

DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND



LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT

State Program:

PENNVEST Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

Assistance Recipient:

Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority

Project Name:

Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority Lead Service Line Replacement

Initial Agreement Date:

2019



Project Description

The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA) had water samples with lead concentrations that exceeded the Lead and Copper Rule's regulatory action level. **PWSA determined that lead laterals and private lead service lines needed to be replaced for the water system to return to compliance, so the Pennsylvania DWSRF provided PWSA with \$49.1 million, including \$13.7 million in principal forgiveness, to replace public and private lead service lines.** PWSA completed the original project scope ahead of schedule and used cost savings to complete additional lead service line replacement. Upon project completion, PWSA replaced 4,500 public lead service lines and 3,400 private lead service lines and returned to compliance with the Lead and Copper Rule.

The customers served by this project have a low median household income, and customer fee increases were kept low through a partial loan principal forgiveness and extended loan term financing from the Pennsylvania DWSRF. Typically, larger drinking water systems do not qualify for the loan principal forgiveness available from the Pennsylvania DWSRF program, but the State conducted an analysis on the financial and sociodemographic indicators of the specific neighborhoods affected by this lead service line project instead of looking at PWSA's entire customer base to demonstrate that this project should qualify. This innovative use of the DWSRF loan principal forgiveness provided approximately 8,500 residents within PWSA safe, reliable drinking water.



**DWSRF Assistance
Provided
\$49.1M**



**Principal
Forgiveness
\$13.7M**

LEARN MORE

Click here to learn more about the [PENNVEST Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program](#).

This case study comes from the [AQUARIUS 2022 Compendium](#).