



DATE

Re: City Water Service Line Inventory Work in Compliance with EPA's Lead and Copper Rule

Dear Licensed Childcare Facility Official:

Recent regulatory updates included a requirement for public water systems nationwide to work with licensed CCFs to conduct lead and copper testing and service line inventories. The goal of the service line inventory work is to find lead and galvanized requiring replacement (GRR) lines wherever they may still exist, both inside and outside of facilities.

Wilmington's initial service line inventory was made available to the public online on October 16, 2024, and the City is continuing to update its findings in several ways, including the use of on-site investigations. During the on-site work, crews conduct a visual investigation, both inside and outside of the facility. They check and record the service line that the City is responsible for and the service line that the CCF is responsible for.

This letter is to inform you that the City's contractor – CHA Consulting, Inc. (CHA) – will be conducting a water service line examination inside your facility in the next few weeks. CHA crew members will be easily identifiable by their company vehicles, clothing, and displayed photo IDs.

If CHA's investigation work uncovers a lead or GRR service line inside or outside of the facility, we will contact you about the findings. Because of the City's history of protecting citizens from lead exposure, the EPA does not require immediate replacement of lead or GRR service lines that are found. However, it does require the City to create a replacement plan by November 1, 2027. The EPA set the deadline in 2027 so that water systems can develop fair and equitable replacement programs, if necessary. The City will also assist licensed CCFs with the creation of their replacement programs, if necessary.

It is important to note that finding a lead or GRR service line does not mean your water contains lead. Wilmington's drinking water is lead-free when it leaves our water treatment plants. We also use a safe additive during our treatment process that creates a protective coating on all pipes and fixtures to keep lead from leaching into the water. In CCFs, however, water can sit inside pipes for longer periods, increasing the chance that exposure could occur.

We thank you for your patience and consideration as we conduct this important work. **If you have additional questions, please contact the Public Works Call Center at 302-576-3878.**

Sincerely,

The City of Wilmington Water Utility

