



Lead and Copper Rule Revisions

On January 15, 2021, the Environmental Protection Agency finalized revisions to the Lead and Copper Rule. These revisions were made largely as a response to the Flint, Michigan water contamination issue. Almost immediately, EPA announced they were proceeding with the next round of revisions, leaving in place for immediate action only the lead service line inventory portion of the regulation revisions. In August 2022, EPA published guidance for the inventory procedures, and locally, the WA Department of Health (DOH) has been working to clarify the guidance and assist municipalities and utilities to plan and implement their inventories, with a completion date of October 16, 2024. The remainder of the regulation revisions will be available as a draft in Summer 2023.

Utilities are expected to sort their systems into 4 categories: Lead, Galvanized requiring replacement, Non-lead, and Unknown. The information to report includes:

1. Location identifier
2. Classification of purveyor-owned portion
3. Classification of customer-owned portion
4. Basis of classification, with acceptable sources including:
 - Historical records
 - Installation date after statewide or local lead ban (1986 or 1988)
 - Service line >4 inches
 - Service line repair or replacement records
 - Field inspections
 - State approval required for other methods (statistical, models, sampling, emerging methods)

Questions regarding the inventory procedures and reporting should be directed to the [Office of Drinking Water at Washington Department of Health](#).