# **Older Homes May Have Lead Water Pipes.**

PROTECT YOUR

FAMILY – AND

YOURSELF.

REMOVE THE LEAD

WATER LINES ON

YOUR PROPERTY!



Homes built before 1937 are likely to have lead service lines.

Homes built before 1981 may have lead service lines.

\*Special information for Landlords on Page 3









#### Get the Lead Out

City Utilities produces and distributes highquality water to your homes. Our water is better than what is required by federal guidelines. But some older homes in our community may have a lead or galvanized service line, which can elevate the lead level in a home's drinking water.



Most homes built before 1937 used lead

water pipes to connect to the municipal water service. It was the best choice when built, but now we know lead can create health issues.



# **Health Effects of Lead Exposure**

Lead is a toxic metal that can harm human health even at low exposure levels. Lead is persistent, and it can accumulate in the body over time.

Young children are particularly vulnerable, and the effects can be damaging to their physical and behavioral development. Please visit the EPA's website at the link below for more information about the health effects of lead.

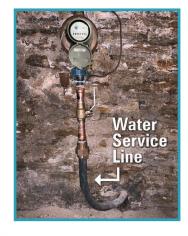
https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water



### What is a Water Service Line?

Street

A water service line is the small pipe that connects your home to our larger pipes. Our larger pipes, called water mains, are not made of lead. As a property owner, you are responsible for the small pipe from the curb box to your home. Based on the age of your home there is a good chance that your private pipe is made of lead. We want to help you replace it with safer materials.





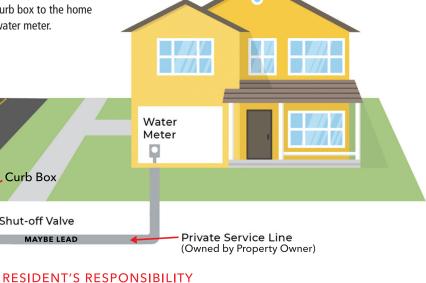
Water Main

**Public Space** 

**UTILITIES RESPONSIBILITY** 

The "Curb Box" is where the shut-off value is located below the ground and the home owner is responsible for the portion from the curb box to the home water meter.

Curb Box



## **Replacement Plan**

City Utilities wants all homes to be lead-free. But we understand that it can be expensive for a homeowner to replace their lead water line — as much as \$6,000 with a private contractor.



## **Help Is On The Way**

That's why City Utilities has developed a plan to help older neighborhoods get better pricing by bundling the area together and paying the contractor up front.

Under this program, we have reduced the fees for your neighborhood to \$2,600. But that's not all. There's more good news!

#### **Income-Based Assistance**

City Utilities knows \$2,600 is still a lot of money. We wanted to do more for your neighborhood. So, we created a low-cost plan to help your neighborhood replace lead lines and save money.

We secured a federal grant that was part of the infrastructure bill passed by Congress. It will allow us to offer income-based assistance which allows us to offer a FREE replacement to those that otherwise couldn't afford it.



ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME (PROPERTY OWNER INCOME)	TOTAL COST	MONTHLY COST (OVER 10 YEARS WITH 7.5% INTEREST)
Income Less than \$45,000	FREE	FREE
Income \$45,001 to \$60,000	\$910.00	\$10.80
Income \$60,001 to \$75,000	\$1,820.00	\$21.60
Income \$75,001 or More	\$2,600.00	\$30.86

Monthly financing and income based assistance only available to small residential properties. If you finance the cost, your portion will be added to your monthly water bill. No credit check is required to add the replacement to your water bill. Costs to the left are for a City Utilities project area. The baseline cost is \$3,500 if outside a project area.

# **Landlord:** Additional Incentives

We understand that if you own multiple properties this can be a larger investment in your homes. That's why City Utilities has developed several additional incentives to help with this important public health program.

- \$500 reduction if the tenant's income is less than \$45,000 or qualifies for assistance under affordable/subsidized housing.
- \$1,300 reduction for EACH property after the first replacement. This reduction only applies to properties in the City Utilities project area. Properties outside of a project area get a \$1,000 reduction.



# **One Sweet Deal. One Time Only.**

City Utilities will soon replace the utility-owned water service lines in your neighborhood.

Combining the neighborhood work with the work to replace the unsafe, lead service line that connects to your house means better overall contractor pricing. And lower pricing equals real savings for you. This special offer applies only to the water service line on your property — the section you own.

that you may

Check out page 3 of this brochure to see how you may qualify for income-based assistance. That means you can save money, improve your property, and, most of all, protect yourself and your family.



## The Time for Action is Now!

Switching out your home's unsafe lead water line is so important; the federal government is considering making it mandatory for all property owners. In fact, it is now requiring all Utilities to publicly list any property address with a lead service line to make sure potential buyers or renters are fully informed.

Make the smart decision to save money and replace your lead service line today. This savings is only offered while City Utilities is replacing your neighborhood's water services. Once we complete our portion, we will move to other neighborhoods and cannot provide this discounted special funding again. Don't miss out on this valuable one-time deal.



# **Do Not Delay!**

Return the pre-paid postage postcard in this mailing to City Utilities, scan the QR code to the left to answer a two question survey, or call 427-1234 to speak with someone who can answer your questions and walk you through the process. A returned postcard, completed survey, or phone call indicates you want more information — it does not commit you to move forward with the project. If you indicate a "YES" response, we will send you more info and a contract to opt-in to this project.





Citizens Square, 200 E. Berry, Suite 270 Fort Wayne, IN 46802 Contact 260-427-1234 and ask for lead service line replacement.