

Hometown, USA

Understanding How the New Lead and Copper Rule Reduces Lead in Your Community

EPA's new Lead and Copper Rule requires water systems to remove more lead service lines—a root source of lead in drinking water—than the previous rule. The below illustrates how the new rule compels actions sooner, removes lines faster and requires actions that better identify sources of lead.

- Estimated Population: **10,000 – 50,000**
- Number of Schools and Childcares in the Town: **30 - 140**
- Number of Homes in the Town: **3,200 – 13,500**
- Number of Homes with Lead Service Lines: **1,200 – 1,500**

New Rule

Old Rule

% of Schools and Childcares required to be tested for lead

20% every year

0%

% of Lead Service Lines that will be fully inventoried

100%

0%

If the Trigger Level of 10 ppb is exceeded

% of lines that are required to be fully replaced annually

Goal Set by State and System

0%

If the Action Level of 15 ppb is exceeded

% of lines that are required to be fully replaced annually

3%

0%

Allows partial replacements and test outs

Number of LSL that will actually be replaced each year

Population: 10,000

36

0 – 17

Population: 50,000

45

0 – 21

Most systems above the AL did not start LSLR programs and those that did, often did not achieve 7% actual replacement in any year due to test-outs; the program could stop after 1 year of samples below 15 ppb.

Length of time system can delay removing LSL



0 months

System must already be prepared and have plans in place to start right away.



48 months

Systems may delay while preparing and may stop completely if lead levels go below 15 ppb for one year. Studies could result in even more delays. The system may never replace a LSL.

* Assumes that there are no state requirements beyond the Federal LCR that apply to Hometown, USA.

For more information visit:
<https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/final-revisions-lead-and-copper-rule>