



The Flow

Springfield Water & Sewer Commission

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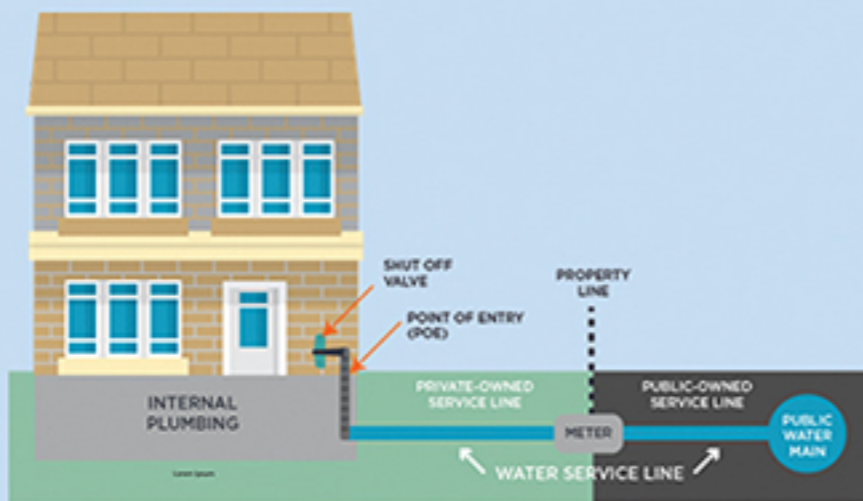
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LEAD AND COPPER RULE UPDATE

On December 16, 2021, the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) were finalized by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). There are multiple changes that water systems will be required to make over the coming years regarding lead and copper sampling, lead pipe replacement, and identification of lead pipes in the distribution system.

The Kentucky Division of Water (DOW) will require all utilities in the state to submit their initial Service Line Inventory by October 16, 2024. This requirement not only includes the utility owned portion up to the water meter, but also includes the privately owned section of water service line from the water meter to the house.



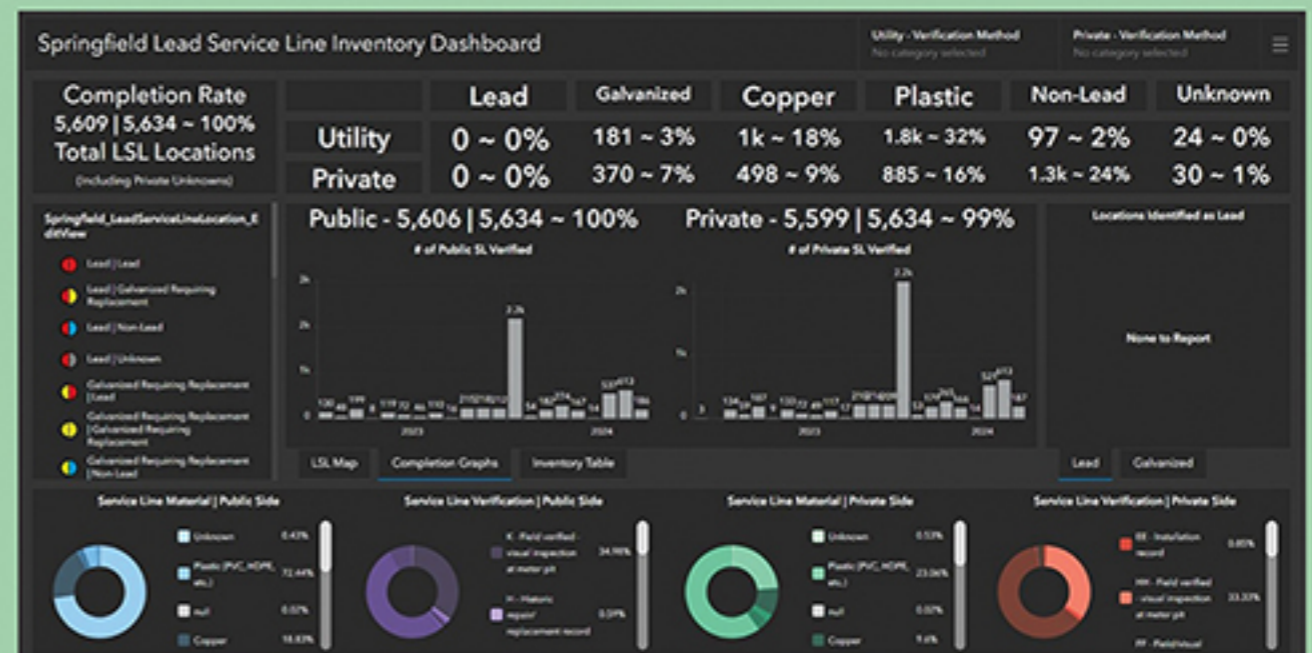
Shortly after these Lead and Copper Rule Revisions were adopted, the Springfield Water and Sewer Commission began the process of assembling this inventory. The first major step was to place all water meters in our system into our GIS database. This inventory has minimum data requirements which include the material type of service line feeding the meter from the water main (referred to as the public side) and the material type of the service line from the water meter to the customer's house (referred to as the private side).

Dates that the material was confirmed and how it was confirmed are also key data points. Other information such as type of dwelling being served, material of the water main serving the meter and dates of service line installations are also collected, although not mandatory.

The actual methods of collection were a combination of physically visiting the meter and visually documenting the material, using available data within the office to determine the material as well as customer surveys submitted. Data sources used in this process included PVA records, water tap cards, utility billing system information and water project maps.



Grey or silver: You **DO** have a lead service line that should be replaced. A magnet will **not** stick to a lead pipe. Scratch the pipe with a screwdriver or coin. If the scraped area is shiny silver and flakes off, the service line is lead.



ESRI Dashboard in the SWSC system

SWSC using a trailer mounted vac to clean out meter boxes to inspect the service lines



EFFICIENT & HIGH QUALITY WATER SUPPLY

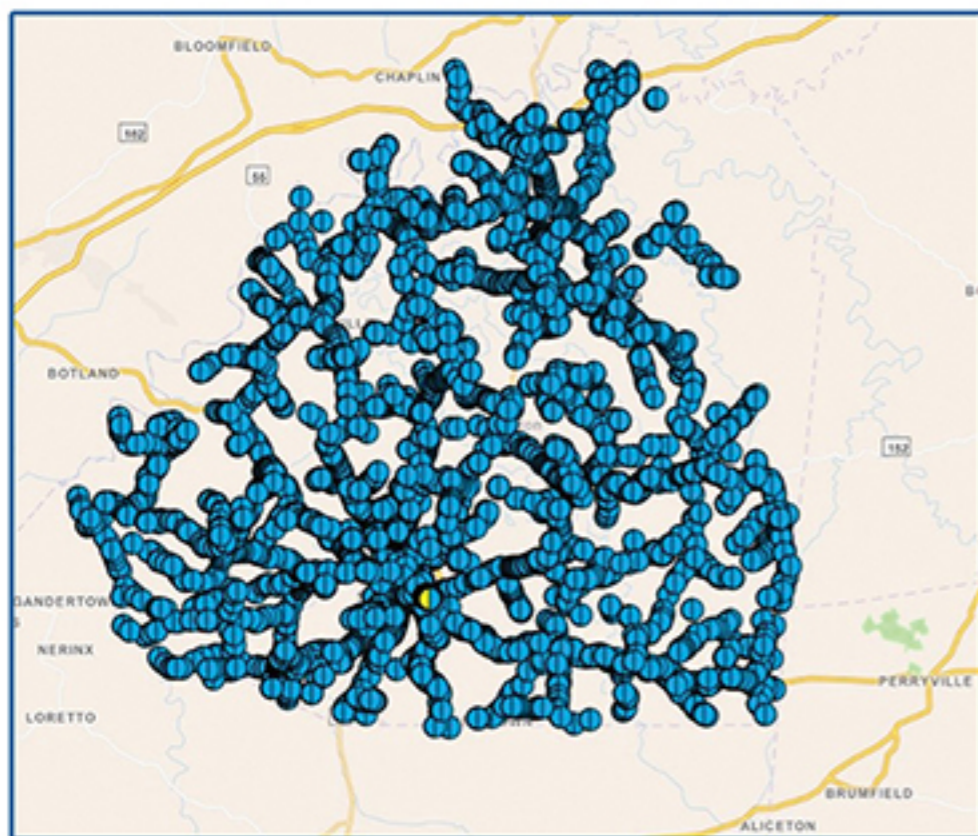
LEAD & COPPER UPDATE: (CONT.)

SWSC's inventory is over 99% complete with the remaining items to be completed ahead of the October 16th deadline. Once submitted we will be required to update annually as service lines are replaced, inactive services are removed, and new meters are added to the system. We are pleased to announce that, at this time, we have not documented any lead service lines within our system.

Due to Galvanized service lines being in the system, Springfield Water & Sewer Commission will be required to send some customers notices in the couple of months making them aware that lead lines could have been in their service line many years ago. While this is unlikely, we will be required to send out this correspondence.

The inventory is just the first component of the new lead rule. Springfield Water & Sewer Commission will be working on new sampling requirements for schools and daycares, and corrosion control treatment techniques at our water plant. On top of those additional requirements, it is expected that the EPA will soon announce another revision to the Lead & Copper Rule that will bring forth additional requirements that will add to the complexity of the rule.

A public map is available on our website that provides the service line material information for each meter. Click on the QR code to view the map.



Lead Service Line
ESRI Map

WATER LEAKS



Public water leaks can be quite costly, both financially and environmentally. Here are some key points to consider:

- 1. FINANCIAL COSTS** Water leaks can lead to significant financial losses for municipalities. The cost includes the wasted water itself, the expense of repairing the leaks, and potential fines for not meeting regulatory standards. In the U.S., it's estimated that water leaks cost utilities about \$2.6 billion annually.
- 2. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT** Leaks waste a precious resource and can lead to environmental damage. For example, leaks can cause erosion, damage to infrastructure, and contribute to water scarcity issues.
- 3. OPERATIONAL COSTS** Utilities may face increased operational costs due to the need for more frequent maintenance and repairs. This can also lead to higher water bills for consumers.
- 4. PUBLIC HEALTH:** Leaks can lead to contamination of the water supply, posing health risks to the public.
- 5. DETECTION AND PREVENTION** Investing in modern telemetry systems and regular maintenance can help detect and prevent leaks, ultimately saving money and resources in the long run.

IF you see a definite water leak OR have suspicion of a public system water leak, please contact the Springfield Water Office and report it.

Serving the cities of Springfield, Mackville, Willisburg and surrounding communities since 1951.

