

Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) Revisions: A Snapshot

* With 650,000, Ohio has the second highest number of lead pipes in the nation. *

On December 22, 2020, officials at the EPA finalized the long-anticipated revisions to the Lead and Copper Rule.

While the final rule maintains the current lead levels of 15 parts per billion (ppb) and a maximum goal of zero, the new rule has many revisions that significantly impact water systems across the nation.

Main LCR Requirement Categories

Greater Transparency

- Notification to customers when individual tap samples exceed specific levels.

Testing of Schools and Daycare Centers

- Annually test 20% of elementary and childcare facilities for a period of five years and provide the results of the test to those facilities.

Revised LCR Testing Parameters

- Water operators will need to evaluate their test sites, add additional sites and conduct more testing under the new LCR.

Triggers for Corrosion Control

- Implement water treatment plant corrosion control treatment if CWS test results exceed specified levels.

Lead Service Line Replacements

- CWS will need to create a LSL inventory and replacement plan.

Requirements for Water Service Line Inventory

By September 16, 2024, all community water systems (CWS) are required to conduct an evaluation of their water service line materials, which include the CWS' ownership of the water service line as well as the private water service line the customer/property owner owns.

This water service line evaluation will need to be compiled in an inventory list, recording the various water service line materials in the CWS drinking water system. Specifically, lead, galvanized, copper and other water service line materials need to be inventoried with any unknown service line materials noted. If a CWS cannot determine a service line material type, it is to be labeled as unknown. Unknown service line materials will be considered potentially a lead service line until identified otherwise.

The water service line inventory will aid the CWS in developing a lead service line replacement program in their community, as well as developing a financial plan to replace lead service lines.

Not sure where to start?

You've started and need assistance?

The Wessler Engineering team is here to help!

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Scan here for our webinar on the new Lead and Copper Rule.

