

## What Is the Cost?

The estimated cost of the private lead water service replacement will be determined after an initial review of the property. Eligible property owners may qualify for a credit of up to \$2,000 towards the cost of the replacement by enrolling in this voluntary program.

## How Can I Pay?

Property owners will have the ability to pay for the lead service replacement either:

- ▶ In a lump sum payment
- ▶ Interest-free, over a 48-month period as part of the water and sewer bill

## How to Apply

To apply, call the Lead Hotline at 617-989-7888. Your property will be reviewed. Once the cost is determined, you may enroll, if eligible. Service replacement work is generally performed from April to October and is subject to availability.

## Additional Information

For more information, call the **Lead Hotline** at **617-989-7888**.

## Supplemental Information

**Boston Public Health Commission**  
www.bphc.org  
617-534-5395

**Department of Environmental Protection**  
www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/  
E-mail: Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us  
617-292-5770

**Environmental Protection Agency**  
www.epa.gov/lead  
1-800-424-LEAD (5323)

**Massachusetts Water Resources Authority**  
www.mwra.com  
617-242-LEAD (5323)



Let's protect Boston's waterways



**Boston Water and Sewer Commission**

Lead Hotline  
**617-989-7888**

980 Harrison Avenue  
Boston, MA 02119-2540  
www.bwsc.org

Martin J. Walsh  
*Mayor, City of Boston*

Henry F. Vitale  
*Executive Director*

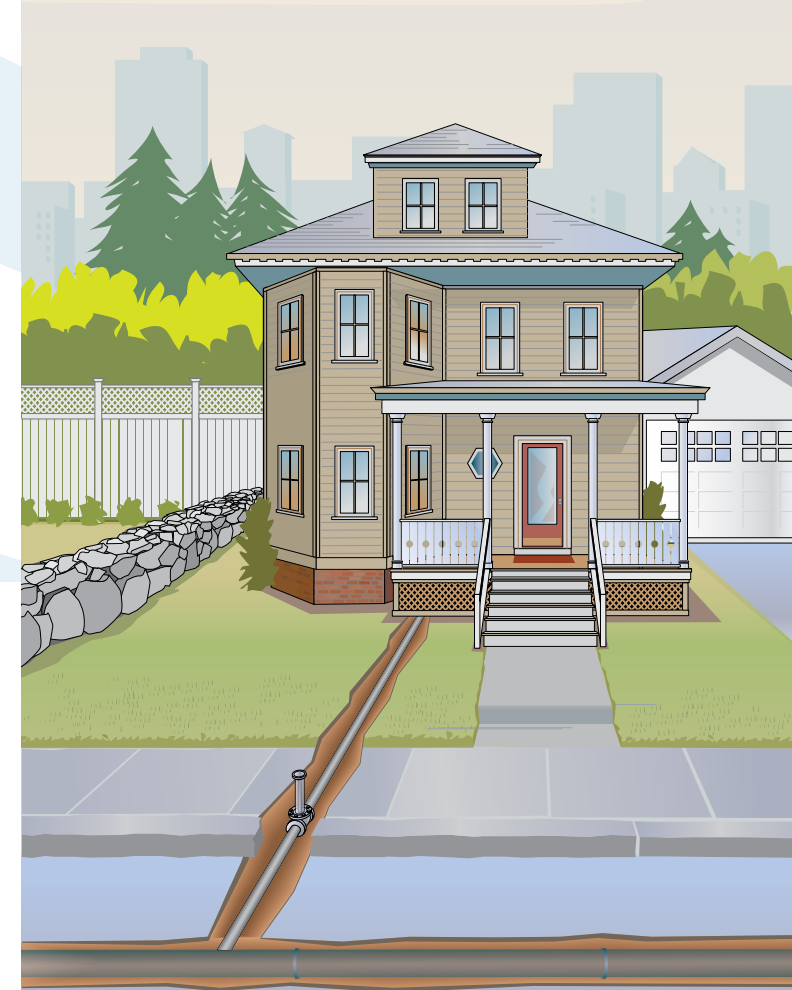


union bug



**Boston Water and Sewer Commission**

# The Lead Replacement Incentive Program



## Lead and Your Health

Excessive amounts of lead in the body can present health risks. The greatest risks are to young children and pregnant women. Amounts of lead that won't hurt adults can slow down mental and physical development in growing bodies.

## Why Replace a Lead Service?

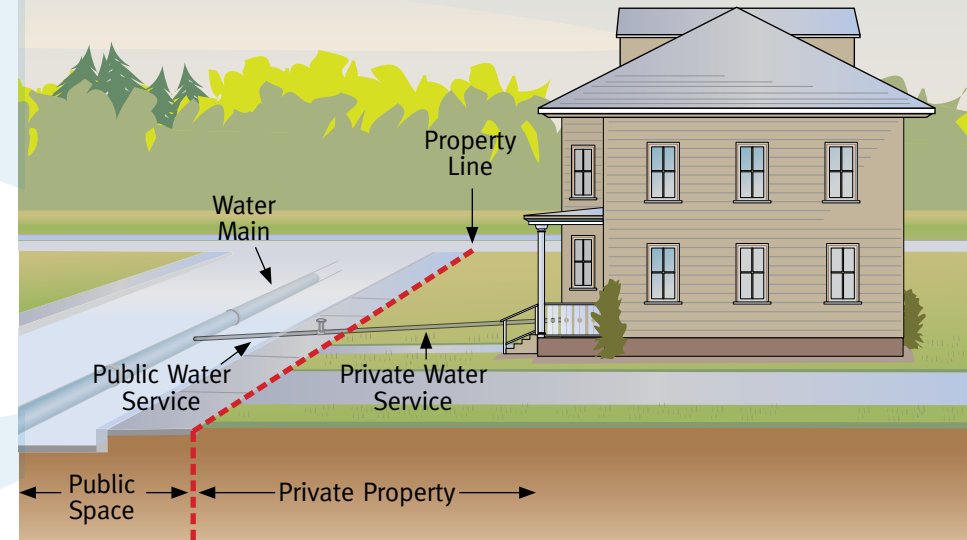
Lead generally is not present in source water but can enter the tap water through corrosion of plumbing materials. Prior to 1950, lead was used for exterior plumbing connections and can be found in older buildings. If the service line at your property is made of lead, you are encouraged to utilize this program to replace it and protect the health of residents in the building.

## What Can I Do to Reduce the Risk?

- ▶ Use only cold water for drinking and cooking. Before drinking, flush the water system by running the tap until the water is cold to the touch, especially if you have not used the water for a few hours. The longer water remains standing in a lead pipe, the greater the chance lead can leach into the water.
- ▶ Put a bottle of water in the refrigerator at night for early morning use.
- ▶ Replace your private lead water service.

## What Is a Private Water Service?

*It is the portion of the water service pipe running from the property line into the building. This pipe may be made of or contain lead.*



## The Program

The Lead Replacement Incentive Program exists to encourage Boston's property owners to replace private lead water services. While private water service connections are the responsibility of the owner, Boston Water and Sewer Commission (BWSC) has developed this voluntary grant program as an incentive to remove lead from water services. Financial assistance in the form of a credit up to \$2,000 towards the cost of the replacement and the ability to pay interest-free over a 48-month period are available to eligible property owners.

## Who Is Eligible?

Boston property owners are eligible to participate in the Lead Replacement Incentive Program if **all** of the following conditions are met:

- ▶ The property is served by a **two-inch or smaller water service pipe, which contains lead.**
- ▶ The water and sewer account for the property is active and not delinquent.
- ▶ The property owner agrees to have the work done by BWSC.
- ▶ The work presents no extraordinary physical obstacles.

BWSC reserves the right to determine eligibility of a property.