



Lead Water Service Line News

May 2023

The City of Troy Department of Public Utilities (DPU) found high levels of lead in drinking water in some homes. Lead can cause serious health problems. For more information please call DPU at 518-237-0343 or visit troyny.gov/lead.

These bulletins contain the latest updates relative to our Lead Water Service Line Replacement Program. Please check our website frequently for updates to ensure that you have the latest information.

Annual Water Quality Report

The City of Troy Department of Public Utilities Annual Water Quality Report is available on our website: www.troyny.gov/Archive.aspx?AMID=43.

To receive a paper copy of the report please contact the Department of Public Utilities.

Phone: 518-237-0319

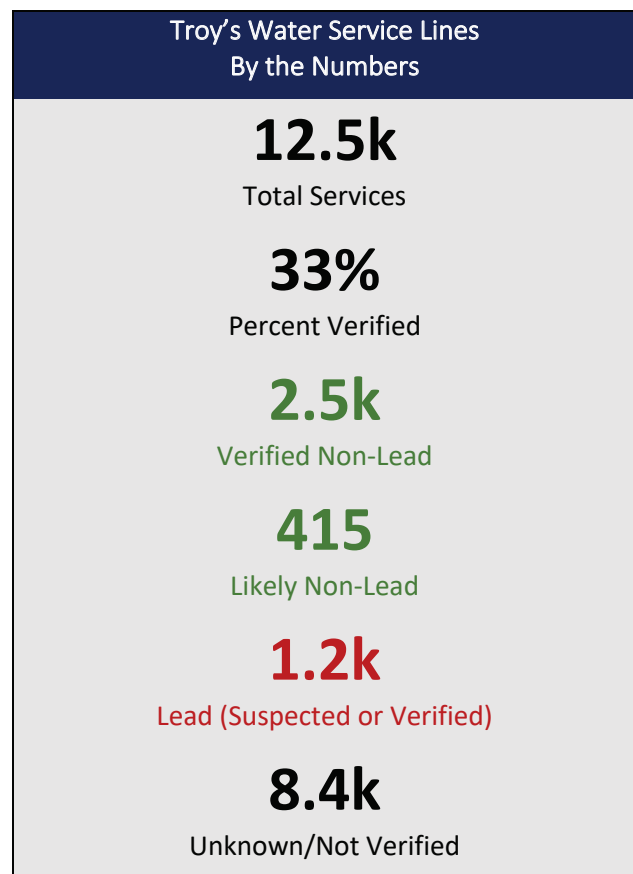
Email: troydpu@troyny.gov

Web: www.troyny.gov

Inventory Update

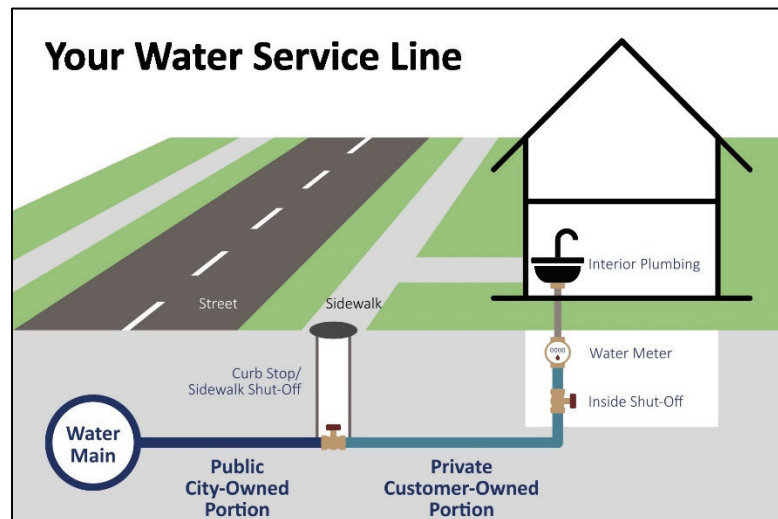
It doesn't matter if your service is copper, lead, or something else—we want to hear from you! If you have already submitted the material of your service line, thank you. Please encourage your friends and family to do so too. The City has only verified a third of its services lines and we need your help to complete our inventory.

Instructions on identifying your service line material, and a form for submitting your findings to the city, can be found at www.troyny.gov/lead. If you need assistance, you can call DPU at 518-237-0343 and ask them to check it for you. You can also use our interactive map at www.troyny.gov/lead to see the status of your address.



Replacement Progress

As you may be aware the City is committed to replacing all lead service lines in the City at no direct cost to the building owner. For 2023 we have an allocation of funds of roughly \$3 million. We have received bids from plumbers and contractors that are interested in doing this work. A contractor has been chosen and contracts are under review. We are working diligently to be 'in the ground' in May and will continue as long as the weather permits.



Additional funds may become available to us from the federal and state governments in the years ahead. Getting a complete inventory of the service lines in the City could be critically important in securing the grants necessary to complete this work. Please make sure you have participated in our inventory at www.troyny.gov/lead. Encourage your friends and family to do the same. This is a community problem and we all have a role in solving it. If you are a tenant without access to the water service line (typically in the basement) please alert your landlord and ask that your pipes be verified.

We are presently estimating that there are 4,500 to 5,000 lead service lines in homes across the City. Though we will work as quickly as we can it will take time to complete them all. Until we get to your home there are steps you can take to minimize the risk of lead leaching into your water. Please refer to www.troyny.gov/lead and share with your friends.

Corrosion Control

There are treatments that can be made to the raw water to reduce its corrosivity, thereby lowering the risk of lead absorption into your drinking water. Managing these treatments is a complex process that is impacted by a number of variables. We have engaged the services of CDM Smith, an engineering firm with extensive experience in public water systems. Together we are reviewing different options and costs for changing treatment technologies. We will assess all water quality parameters and treatment techniques available for optimization of corrosion control. Changes in water treatment must be studied and understood before a plan of implementation can be completed to reduce the adverse effects of some technologies. The City plans to incorporate the best available technology at a cost that minimizes rate increases. A draft corrosion control report has been submitted to RCDOH, DOH and EPA to approve the treatment technology change. In future bulletins we will keep you apprised of this work.

It is important to note that maximizing corrosion control **will not** eliminate the need to replace lead water service lines. This is a stop gap measure to reduce the potential of lead absorption from lead service lines until those lines can be replaced.



Testing

Under EPA guidelines, the City is required to test for lead twice a year from 60 consumer taps. The guidelines also require that these tests be performed on known lead service lines with at least six hours of no water usage. We were challenged in meeting this requirement in the past because of a lack of information as to where these lines were located. As the inventory has become more complete, we have a much better pool to perform testing on. If we have verified that you have a lead service line, we may reach out to you in the future to be a testing site. It is a fairly simple process that we'll walk you through. By participating you will not only gain a better understanding of your own water quality, you will also contribute to a more complete understanding of the overall community's lead challenges. This will become more important as we are able to adjust corrosion control measures as noted above.

If you did provide samples for us previously and we have verified that you do not have a lead service line, we thank you for your past participation, but it is unlikely we will ask you to participate again as our interest lies predominantly in those homes with lead service lines.

It should be noted that anyone can request to have their water tested. You can make arrangements by calling this number, 518-237-0343. There is no charge for these tests.

If you call for a test, or if we call you for a test, there are certain steps that will be necessary to ensure the integrity of the test—such as ensuring that no water has been run through your service line for at least the six hours previous to the test. We will, of course, work with you to make that verification process as easy and convenient as possible. Samples that cannot be verified as having been done in accordance with regulatory requirements cannot be used.

Again, we will explain all the requirements and make your participation as simple as possible.

Public Education

In the coming months, we will keep you updated on our efforts to find and replace lead service lines. We will send you a letter every six months to explain the health effects and potential sources of lead. Additionally, we will send you a postcard every three months with links to this bulletin and other lead-related information including the City website, latest city newsblasts, social media posts, and neighborhood and public meetings. You can also find these materials on our website at www.troyny.gov/lead.



Department of Public Utilities

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