replaced Service

Isolation valve in home

Previous location of lead pipe

New Copper Pipe
Documentation for Reimbursement to DPU

Upon completion of the work, Plumber to complete and submit:

- **Contractor Compliance Certification Statement** with required documents by the form

- Pre- and Post-Construction Photos of the outside and inside of the home

- Plumbing Permit

- Itemized Invoice – Invoice should match the **Agreed LSLR Cost Estimate**.

**PLEASE NOTE**

If additional costs are incurred due to changes in field conditions, the Plumber must provide photo documentation and written explanation of the upcharge. All charges beyond the **Agreed LSLR Cost Estimate** are subject to City review and approval prior to reimbursement.
Reimbursement Package Review and Approval by DPU

• DPU reviews package submitted by Plumber for:
  – Completion of Contractor Compliance Certification Statement
  – Submission of Pre-and post- Construction Photos
  – Copy of Plumbing Permit
  – Complete Itemized Invoice

• This review process can take up to 14 business days
Plumber is Reimbursed by DPU

- Once the reimbursement package is approved, a requisition for payment to DPU Finance Office is submitted
- Payment may take up to 30 business days

THE LSLR PROGRAM PROCESS IS COMPLETE!
Related City Funding Programs

**Healthy Homes**
Contact: Department of Housing and Community Development
Telephone: 804-646-1766 or
Email: Don.Grivetti@rva.gov

**MetroCare**
Contact: Department of Public Utilities
Telephone: 804-646-4646 or
Email: Nicole.Street@rva.gov
Contact Development Services:
Telephone: 804-646-8544 or
Email: DPU.DevelopmentServices@rva.gov