

Get the Lead Out (GLO) Initiative

All Americans need access to safe, reliable drinking water. Yet an estimated 4 million pipes¹ (also called service lines) that provide drinking water to homes across the United States contain lead. To protect families, children and communities from lead exposure, EPA established the Get the Lead Out Initiative (GLO Initiative). Through the GLO Initiative, EPA partners with small water utilities, especially small and disadvantaged utilities (as defined by their states), helping them identify lead services lines, develop replacement plans, engage with their customers, and apply for funding to get the lead out. This resource from EPA helps work toward the goal of 100% lead pipe removal and builds on EPA's existing water technical assistance (WaterTA) portfolio.

Working Together to Get the Lead Out

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) provides a historic \$50 billion investment in water and wastewater infrastructure and dedicates more than \$15 billion to removing and replacing lead service lines (LSLs). Through the GLO Initiative, water utilities will have access to their fair share of this unprecedented funding and ensure safer drinking water for all. The GLO Initiative will help water utilities and their communities nationwide address barriers to lead pipe removal by providing tools, best practices, and peer exchange and learning.

EPA will work with water utilities to get the lead out by supporting the development of:

1. **LSL Inventories** that meet the Lead and Copper Rule requirements. An LSL Inventory is necessary to fully identify the funding needs of the water utility;
2. **Public Engagement Plans** that invite community-wide input, provide educational resources, and meaningfully engage affected residents and community members while identifying and replacing LSLs;
3. **Lead Service Line Replacement Plans** to provide each municipality a roadmap for 100% identification and full replacement of all LSLs, including utility-owned and customer-owned portions; and/or
4. **State Revolving Fund (SRF) Applications** to help water utilities fund their service line replacement. Each recipient of this technical assistance will receive a customized plan to facilitate their work with the state.

Additionally, EPA will develop tools and case studies to share information and best practices between the Agency, state and Tribal programs, water utility managers, and community leaders.

An All of Government Approach

Accelerating lead service line replacement is a top priority for EPA. EPA is committed to using every tool available including our statutory authority under the Safe Drinking Water Act, water technical assistance, infrastructure investments, and more to replace lead pipes and protect children and communities across America from lead in drinking water.

For More Information

For more information about EPA's ongoing technical assistance programs, please visit www.epa.gov/waterta. Water utilities can request assistance by completing the WaterTA request form at: <https://www.epa.gov/water-infrastructure/forms/water-technical-assistance-request-form>

¹ https://sdwis.epa.gov/ords/sfdw_pub/r/sfdw/sdwis_fed_reports_public/service-line-inventory