

LEAD STRATEGIES UPDATE

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Water & Wastewater Commission | October 11, 2023



Lead Service Line Inventory

- 💧 Identify water service line materials
 - Includes public and private service line
- 💧 Categorize service line material
 - Non-lead
 - Lead
 - Lead Status Unknown
 - Galvanized Requiring Replacement
- 💧 Complete by October 16, 2024 and submit to TCEQ



Lead Service Line Inventory

💧 Meters in AW's System

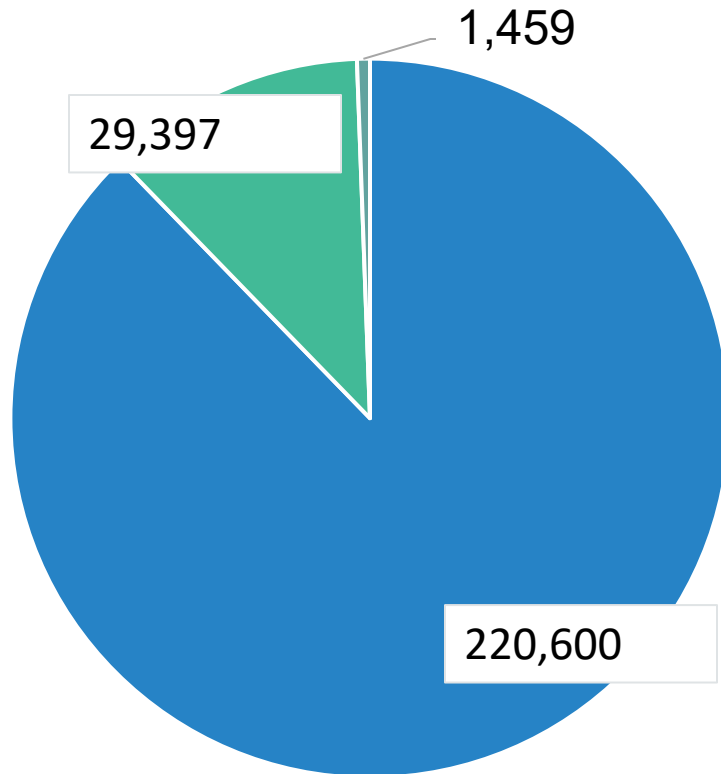
- Total = 252,000
- Non-lead due to age = 196,000
- Non-lead due to field investigation = 24,600
- Galvanized = 1,459
- Still to be field investigated = 29,397

💧 On track for completion by summer 2024



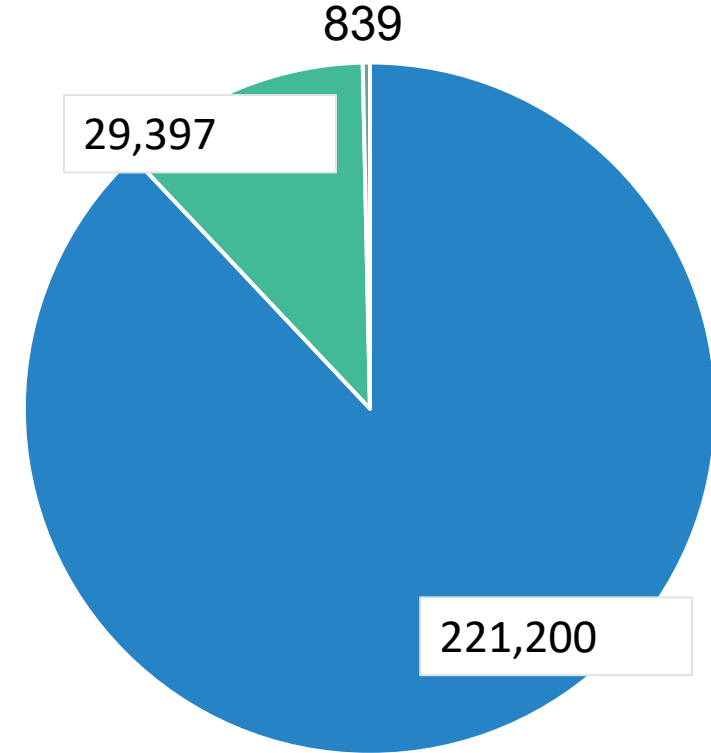
Lead Service Line Inventory

Public Side Materials



■ Not Lead ■ TBD ■ Galvanized

Private Side Materials



■ Not Lead ■ TBD ■ Galvanized



Federal Funding

- 💧 Funding allotted in 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund.
- 💧 AW applied to Texas Water Development Board for the galvanized service replacement program, but the project was not selected to move forward.
- 💧 AW continuously analyzes projects for potential federal funding.
- 💧 AW tracks costs for developing inventory, future school and childcare sampling, and potential galvanized service replacements.



School & Childcare Facilities

EPA Regulatory Requirements begin October 16, 2024:

- 💧 Provide lead education materials to all schools and licensed childcare facilities.
- 💧 Coordinate and schedule sampling between Oct. 2024 – Oct. 2029.
 - Offer sampling for all elementary schools and childcare facilities (and upon request from secondary schools).
 - *Facilities can decline sampling activity*
 - This is **not** required for buildings constructed after 2013.
 - 20% of elementary schools and childcare facilities per year.
 - 5 samples per school, 2 samples per childcare facility
- 💧 AW provides sampling instructions, bottles, lab analysis, and reporting of results.
 - School/facility staff can collect samples.
 - Procedures based on EPA's 3Ts guidance.



School & Childcare Facilities

AW has researched water lines serving schools and childcare facilities and found no lead piping. We are:

- 💧 Available as a resource for information and guidance.
- 💧 Maintaining a list of schools and childcare facilities served.
- 💧 Promoting TCEQ's free voluntary program for lead testing.
 - Open to all schools and childcare facilities.
 - Communicated with AISD and they have enrolled.
 - Raising awareness with other area ISDs to enroll as soon as possible.
- 💧 Adding staff resources and developing contract for program support.
- 💧 Developing a communication plan for engaging stakeholders.
- 💧 Remaining in compliance with current lead regulations.



Customer Resources for Lead Sampling



- 💧 AW Lead information:
www.austintexas.gov/lead
- 💧 Includes contacts to request testing

Summary

- 💧 AW customers at very low risk of lead exposure through water.
 - Lack of lead services in AW's system and in private plumbing.
 - AW's treatment process and water characteristics.
- 💧 AW is well-positioned to comply with LCRR ahead of schedule.
 - Currently providing testing as-requested in addition to required routine testing.
 - Service line inventory well underway.
 - No need for lead service line replacement program (replace as found).
 - Project included in AW's CIP plan for galvanized service replacement.
 - Preparing for school and childcare facility sampling program now.



An aerial photograph of a wastewater treatment plant. In the foreground, there are large circular aeration tanks with metal walkways and railings. Beyond the tanks is a green field and some industrial buildings. In the far background, a dense urban skyline is visible under a cloudy sky. A semi-transparent blue banner is overlaid across the middle of the image.

QUESTIONS

Austinwater.org

