



Photo Credit: Lucien Gassie, Wyoming Sanitary Survey Rule Manager. Photo taken near Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming.

EPA Region 8 Wyoming Drinking Water Monthly Newsletter

October, 2024

Announcement: Biden-Harris Administration requires replacement of lead pipes within 10 years, announces over \$168M in funding to EPA Region 8 states

Today, the Biden-Harris Administration issued a final rule requiring drinking water systems across the country to identify and replace lead pipes within 10 years. To support that requirement, EPA is announcing \$168,106,000 in newly available drinking water infrastructure funding for the EPA Region 8 states of Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

Funding amounts available for Wyoming include: \$24,898,000

The Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) require more rigorous testing of drinking water and a lower threshold for communities to act on lead in drinking water to protect people from exposure. The final rule also improves communication within communities so that families are better informed about the risk of lead in drinking water, the location of lead pipes and plans for replacing them. This final rule is part of the

THIS MONTH

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Announcement: Urgent! Initial Lead Service Line Inventories Due October 16,2024!

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Webinar: EPA Emergency Response Research Webinar Series: Cybersecurity & the Water Security Test Bed

Webinar: EPA Cyber Phishing Drill

President's commitment to replace every lead pipe in the country within a decade, making sure that all communities have clean tap water.

"EPA continues to deliver water investments that are eliminating health risks across all communities, including those most affected by aging infrastructure," said EPA Regional Administrator KC Becker. "This historic funding will ensure our water providers have what they need to identify and replace lead pipes so everyone in our region can access safe drinking water."

The newly available funding will flow through the drinking water state revolving funds (DWSRFs) and is available to support lead pipe replacement and inventory projects. Also, 49% of the funding must be provided to disadvantaged communities as grant funding or principal forgiveness that does not have to be repaid.

See the [full news release here](#).

Webinar: EPA Small Drinking Water Systems Webinar Series: Special Extended Webinar PFAS: Rule Implementation and Treatment

Resource: Free Climate Resilience Training for the Northern Great Plains Water Sector

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Announcement: Urgent! Initial Lead Service Line Inventories Due October 16, 2024!

The Oct 16, 2024, deadline for submitting your initial Service Line Inventory to EPA Region 8 is quickly approaching. *Initial* service line inventories for public water systems in Wyoming must be submitted by October 16, 2024. The Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) require all Community Water Systems (CSW) and Non-Transient Non-Community Water Systems (NTNCWS) to prepare and maintain an inventory of service line materials.

Please visit our webpage [Lead Service Line Inventories \(LSLI\) in Wyoming and on Tribal Lands in EPA Region 8](#) for more information.

Service Line Inventory Reporting Requirements:

Lead service line inventory and replacement reporting requirements. Per CFR 141.90(e), No later than October 16, 2024, the water system must submit to the EPA an inventory of service lines as required in 141.84(a) that demonstrate compliance with the requirements of [§§ 141.84 \(a\)](#) and must include:

Inventory of Service Lines

- All service lines connected to the distribution system, regardless of ownership, or intended use.
- Service line material classifications for both the system-owned and customer owned portions of service line where ownership is split.
- All service lines classified as either lead, galvanized requiring replacement (GRR), non-lead, or lead status unknown.
- A service location identifier for all service lines for the water systems and EPA reporting copy of the service line inventory.

Information Sources (Methodology)

- Describe all historical records you used to prepare the initial inventory: previous materials evaluation, construction and plumbing codes/records, water system records, distribution system inspections and records.
- Describe activities in which you are collecting service line material information during normal operations.

Inventory Summary

- Disclose who owns the service lines in your water system (water system owns the entire service line, the customer owns the entire service line, or there is split ownership where the water system owns a portion, and the customer owns a portion).
- Provide a count of each of the four overall material classification categories from the inventory service lines: Number of Lead, Number of GRR, Number of Non-Lead, Number of Unknown, and Total (sum) of service lines.

Public Accessibility Documentation

- Documentation: How the water system made the inventory publicly accessible (if water system serves a population of > 50,000, the inventory must be available online), verify that location identifiers (e.g., street address) were used for lead and GRR service lines.

Demonstrating compliance with these requirements can be done by:

If you are using an EPA Service Line Inventory Template:

- Complete the required fields in the Detailed Inventory spreadsheet (teal-colored columns).
- Document the additional required information in the PWS Information, Methodology, Inventory Summary, and Public Accessibility Documentation forms (found in the additional tabs in the workbook)
- [EPA Service Line Inventory Template](#)

If you are using HDR WYRISKIT Template:

- Complete all required fields in the HDR LSL Inventory spreadsheet (Yellow spreadsheet)
- Turn in your inventory to <https://www.wyriskit.com/>: Document the required compliance information in the WYRISKIT Service Line Inventory Upload Submittal (Jot) form.

If you are not using one of EPAs Service Line Inventory Templates:

If you are submitting an inventory to EPA that does not have the compliance documentation included and need a form to report the additional information:

- Make sure your inventory of service line has all the required basic elements included and;
- Complete the Service Line Inventory Compliance Documentation form (fillable PDF), also available on the EPA Region 8 LSLI Webpage.
- [EPA Service Line Inventory - Compliance Documentation Template](#)

Submitting your Lead Service Line Inventory to EPA Region 8:

Don't be Late! Any initial inventories submitted after October 16, 2024, will be considered late. Water systems with late or overdue inventories will receive a lead service line inventory violation and a lead service line inventory reporting violation. Water systems with inventories submitted on time but that don't meet the minimum reporting requirements for the service line inventory could receive violations as well.

EPA Region 8 Service Line Inventory Online Submittal Repository

Submit your completed Service Line Inventory files to EPA Region 8 by uploading them to the EPA Service Line Inventory Repository.

- Access the LSLI Repository on the [EPA Region 8 Lead Service Line Inventory Website](#).
- Fill out the [Upload Submittal Form](#), attach your inventory files to it, and click submit to deliver to EPA Region 8.
- Recommended file formats for the Service Line Inventory: Spreadsheet, Shapefile, File Geodatabase (FGDB). Please keep Spreadsheet inventories in their original file format, do not convert to pdf.
- Recommended file formats for Compliance documentation spreadsheet, pdf, docx, FGDB.

EPA Region 8 Service Line Inventory GeoSolution- A GIS Inventory Template

If you are opt-ed in and using the EPA Service Line Inventory GeoSolution on EPA's GeoPlatform, complete the GeoSolution Submittal form in your GeoSolution Content folder, and click submit to turn in your inventory to EPA Region 8. Make sure to do this before the Oct. 16, 2024, deadline, or the inventory will be late.

WYRISKIT – Wyoming Lead Service Line Inventory Technical Assistance Program

If you are working with the state of Wyoming's Technical Assistance provider HDR and using their yellow template, submit to their website WYRISKIT. You do not need to submit to both EPA and WYRISKIT, HDR will transfer your inventory to EPA.

<https://www.WYRISKIT.com>

Service Line Inventory Technical Assistance Programs and Resources for WY Water Systems:

State of Wyoming's Lead Service Line Project - Technical Assistance Program

WY RISK IT? The Wyoming Lead Service Line Project is the State of Wyoming's free lead service line technical assistance program for eligible Wyoming public water systems provided by HDR. Below are a few of the Water Provider LSLI Resources available on their webpage.

- Contact HDR directly: wyoingLSL@hdrinc.com
- [WYRISKIT? Service Line Technical Assistance Program Website](#)

Notification of Known or Potential Service Lines Containing Lead Templates are now available!

All water systems with lead, galvanized requiring replacement, or lead status unknown service lines in their inventory pursuant to § 141.84(a) must inform all persons served by the water system at the service connection with a lead, galvanized requiring replacement, or lead status unknown service line.

You must provide the initial notification within 30 days of completion of the initial SL inventory, beginning no earlier than Oct. 16, 2024. Water systems that complete their inventory on time and by Oct 16th, 2024, will need to deliver the notices by Nov. 15, 2024. You must also provide the notice for new customers at the time-of-service initiation.

Visit our website for more information of the public education requirements and to access the notification templates.

- [Templates for the Notification of Known or Potential Service Line Containing Lead](#)
- [Notification of Known or Potential Service Line Containing Lead Fact Sheet](#)

EPA Region 8 Safe Drinking Water Branch lead service line inventory contacts:

Erica Wenzel, LSL Specialist, wenzel.eric@epa.gov, 303-312-6411

Point of contact for: EPA Lead Service Line Inventory GeoSolution, EPA Region 8 Lead Service Line Inventory Repository, Lead Service Line Inventory Regulatory and Compliance Requirements, EPA Liaison for WYRISKIT? – WY Lead Service Line Technical Assistance Program.

Jill Minter, LSL Coordinator, minter.jill@epa.gov, 303-312-6084

Point of Contact for: Lead Service Line Inventory Regulatory and Compliance Requirements.

Announcement: Seasonal Systems Shutdown Best Practices

Although there is no regulatory requirement to notify EPA when you stop serving water to the public, there are a few best practices that can save you time.

1. Look in Drinking Water Watch (<https://sdwisdww.epa.gov/DWWR8WY/>) and make sure your schedule is accurate. The database has the schedule that you send EPA in your Seasonal Startup Checklist. If it says that your system is open until October, but you stop serving water to the public in September, you should notify EPA in writing. Otherwise, EPA will send out a monitoring violation because we expected your season to go into October.
2. Even if your schedule on the Seasonal Startup Checklist matches what's in DWW you can still send a note to EPA letting us know the last day you'll be serving water to the public.
3. Consult with a professional for the best way to winterize your water system.
4. If you are planning on making any upgrades to the water system in the winter fill out an EPA R8 Public Water System Inventory Change Form (<https://www.epa.gov/region8-waterops/epa-r8-public-water-system-inventory-change-form>) and send it to R8DWU@epa.gov with your PWS No. and "Inventory Change" in the subject line. Check with Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality to make sure the work doesn't require a permit.
5. Set up a reminder in your calendar to complete the 2025 Seasonal Startup Checklist and send it to EPA BEFORE serving water to the public in 2025.

If you have any questions please send an email to harris.Jamie@epa.gov.

Announcement: EPA Announces \$30 Million to Help Small and Rural Communities Protect Public Health, Drinking Water, and Local Waterways

Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced the availability of up to \$30.7 million in grant funding for technical assistance and training to support small drinking water and wastewater systems, many serving rural communities, and to help private well owners improve water quality.

In the United States, more than 90 percent of drinking water systems serve fewer than 10,000 people. While many of these small systems consistently provide safe drinking water to their customers, they can also face challenges including high operator turnover, aging infrastructure, and lack of financial resources. Wastewater systems serving small communities face similar challenges. This EPA grant program provides funding to organizations that work side-by-side with these systems, providing tools and training to ensure that drinking water is safe and that wastewater is treated responsibly.

See the [full news release here](#).

Announcement: EPA Seeks Input on National Primary Drinking Water Regulation for Perchlorate

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is inviting small businesses, governments, and not-for-profit entities to participate as Small Entity Representatives (SERs) providing advice and recommendations to a Small Business Advocacy Review (SBAR) Panel. This SBAR Panel will focus on the agency's development of a rule that will regulate perchlorate in drinking water to protect public health.

EPA is developing a National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) for the chemical contaminant perchlorate (ClO₄⁻) under the authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) and as required by court orders. EPA has committed to issuing a proposed NPDWR for perchlorate by November 2025 and a final regulation by May 2027.

See the [full news release here](#).

Announcement: Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$7.5 billion in Available Financing for Water Infrastructure Projects

On September 6, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced the availability of [\\$7.5 billion of Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act \(WIFIA\) funding](#). The WIFIA program offers long-term loans to help communities implement critical water infrastructure projects, which protect public health, deliver environmental benefits, create over 60,000 good-paying jobs, protect waterways including drinking water sources, and support local economies, at a lower cost.

The WIFIA program provides its borrowers with creative, affordable financing options. It can fund the planning, design, and construction of a wide range of water infrastructure projects and offers the ability to combine multiple projects into a single loan. By streamlining the funding process, communities can accelerate their infrastructure projects. The WIFIA program offers interest rate resets, debt structuring, and fast disbursements, benefits not traditionally offered with other financing sources. For example, borrowers may defer repayment for up to five years following construction completion, and then customize their repayment schedule through the 35-year loan term. This flexibility provides borrowers with immediate funding to implement projects while helping to keep rates more affordable.

This is the eighth round of funding available, and it includes \$6.5 billion available through WIFIA and \$1 billion available through the State Water Infrastructure Financing Authority, known as SWIFIA. EPA is accepting [letters of interest](#) for WIFIA and SWIFIA loans. To date, EPA's WIFIA program has closed loans totaling more than \$20 billion to help finance \$44 billion in projects across the country. More than 100 borrowers nationwide are utilizing WIFIA loan to finance projects that benefit over 64 million Americans. Completed WIFIA-financed projects show positive health and environmental outcomes, as well as the advantages of financing with WIFIA loans.

The funding announcement demonstrates EPA's continued commitment to water infrastructure improvements that ensure all communities have access to clean and safe drinking water. For this round of funding, EPA has identified the following priority areas:

- Increasing investment in disadvantaged communities and improving health and livability.
- Making rapid progress on lead service line replacement.
- Addressing PFAS – known as “forever chemicals” – and emerging contaminants.
- Strengthening climate resilience in the water sector.
- Supporting water innovation and resilience.

To learn more about how to apply, please see the [EPA's Getting Started with the WIFIA Program website](#). Learn more about the [WIFIA program](#) and this [funding announcement](#).

Upcoming WIFIA Program webinar

- Date: Tuesday, October 17, 2024
- Time: 2:00-3:00 p.m. Eastern Time
- Registration: [Click here to register](#).

Webinar: EPA Emergency Response Research Webinar Series: Cybersecurity & the Water Security Test Bed

The EPA's Office of Research and Development hosts this webinar series to share current research activities and results. This webinar series covers the latest information on research supporting the EPA's response to chemical, biological, and radiological incidents, as well as natural disasters. This forum allows the EPA to communicate directly with partners and stakeholders to foster collaboration and dissemination of information. Webinars are typically held on the second

Wednesday of the month. Webinar dates and topics are subject to change. For more information, please see the [EPA Emergency Response Research Webinar Series website](#).

Webinar Details

- Date: Wednesday, October 9, 2024
- Time: 2:00-3:00 p.m. Eastern Time
- Registration: [Click here to register](#).

[Webinar: EPA Cyber Phishing Drill](#)

The EPA Cyber Phishing drill will allow utilities to simulate one of the most common types of cyber attacks. This operational exercise is designed to help utilities understand, test your responses to this threat, and learn about resources to improve your preparedness.

For Technical Assistance contact: watercyberta@epa.gov

Webinar Details

- Date: Tuesday, October 22, 2024
- Time: 9:00-10:00 a.m. Eastern Time
- Registration: [Click here to register](#).

[Webinar: EPA Small Drinking Water Systems Webinar Series: Special Extended Webinar PFAS: Rule Implementation and Treatment](#)

EPA's Office of Research and Development and Office of Water, in collaboration with the Association of State Drinking Water Administrators, host this free webinar series to communicate the latest information on solutions for challenges facing small drinking water systems. The series topics vary each month and are primarily designed for state, territory, and tribal staff responsible for drinking water regulations compliance and treatment technologies permitting. Others may also benefit from the webinars, including water system operators, technical assistance providers, NGOs, local government personnel, academia, and private sector.

Webinars are typically held on the last Tuesday of the month from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. ET with an optional Q&A session from 3:00 to 3:30 p.m. ET. For more information, please see the [Small Drinking Water Systems Webinar Series website](#).

Webinar Details

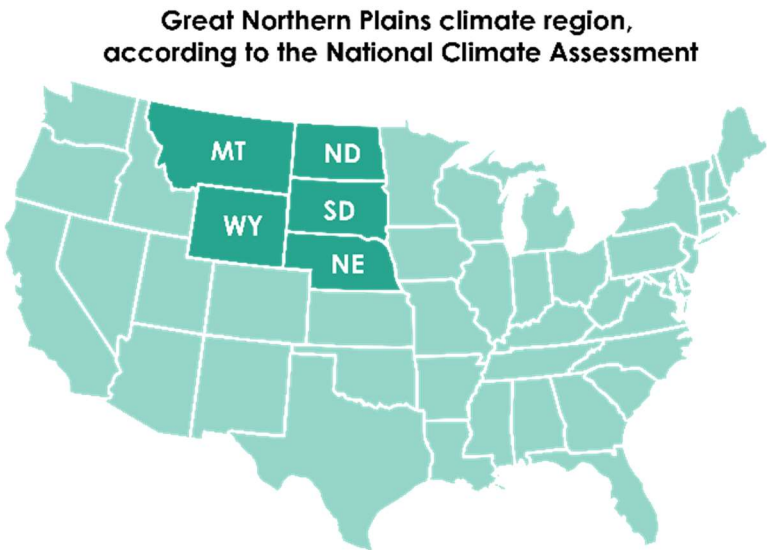
- Date: Tuesday, October 29, 2024
- Time: 1:00-4:00 p.m. Eastern Time
- Registration: [Click here to register](#).

[Resource: Free Climate Resilience Training for the Northern Great Plains Water Sector](#)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) [Creating Resilient Water Utilities](#) (CRWU) initiative is providing a series of two **FREE** webinars for drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater utility owners and operators, as well as other water sector stakeholders in Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, and several Tribal Nations.

These webinars focus on building resilience to impacts from drought, wildfires, and flooding, as well as identifying and implementing adaptation options, and utility infrastructure financing.

FIVE (5) CREDIT HOURS/CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS (CEUs) will be available for participating certified water and wastewater operators from MT, NE, ND, SD and WY (applications pending). **You must attend both 2.5-hour sessions to be eligible for the five credit hours/CEUs.** To be awarded credit hours/CEUs, you must register individually and complete the feedback form provided after the training series has concluded.



TRAINING TOPIC, DATE, and OBJECTIVES

SESSION 1

Tuesday
November 19, 2024
9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. MST

Introduction to Climate Change Impacts and Climate Adaptation Planning

- Explore climate trends and projections for the Northern Great Plains area, highlighting how drought, wildfires, and flooding affect water sector utilities, including rural communities, now and into the future.
- Become familiar with CRWU tools and resources for assessing climate risk at your utility, including the Climate Data Maps, Resilient Strategies Guide (RSG), and Climate Resilience Evaluation and Awareness Tool (CREAT).
- Become familiar with the CREAT climate risk assessment application.
- Delve into success stories from City of Laramie Public Works Department (WY), Town of Hartville Water System (WY) and Fort Berthold Rural Water, Ft. Berthold Indian Reservation (ND) to learn how local utilities used CRWU tools to enhance resilience and mitigate climate risk to their systems.

SESSION 2

Thursday
November 21, 2024
9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. MST

Financial Resources for Climate Resilience Adaptation Projects

- Interpret the CRWU Adaptation Case Studies Map for Water Sector Utilities.
- Discuss available region-specific resources for financing climate-resilient infrastructure projects.
- Learn how to incorporate environmental justice and related funding into utility adaptation planning.
- Learn how to apply for suitable funding programs and about available technical assistance opportunities.

Short optional homework assignments are included to reinforce skills learned in sessions.

REGISTER BY November 12 at https://gdit.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJltde6urDgiGovdhhXMHqr13q_5sTtSdg

To learn more about climate change impact on the water sector, visit EPA’s CRWU website: epa.gov/crwu. If you have questions or would like more information, email Audrey Ramming (ramming.audrey@epa.gov).



Grant: Water and Energy Efficiency Grants

Water and Energy Efficiency Grants: Bureau of Reclamation is currently accepting applications for their WaterSmart program. This Water and Energy Efficiency Grants Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) provides funding for projects that result in quantifiable water savings, implement renewable energy components, and support broader sustainability benefits.

These projects conserve and use water more efficiently; increase the production of renewable energy; mitigate conflict risk in areas at a high risk of future water conflict; and accomplish other benefits that contribute to sustainability in the Western United States.

Deadline to Apply is Nov 13, 2024;
Email bor-sha-fafoa@usbr.gov with questions

Resource: WaterTA

All communities deserve access to clean, reliable water. Yet too many communities across America face challenges in providing safe drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater services to their residents. The [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#) presents an unprecedented opportunity to address water infrastructure needs by providing \$50 billion in new funding – the [largest federal investment in water in the history of our nation](#). New and existing EPA [Water Technical Assistance \(WaterTA\) programs](#) will be utilized to support effective implementation of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

EPA's free Water Technical Assistance (WaterTA) supports communities to identify water challenges, develop plans, build capacity, and develop application materials to access water infrastructure funding. To implement WaterTA, EPA collaborates with states, tribes, territories, community partners, and other key stakeholders. Learn more about [WaterTA services and programs](#).

EPA WaterTA aims to assist communities with applications for federal funding, quality infrastructure, and reliable water services. If your community is facing water infrastructure challenges and could benefit from support, we encourage you to learn more about [who can receive WaterTA and the challenges WaterTA can help your community address](#) then complete and submit a webform request by clicking on the link below:

Request Water Technical Assistance for Your Community

Reminder: Public Water System Facility and Contact Changes

Please contact EPA Region 8 Drinking Water Program if your system has a change in the treatment process; you add or remove a water source; there is a change in the number of people served or the number of water connections; or different contact information becomes available for your water system. This allows us to keep you up to date on monitoring requirements and keeps our inventory current. Failure to notify EPA about water source or treatment changes may result in a violation.

To access the EPA's change form, send an email to R8DWU@epa.gov requesting the form or you can find the form on [EPA Region 8 Drinking Water Operations website](#).

Upcoming Regulatory Deadlines

Date	Event	Location
Last day of every calendar month	Last day to collect monthly total coliform samples	Sites approved on your RTCR sample plan
10 th of every month	Last day for EPA to receive total coliform and DBP samples collected during the previous month	N/A

EPA Drinking Water Program Contacts

- Kyle St Clair, Wyoming Liaison – 303-312-6791 – stclair.kyle@epa.gov
- If there is an after-hours or holiday emergency, please call 303-312-6327.

Questions related to a specific newsletter article, please contact:

- Tamara Barbakova, Funding – 303-312-6970 – barbakova.tamara@epa.gov
- Bryce Faliskie, Water Security and Resiliency – 303-312-6651 – faliskie.bryce@epa.gov
- Jamie Harris, Seasonal Shutdown Procedures – 303-312-6072 – harris.jamie@epa.gov
- Angela Mendrala, Inventory Changes – 303-312-6533 – mendrala.angela@epa.gov
- Jill Minter, Lead Service Line Inventory – 303-312-6084 – minter.jill@epa.gov
- Kendra Morrison, PFAS and Chemical Rule – 303-312-6145 – morrison.kendra@epa.gov
- Erica Wenzel, Lead Service Line Inventory – 303-312-6411 – wenzel.eric@epa.gov

Other R8 Drinking Water Employee Contact Information Can be Found [Here](#).

You can view this newsletter and previous newsletters by visiting: <https://www.epa.gov/region8-waterops/epa-region-8-wyoming-drinking-water-monthly-newsletters>

Additional water and environmental topics for the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) and Clean Water Act (CWA) can be [found here](#).

If you would like to be added or removed from this newsletter distribution list, please email Kyle St Clair at stclair.kyle@epa.gov.

