

2020 LEAD SERVICE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM



Component I – Public Education and Information

The Department of Public Works/Water Utility staff will continue its partnership with the North Shore Health Department to deliver a comprehensive communication program utilizing public information meetings, targeted mailings, information pieces, and electronic communications to increase awareness.

- Safety of our drinking water
- Ownership and maintenance of services (public vs. private)
- Concerns related to lead
- Exposure risks and best practices to mitigate risks

Component II – Removing Lead Services from the Public Distribution System

Shorewood's infrastructure dates to the late 1880's. The management and improvement of these aging assets is a daily focus. In the last decade, comprehensive infrastructure programs have been developed, coordinated and implemented. Replacing our aging water infrastructure remains a top priority in 2020.

- 2020 construction programs will continue the removal of lead service laterals from public distribution system during water main relays.
- Replacement of public service by Village contractor during construction:
 - It is assumed that the majority of the services in the construction areas are lead given the age of the homes. This will be confirmed in the field during construction and the property owner notified.
 - Where they exist, lead service laterals will be replaced with copper from the main to the curb stop, reconnecting to the existing lateral at that point. As in the past, this cost will be borne by the Utility.
 - Recent studies have shown a temporary lead level spike in drinking water following a partial replacement. Residents will be encouraged to follow prescribed actions as outlined below to reduce the risk of lead exposure.
- Replacement of full service during construction if a property owner elects to do so:
 - The public contract will include unit prices to install a new copper service from the curb stop into the home. The private plumbing connection work will be included in this contract price and scope of work.
 - Full service replacement addresses the risk of a temporary increase in water lead levels; however, lead may still be present due to interior plumbing and/or fixtures present in the home. The resident would be encouraged to follow a modified flushing protocol.
 - Therefore the cost of the private service line replacement performed by the Village's contractor must be paid for by the property owner. This can either be paid in advance or through a special assessment over a 5 year period at no interest.

- Replacement of a public water service outside the 2020 water main relay areas:
 - Municipal services which require replacement due to damage or failure will continue to be replaced at Utility expense. The flushing and safety protocol will be suggested.
 - Homeowner requested municipal service replacements in conjunction with full private service replacements will be treated similarly. The Utility will be responsible for costs related to the municipal service, including street restoration if necessary.

Component III – Protecting Our Customers

Public health and safety are the primary focus of the Village of Shorewood, the Department of Public Works and the Shorewood Water Utility. A program and flushing protocol have been developed based upon current best management practices to reduce the risk of lead exposure to our residents and customers.

- Construction impacted residences:
 - A baseline lead level test prior to construction will be requested of each home in the water main relay area. A second drinking water lead level sample will be requested 30 days following the service connection/reconnection. The Utility will provide a drinking water filter pitcher and a replacement cartridge to homes in the water main construction area.
 - A flushing protocol has been established which includes a 30 minute flush on the day of the new service connection. This is followed by a ten minute daily flush for a period of 4-6 weeks. The flush allows the phosphate additive in the water to recoat the lateral, providing the intended lead protection. The length of the temporary increase in lead levels can be correlated to the frequency and volume of water used in flushing. It is estimated that a 60 day flushing period would equate to a total water use of approximately 748 gallons (one billing unit). A \$8.50 credit (one unit each water and sewer) will appear on the utility bills of each of the impacted homes as an incentive to residents to follow the flushing protocol.
- General Village residents:
 - Upon request, the Utility or NSHD will provide test kits for residents to sample water for lead at any time. The homeowner will be responsible for lab fees.