North Central Texas Council of Governments

Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI): Strategies to Strengthen Drinking Water

NCTCOG Webinar
November 6, 2024

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EPA United States Environmental Protection Agency

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

North Central Texas Council of Governments Environment & Development

www.nctcog.org/WaterResources

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Webinar Procedures

- The webinar is being recorded and will be posted to NCTCOG's website under the green banner called "Webinars" here:

  https://www.nctcog.org/envir/natural-resources/water-resources

- If you submitted a RSVP for this webinar, you will receive an email with the presentation slides and a link to the recording. If you did not RSVP and would like these webinar materials, please email aknox@nctcog.org.
- Please keep your microphone on mute until the Question-and-Answer period at the end of the presentations.
- Thank you!

Welcome and Introduction of Speakers

- **Overview of Lead and Copper Rule Improvements**- Kira Smith
- **EPA Water Technical Assistance (WaterTA)-** Kara Goodwin
- **Lead Testing in Schools and Child Care Facilities (LTSCC): How Public Water Systems Can Get Involved** – Shannon Evanchec and Khalilah Durand.
- Time for Q & A after the presentations

Speaker Introduction

Kira Smith

Environmental Engineer, United States Environmental Protection Agency

Final Lead and Copper Rule Improvements

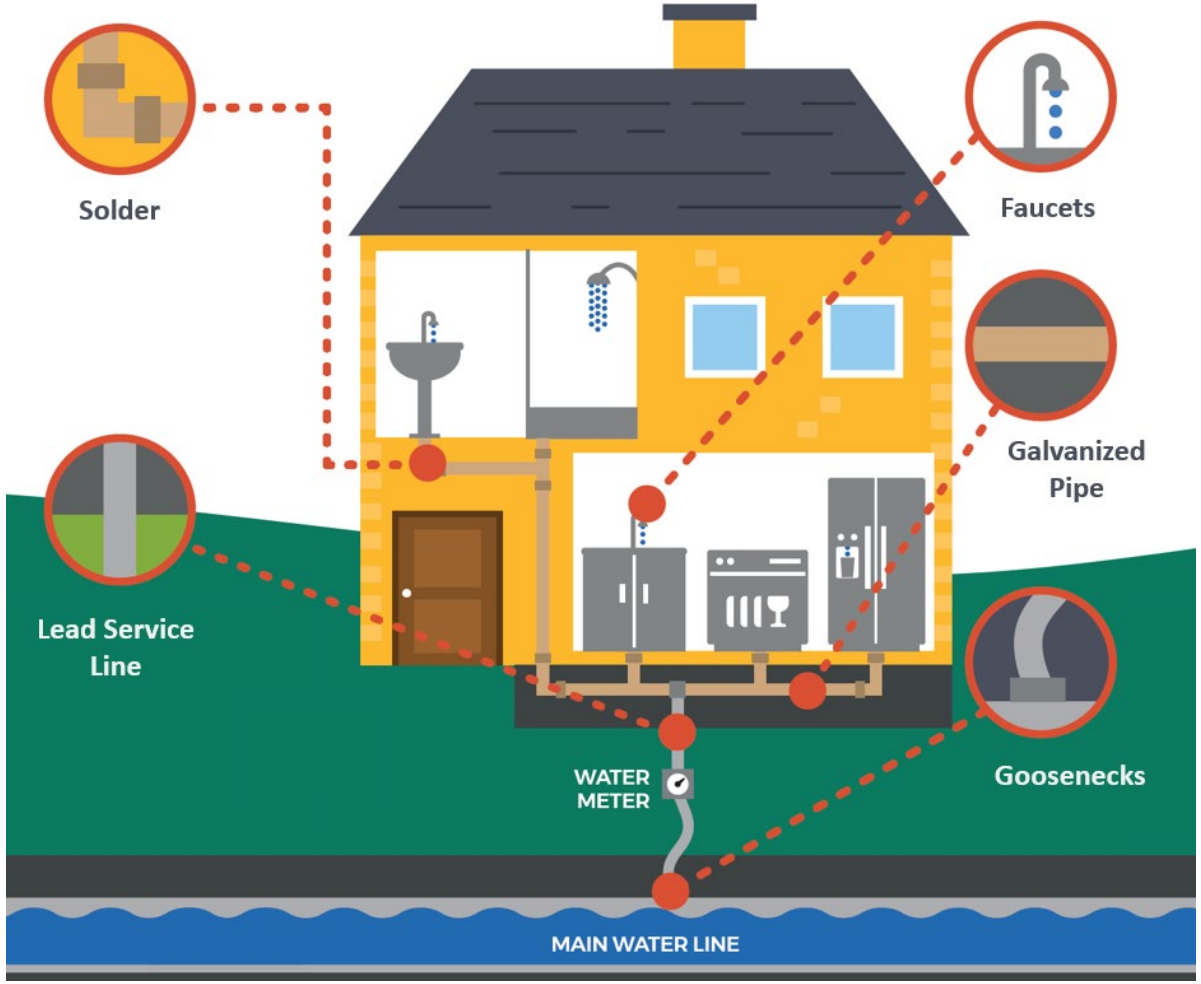
November 6, 2024

United States Environmental Protection Agency

Office of Water

Lead in Drinking Water

- Lead in drinking water irreparably harms the health of children and adults and disproportionately impacts lower-income communities and communities of color.
- Legacy lead pipes have exposed generations of Americans to health-harming lead and will continue to do so until they are removed.
- EPA estimates that up to 9 million homes are connected to water mains through lead pipes, posing an ever-present risk to American's health and wellbeing.



Key Messages

- Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) strengthens nationwide requirements to protect the public from lead in drinking water. These advancements are commonsense, achievable, and built on actions taken by states and cities.
- The LCRI requires water systems to replace lead services lines within 10 years.
- The final rule establishes additional requirements to better protect communities from lead in drinking water including requirements to,
  - Locate legacy lead pipes,
  - Improve tap sampling,
  - Lower the lead action level,
  - Strengthen public health protection through filter requirements, and
  - Improve communication.

Key Messages

- The health and economic benefits of the Rule exceed the costs by **more than tenfold**. Investments in removing lead pipes will create good-paying local jobs.
- Thanks to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and funding programs like Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA), there has never been more federal funding available to remove lead pipes.
- The Biden-Harris Administration is taking a whole of government approach to get the lead out of our communities, deliver clean water for all, and advance environmental justice.

Key Provisions in the Final LCRI

- Replace lead services lines within 10 years
- Locate existing lead pipes
- Strengthens tap sampling
- Lowers the threshold for taking action and eliminates the overly complex trigger level
- Supports reducing exposure at home
- Communicating transparently and frequently

Lead Service Line Replacement

- Where lead service lines are present, they represent the greatest source of exposure to lead in drinking water.
- Water systems will be required to replace lead services lines under their control within 10 years.
- In limited circumstances, additional time for systems with a high proportion of lead service lines will be provided to complete service line replacement.
- Systems must create a service line replacement plan and make it publicly available.
- Lead service line replacement removes the greatest lead in drinking water risk to many communities.

Locate Existing Lead Pipes

- Knowing where lead pipes are is critical to replacing them efficiently and equitably.
- Water systems are currently required to provide the state with an initial inventory of their lead service lines by October 16, 2024 that must be made publicly available.
- Under the LCRI, all water systems are required to regularly update their inventories and identify the materials of all service lines of unknown material.
  - Systems are required to complete baseline inventories 3 years after the publication date of the LCRI in the *Federal Register*.

Strengthen Tap Sampling

- Changes to tap sampling requirements, informed by best practices already being used by leading states like Michigan.
- Requires water systems to collect first-liter and fifth-liter samples at sites with a lead service line.
- Systems must use the higher of the two values when calculating the system's 90th percentile lead level.

Lowers the Action Level and Eliminates the Trigger Level

- The LCRI lowers the threshold for taking action, known as the lead action level from 15 µg/L to 10 µg/L
- Eliminates the overly complex trigger level
- When a water system's 90th percentile lead sampling result exceeds this level, the system would be required to:
  - Notify the public
  - Install or adjust corrosion control treatment
  - Conduct public education program
- Note that systems must expeditiously replace all lead service lines irrespective of whether or not they exceed the action level

Supports Reducing Exposure at Home

- Water systems with multiple lead action level exceedances are required to conduct additional outreach to consumers and make filters available to all consumers.
- Water systems must provide filters following disturbances of lead service lines and lead service line replacements.
- The filters must be certified to reduce lead.

Communicating Transparently and Frequently

- Requires more frequent and proactive communications on lead service lines and the system's plans for replacement.
- Requires communities to include clear health language about the dangers of lead in Consumer Confidence Reports and public education materials.
- The Consumer Confidence Reports will also provide information about
  - Testing for lead in schools and child care facilities.
  - Inform consumers where they can find the water system's lead service line replacement plan.
  - The corrosion control efforts the system is taking.

Benefits and Costs

- EPA estimates that on average, each year after the LCRI is issued it will:
  - Protect up to 900,000 infants from being born with low birthweight, which puts them at risk of longer and more expensive hospital stays after birth.
  - Prevent Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) in up to 2,600 children.
  - Reduce up to 1,500 cases of premature death from heart disease.
  - Prevent up to 200,000 IQ points lost in children.
- There are other avoided health impacts that EPA could not quantify including cancer, reproductive and developmental, immunological and neurological effects.
- The estimated annual benefits of the rule are up to 13 times greater than its estimated annual costs.
  - EPA estimates benefits to be $13 to $25 billion per year.
  - EPA estimates the costs to be $1.5 to $2 billion per year.

Available Funding Sources

- There are a number of pathways for systems to receive financial support for lead service line replacement.
  - Low- to no-cost financing through annual funding provided through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF).
  - Low-cost financing from the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) program.
  - Funding may also be available from other federal agencies, state, and local governments.
- Funding through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, includes:
  - $26 billion over five years in drinking water infrastructure funding for lead-related activities.
    - $15 billion over five years for lead service line replacement activities;
    - $11.7 billion over five years, $2.6 announced with LCRI, additional funding to the DWSRF program.
- Water Infrastructure for the Nation Act (WIIN) Grants
  - EPA announced $35 million for communities to apply directly for removing sources of lead in drinking water, such as lead pipes and reducing lead in drinking water in schools and child care facilities.

WaterTA

- EPA's water technical assistance (WaterTA), including the Get the Lead Out Initiative, helps disadvantaged communities identify lead services lines, develop replacement plans, and apply for funding to get the lead out.
- This effort is changing the odds for communities that have faced barriers to planning and accessing funding for lead service line replacements.
- Communities seeking to access GLO Initiative resources can request assistance by completing the WaterTA request form on EPA's WaterTA website (https://www.epa.gov/water-infrastructure/water-technical-assistance-waterta).

Resources

- Fact Sheets
  - General Overview
  - General One-Pager
  - Information for states and systems
  - Inventory Validation Requirements
  - Replacement Rate
  - Deferred Deadlines for Service Line Replacement
  - Tap Sampling Protocol
  - Cost-benefit fact sheet
  - Corrosion Control Treatment
  - Public Education
  - Sampling in Schools and Child Care Facilities
  - Small Systems
- Questions and Answers
  - External Q&A
  - Detailed Q&As for states and systems
- Webinar Presentations
  - November 14th for the drinking water professional community

https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/lead-and-copper-rule-improvements

EPA's LCRI Website: https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/lead-and-copper-rule-improvements

Questions on the final LCRI can be submitted to LCRI@epa.gov

Speaker Introduction

Kara Goodwin

Senior Technical Assistance Expert– United States Environmental Protection Agency

EPA Water Technical Assistance (WaterTA)

November 2024

EPA WATER TA

Agenda

- What is WaterTA?
- How to request assistance
- Q&A

Speaker

Kara Goodwin

Sr Technical Assistance Expert

Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water

Many Communities Face Water Infrastructure Challenges

EPA supports infrastructure improvements via:

Technical Assistance (TA)

EPA WaterTA Programs

TA providers (funded by EPA grants)

External TA Program Partnerships

&

Funding

Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (SRF)

Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA)

Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act Grants

Drinking Water Infrastructure Grants

Tribal Set-Aside (DWIG-TSA)

Clean Water Indian Set Aside (CWISA)

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

- **$50 billion** investment in water infrastructure – the largest ever!
- Large amount of funding will be grants/forgivable loans for **disadvantaged communities**

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Water Goals

- **Target resources** to disadvantaged and underserved communities
- **Make rapid progress** on lead service line replacement and lead-free water for all
- **Tackle** forever chemicals
- **Support** resilience (including climate resilience & cybersecurity)
- **Create** good jobs

Additional Technical Assistance (TA) Programs

- In addition to assistance provided by EPA Office of Water, multiple TA programs are available from:
  - EPA Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights (OEJECR)
  - EPA Office of Land and Emergency Management (OLEM)
  - EPA Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations (OCIR)
  - EPA Office of Research and Development (ORD)
  - The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Indian Health Service (IHS) also offer robust TA programs.

WaterTA supports communities to identify water challenges and implement solutions.

- Aging or Lack of Infrastructure
- Water Quality Concerns
- Technical, Managerial, & Financial Capacity
- Climate Resiliency
- Cybersecurity

- Project Planning & Development
- Community Engagement
- Capacity Building & Training
- Engineering Reports & Studies
- Funding Identification & Application Support

WaterTA projects address drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater challenges, including:

- Sewer backups or sewage in yards or homes
- Water quality concerns
- Unreliable or lack of water service
- Neighborhood flooding or stormwater backups
- Identifying and removing lead pipes
- Water system consolidation
- Treatment plant upgrades
- Cybersecurity
- Climate adaptation and resiliency
- Workforce development
- Regulatory Compliance
- Source water protection
- Emerging contaminants
- Applying for federal funding

...and more!

Who can receive EPA WaterTA Services?

- Local governments/communities
- Drinking water utilities/systems
- Wastewater utilities/systems
- Stormwater utilities/systems
- States, Tribes, territories
- Non-governmental organizations
- **Questions? Contact** WaterTA@epa.gov

Technical Assistance (TA) Providers

EPA works with national and regional providers that are experts in water and supporting communities.

EPA WATER TA

Environmental Finance Centers

Direct Technical Assistance

Engineering Support

Cybersecurity Technical Assistance

Closing America's Wastewater Access Gap

Clean Water Rural, Small & Tribal Assistance

Community Solutions Team Pilot

Creating Resilient Water Utilities

Lead Service Line Replacement Accelerators Pilot

Get the Lead Out (GLO) Initiative

Training and Technical Assistance for Small Systems

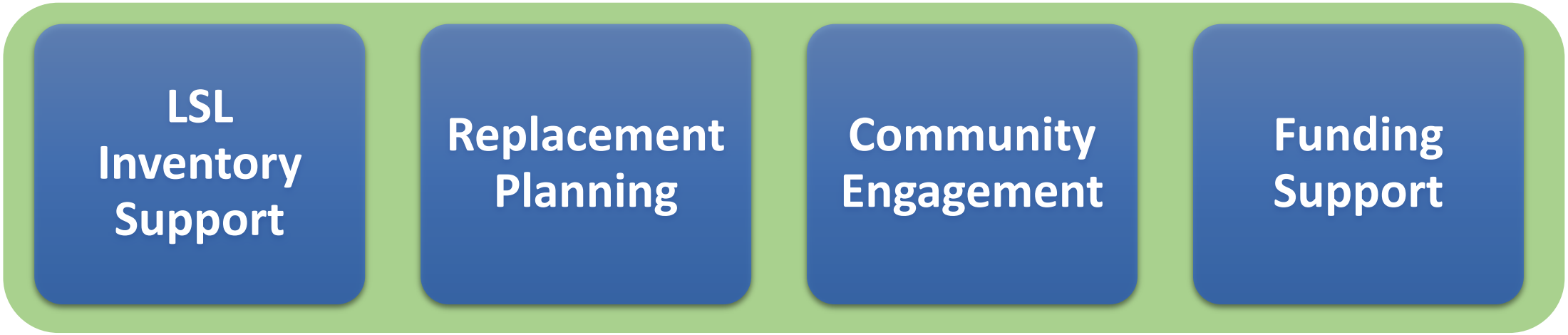
and more!

Environmental Finance Centers (EFCs)

- Provide WaterTA services for communities to develop water infrastructure needs, funding applications, and address other capacity needs
- **3 categories of TA providers:**
  - *Category 1:* Regional Multi-Environmental Media
  - *Category 2:* Regional Water Infrastructure EFC with Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Funding
  - *Category 3:* National Water Infrastructure EFC with Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Funding

Get the Lead Out (GLO) Initiative

- GLO provides direct technical assistance to accelerate lead service line replacement



For more information about the GLO Initiative or to request GLO technical assistance for your community, please visit the GLO Initiative website or fill out EPA's Water Technical Assistance Request Form. If you have any questions, please contact WaterTA@epa.gov.

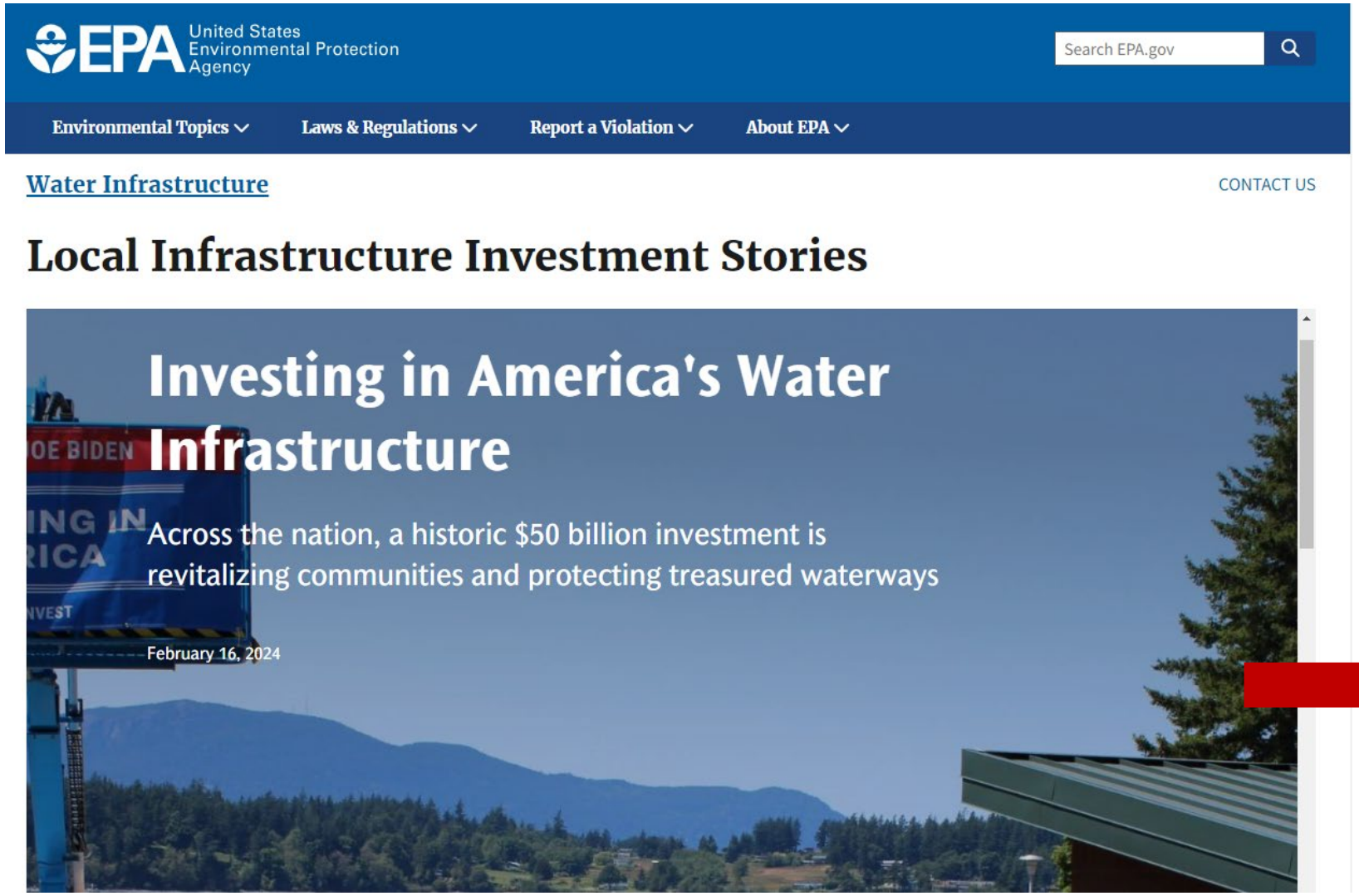
Resources for Identifying LSL's & Accelerating LSLR

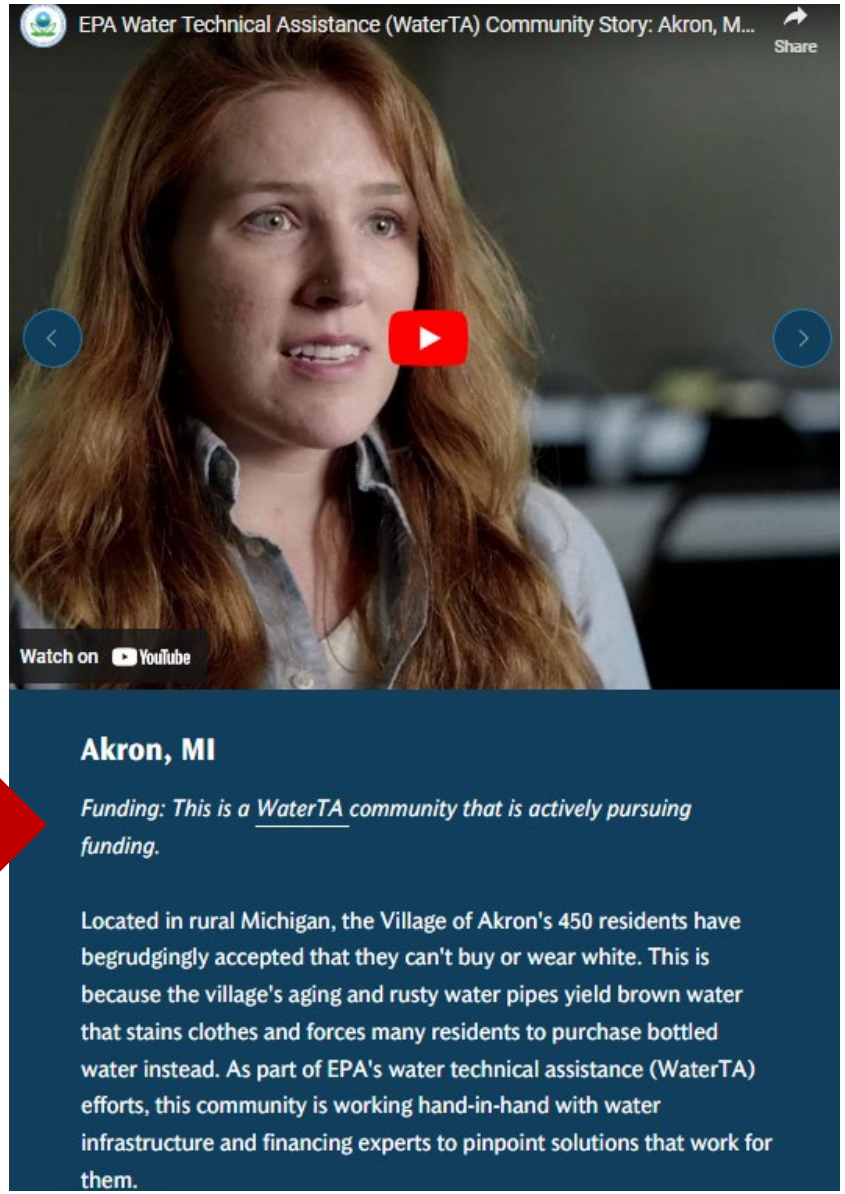
- **Community Engagement Templates:**

1. Drinking Water Lead Reduction Program FAQs
2. Identifying Lead Service Lines: Help Us Get the Lead Out
3. Customer Guide for Identifying Service Lines
4. Drinking Water Service Line Material Reporting Form

- **TA Needs Assessment and Community Workplan Template**
- **Funding Sources for Developing Service Line Inventories**

https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/lead-service-lines





https://www.epa.gov/water-infrastructure/local-infrastructure-investment-stories

WaterTA Connection

There are multiple pathways for communities to access WaterTA:

- Recommended by a State or EPA Region
- Directly contacted/referred by a WaterTA provider
- Referred by stakeholder/partner organization/utility
- Community submits a WaterTA Request Form

Request WaterTA at www.epa.gov/WaterTA

What is WaterTA?

The EPA's free Water Technical Assistance (WaterTA) services may include

- Identifying lead pipes for removal
- Enhancing resilience against cybersecurity threats
- Identifying climate adaptation strategies
- Providing resources for workforce development
- Addressing stormwater challenges
- Complying with the Safe Drinking Water and Clean Water Acts

WaterTA can also assist interested entities in applying for federal funding solutions a reality. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law presents an unprec address water infrastructure needs by providing $50 billion in new fundi investment in water in the history of our nation. WaterTA can assist comm for this funding to address their most pressing needs.

Learn more about the many EPA WaterTA Initiatives available or view pre presentations.

Help for Your Comm

If your community is facing challenges such updating aging infrastructure, building resil or even removing lead service lines, we enc more about who can receive WaterTA servic webform request via the following button:

Click Here to Request Water Technical Assistance for Your Community

WaterTA Community Stories

Explore examples of WaterTA in action.

Resources for WaterTA Providers

Water Technical Assistance Request Form

OMB Control Number: 2030-0051

EPA WaterTA

Expiration Date: 9/30/2024

Complete the following form to request Water Technical Assistance (WaterTA) services.

EPA WaterTA aims to assist communities with applications for federal funding, quality water infrastructure, and reliable water services in partnership with drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater utilities and local government. WaterTA cannot provide direct assistance to federal facilities. Before submitting a request, we encourage you to learn more about **who can receive WaterTA services**. Contact WaterTA@epa.gov if you have any questions regarding your organization's eligibility.

If you include your email address in your submitted form, you will receive a confirmation email from WaterTA@epa.gov. After reviewing your submission, the EPA or a technical assistance provider will respond with potential next steps. Response times may vary depending on the volume and types of requests we receive. Many states also offer WaterTA services. Thus, the EPA may share your request with the appropriate state agency in an effort to provide the best, most timely assistance.

Please note not every request may be offered WaterTA, and participation in this or other EPA technical assistance initiatives does not guarantee funding through the State Revolving Funds (SRFs) or other initiatives.

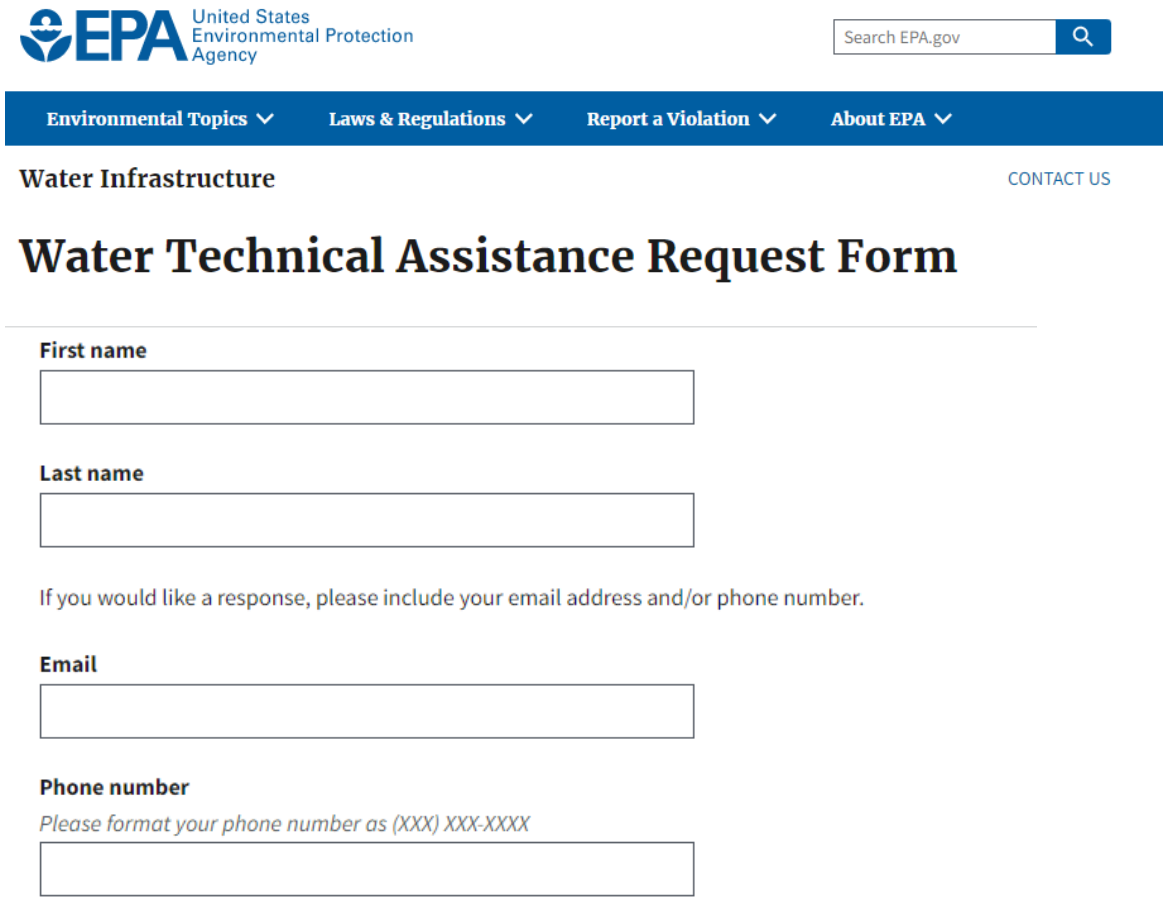
For more information, return to the WaterTA main page. To receive updates on EPA initiatives, helpful resources, and notifications of upcoming webinars and training events, sign up for the EPA's Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center email list. If you have any questions or concerns about the WaterTA Request Form, please contact WaterTA@epa.gov.

First name

Last name

Featured Community: Tunica County, Mississippi

WaterTA Request Form Walkthrough



WaterTA Request Form Walkthrough

Type of system or project (select the best fit) *

This information will be used to direct your request to the best fit program. If you have additional needs, you can describe them in the text box below.

- ◯ Drinking water
- ◯ Wastewater
- ◯ Stormwater
- ◯ Source water protection
- ◯ Nonpoint source
- ◯ Decentralized wastewater (e.g., septic systems)
- ◯ Multiple types of systems or projects
- ◯ Other

WaterTA Request Form Walkthrough

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- ◯ Other

WaterTA Request Form Walkthrough

Briefly describe your water quality or infrastructure concerns. Please be as specific as possible and include what assistance you are hoping to receive. *

(750-character maximum limit; NO bullets or numbered lists)

Is your community currently working with a TA provider? *

- Select -

Does your community qualify as a "disadvantaged community" within your state or meet your state's affordability criteria?

As defined by your state's Drinking Water or Clean Water State Revolving Fund program.

- None -

Submit form

What Happens Next?

Request Assistance

WaterTA Online Request Form or other avenues noted earlier

Get Connected with TA Provider*

EPA, states, and TA providers coordinate to respond to community requests

Engage with TA Provider

Assess and create a plan to address and solve your water challenges

Apply for Funding

Develop and submit an application for funding

*Not every request may be offered WaterTA, and participation in this or other EPA technical assistance programs does not guarantee funding through the State Revolving Funds or other programs.

Want to learn more about WaterTA?

- Explore www.epa.gov/WaterTA for more information
- Email questions to WaterTA@epa.gov
- Submit a webform to request WaterTA

Kara Goodwin

goodwin.kara@epa.gov

Speaker Introduction

Shannon Evanchec, MBA & Khalilah Durand

Project Managers of the Lead Testing in School and Child Care (LTSCC) Program- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Lead Testing in Schools and Child Care Facilities (LTSCC): How PWSs Can Get Involved

Thank you for joining us!

Lead Testing in School and Child Care (LTSCC) Program

A program to test for and reduce children's exposure to lead in drinking water

Email: info@txleadtesting.org

Web: texasleadtesting.org

Lead Testing in School and Child Care (LTSCC) Program

Presented by:

Khalilah Durand
Project Manager
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
ltscc@tceq.texas.gov

Shannon Evanchec
Project Manager
TruePani Inc.
info@txleadtesting.org

Presentation Outline

- Program Overview
- Program Benefits and Achievements
- Key Findings
- How Can the LTSCC Program Help You?
- Q&A

Program Overview

About the Program

This free voluntary program helps Texas public schools (K-12) and state-regulated child care facilities test for lead in drinking water and take action to reduce lead where children are served.

- Training, support, and sample analysis is provided at no cost
- Provides technical assistance and on-going support for participants to successfully complete the program
- All materials and instructions are included and delivered directly to participants

EPA's 3Ts Guidance

EPA's *3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools and Child Care Facilities*

A Training, Testing, and Taking Action approach to reducing lead in drinking water

WIIN 2107 Grant Funding

Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act, Section 2107: *Voluntary School and Child Care Lead Testing and Reduction Grant Program*

Provides funding to help eligible participants conduct voluntary testing for lead in drinking water at their schools and child care facilities

Outreach and Lead Education

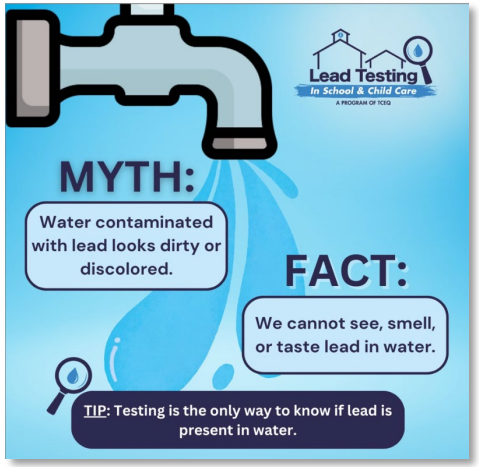
- Direct outreach efforts prioritize areas with:
  - Low Median Household Income (MHI)
  - 50% Free and Reduced Lunch
  - Children Under 6
  - Head Start Facilities
- Online trainings, educational sessions, conferences, webinars
- Social media and program promotional packet

72%

of participating schools are in communities below the state MHI

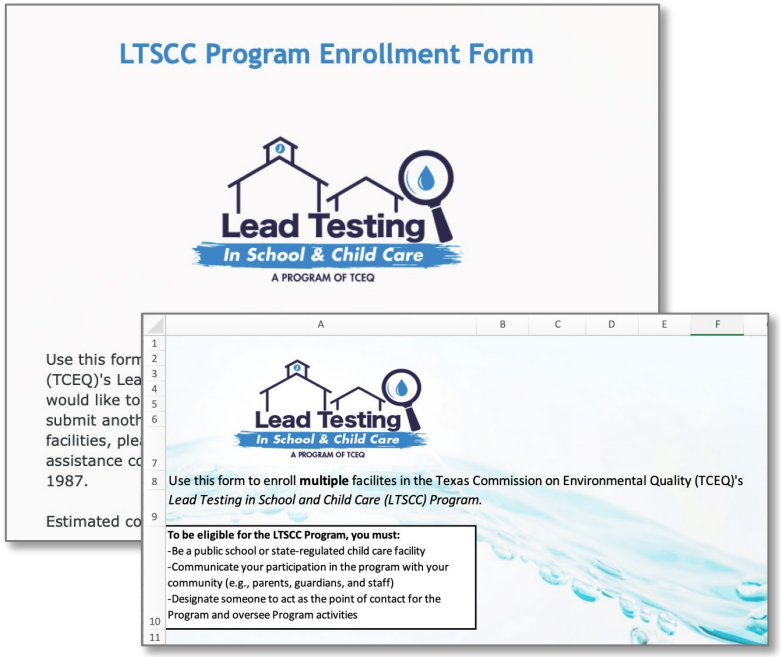
85%

of participating child cares are in communities below the state MHI



Program Steps

1. Enroll

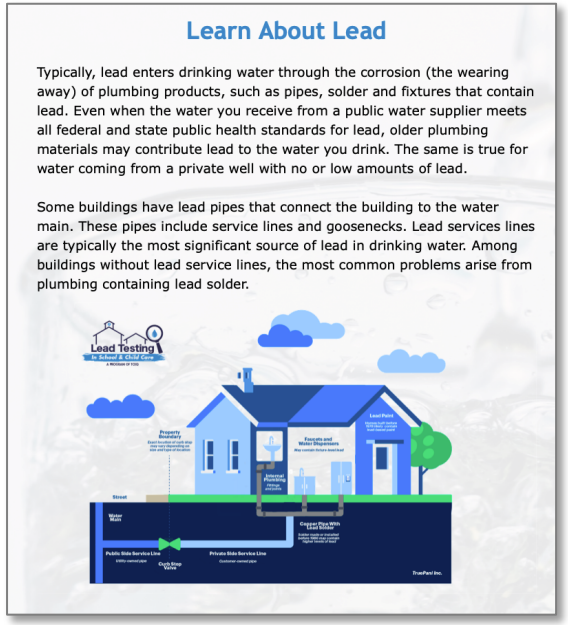

LTSCC Program Enrollment Form

Lead Testing
In School & Child Care
A PROGRAM OF TCEQ

Use this form to enroll **multiple** facilites in the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)'s *Lead Testing in School and Child Care (LTSCC) Program.*

To be eligible for the LTSCC Program, you must:
-Be a public school or state-regulated child care facility
-Communicate your participation in the program with your community (e.g., parents, guardians, and staff)
-Designate someone to act as the point of contact for the Program and oversee Program activities

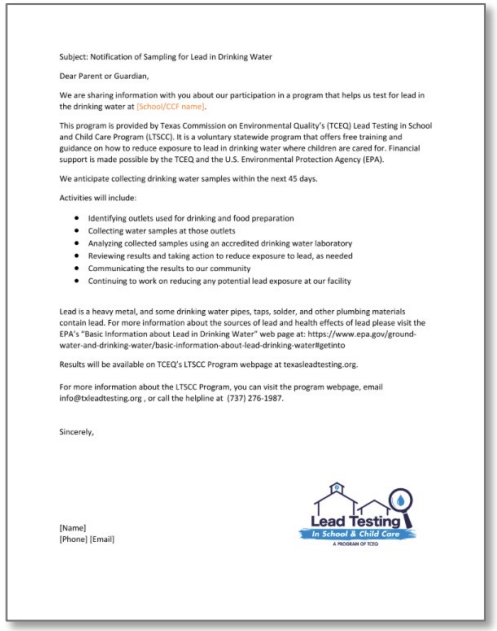
2. Complete Program Training


Learn About Lead

Typically, lead enters drinking water through the corrosion (the wearing away) of plumbing products, such as pipes, solder and fixtures that contain lead. Even when the water you receive from a public water supplier meets all federal and state public health standards for lead, older plumbing materials may contribute lead to the water you drink. The same is true for water coming from a private well with no or low amounts of lead.

Some buildings have lead pipes that connect the building to the water main. These pipes include service lines and goosenecks. Lead services lines are typically the most significant source of lead in drinking water. Among buildings without lead service lines, the most common problems arise from plumbing containing lead solder.

3. Notify Community


Subject: Notification of Sampling for Lead in Drinking Water

Dear Parent or Guardian,

We are sharing information with you about our participation in a program that helps us test for lead in the drinking water at [School/CCF name].

This program is provided by Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's (TCEQ) Lead Testing in School and Child Care Program (LTSCC). It is a voluntary statewide program that offers free training and guidance on how to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water where children are cared for. Financial support is made possible by the TCEQ and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

We anticipate collecting drinking water samples within the next 45 days.

Activities will include:

- Identifying outlets used for drinking and food preparation
- Collecting water samples at those outlets
- Analyzing collected samples using an accredited drinking water laboratory
- Reviewing results and taking action to reduce exposure to lead, as needed
- Communicating the results to our community
- Continuing to work on reducing any potential lead exposure at our facility

Lead is a heavy metal, and some drinking water pipes, taps, solder, and other plumbing materials contain lead. For more information about the sources of lead and health effects of lead please visit the EPA's "Basic Information about Lead in Drinking Water" web page at: https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water#getinto

Results will be available on TCEQ's LTSCC Program webpage at texasleadtesting.org.

For more information about the LTSCC Program, you can visit the program webpage, email info@txleadtesting.org , or call the helpline at (737) 276-1987.

Sincerely,

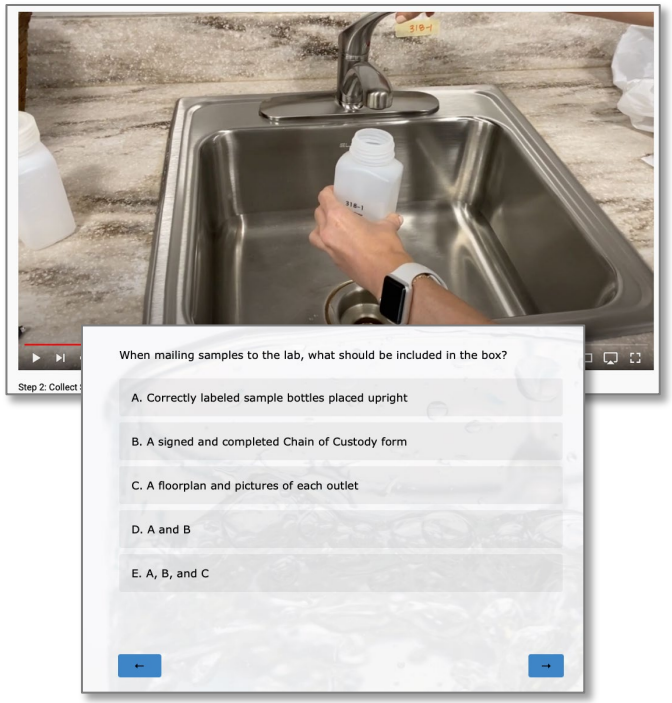
[Name]
[Phone] [Email]

★ On-site support available

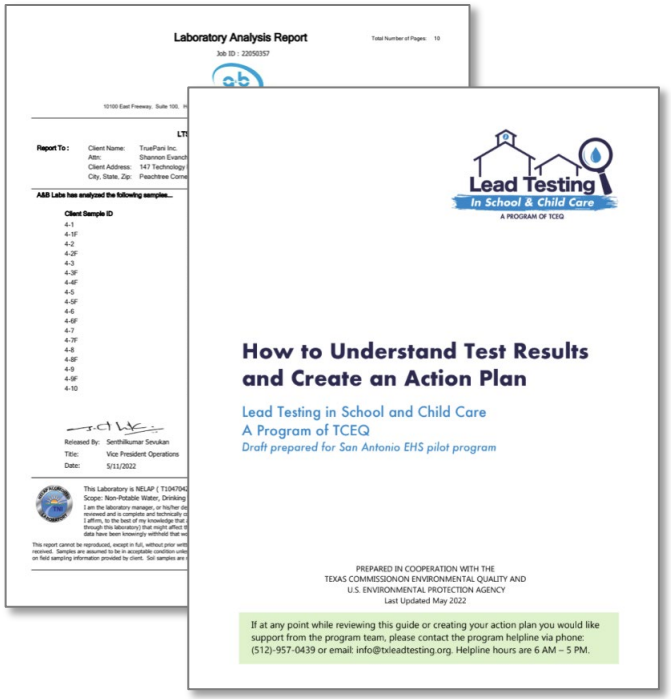
Program Steps Cont.

4. Complete Outlet Inventory ★

5. Complete Sample Collector Training and Collect Samples ★



6. Receive Results and Take Action



Sampling Protocols

- 250 mL sample volume
- 8- to 18-hour stagnation period
- "First draw" and "flush" samples collected – multiple rounds of sampling available
- Samples collected by any trained collector (school/CCF personnel, LTSCC team, water system, consultant)

All sample protocols meet requirements outlined by LCRI for school and child care sampling.

Taking Action

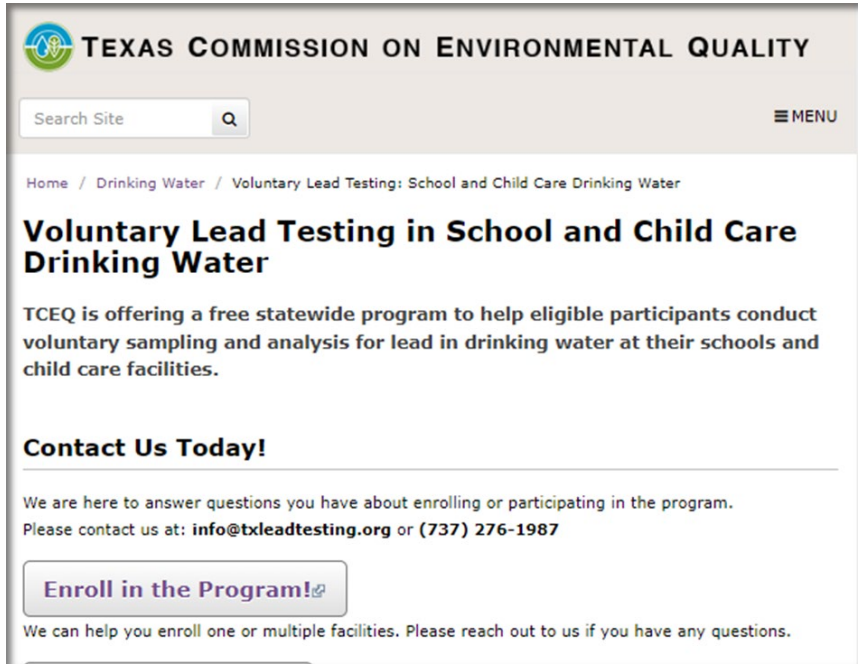
- All program participants are provided an action plan that outlines options for remediation
- Action plan is provided regardless of result levels
- Both LTSCC program and LCRI do not have an action level for school and child care sampling
  - Proposed action level for tap monitoring is 10 ppb under LCRI

Program Highlight: *WIIN funding can now be used for remediation. The LTSCC Program can provide drinking water fixtures and filters at no cost to facilities that have completed sampling.*

Online Resources

texasleadtesting.org

- Online enrollment
- Access to public results portal
- Sign up for webinars
- News and information
- Schedule a meeting
- Learn more about the program



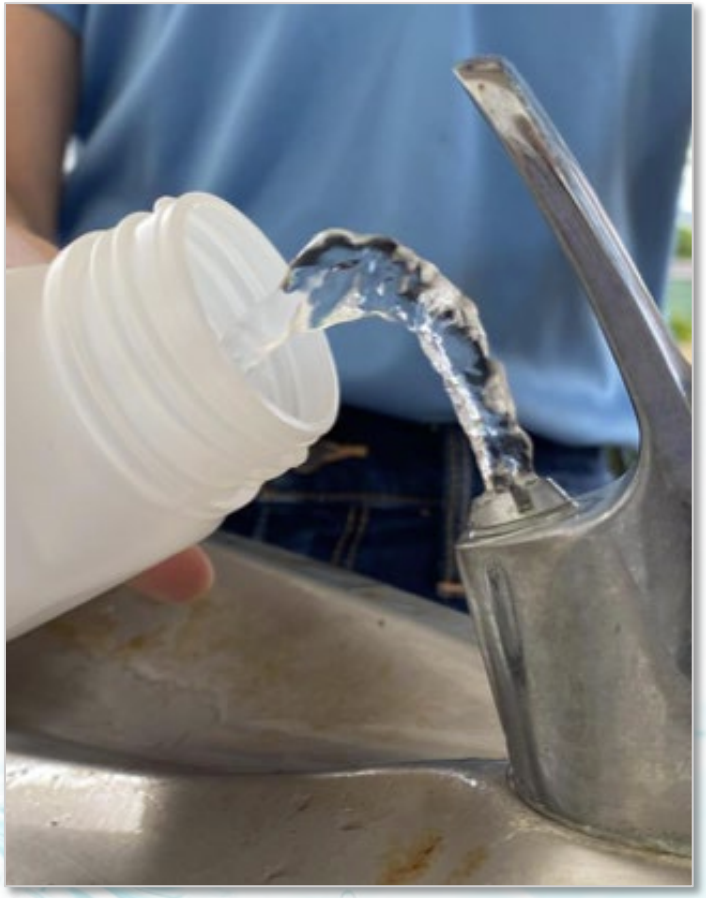
Program Benefits and Achievements

Program Benefits

Lead Testing
In School & Child Care
A PROGRAM OF TCEQ

The LTSCC Program:

- Meets and exceeds all LCRI requirements for school and child care sampling
- Provides free sample materials, training, and lab analysis from a certified lab
- Is designed by a team with extensive EPA 3Ts sampling experience
- Provides technical and communications support daily
- Increases trust and transparency with the school and child care communities



Reduce lead where children are cared for!

New Control Measures

Lead Testing
In School & Child Care
A PROGRAM OF TCEQ

Free Filters and Fixtures: Schools and child care facilities that complete sampling and detect lead can be provided with **free:**

- Pitcher filters,
- In-line or faucet-mounted filters,
- Lead-free fixtures (e.g., kitchen and classroom faucets)
- Drinking fountains, and/or
- Bottle fill stations.

The program team will provide technical assistance with selecting appropriate control measures.

Note: The LTSCC Program will not be responsible for the installation or maintenance of filters or fixtures.

Achievements

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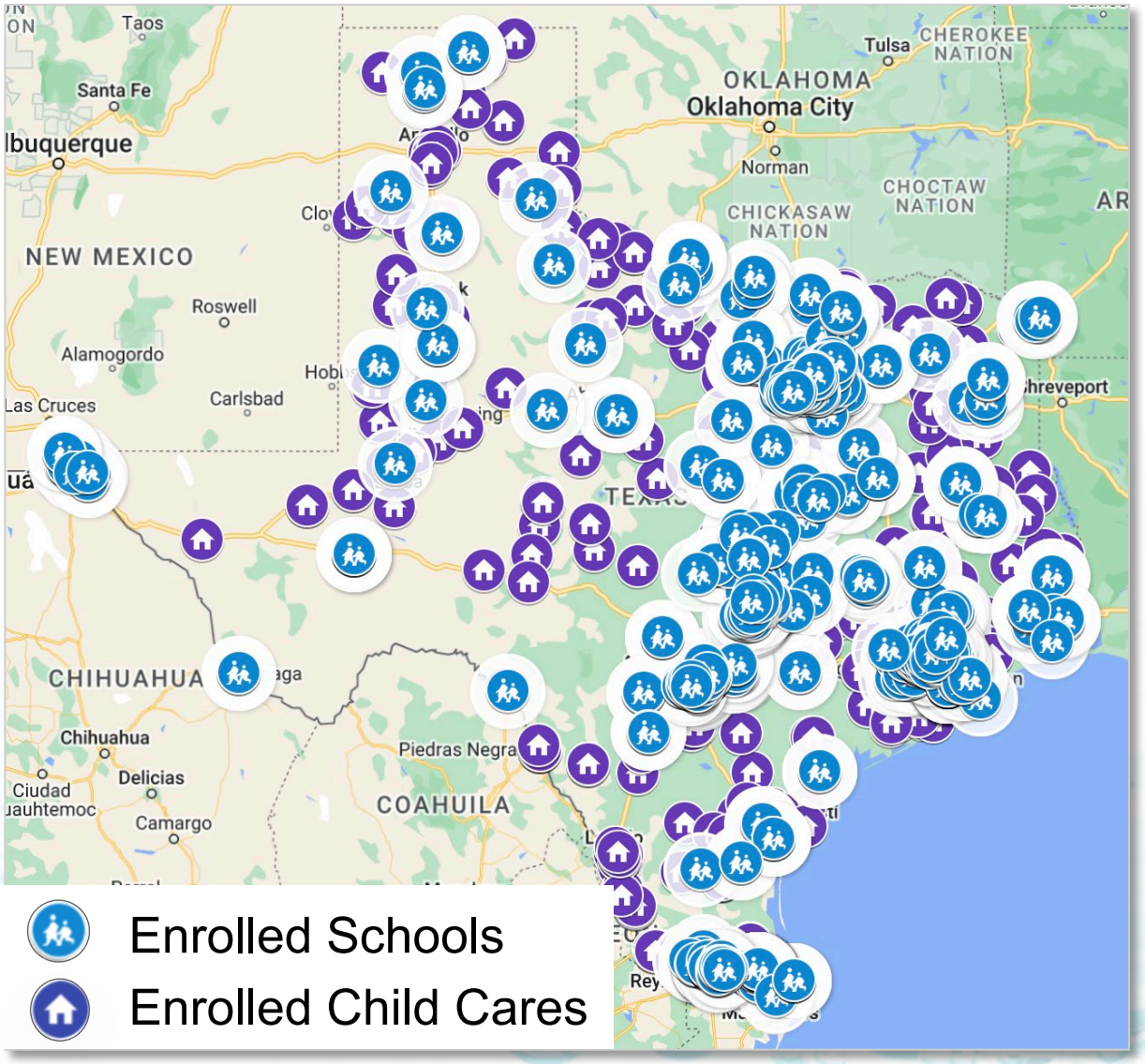
As of 10/24/24:

- **3,300+** participating facilities
  - 2,200+ schools, 1,100+ child care facilities
- **400,000+** children served at facilities that have completed testing
- **28,000+** samples collected and analyzed
- **3,000+** pitcher filters sent for outlets with detected lead



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Key Findings

Reaching Schools and Child Cares

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Program Highlight: *The LTSCC Program built a list of 26,000+ schools and child care facilities from data available from state agencies (TEA, Texas Open Data Portal).*

SCHOOLS

- Larger ISDs are more likely to enroll at the **district level**
- Maintenance personnel typically oversee the program and are **best reached via phone**

CHILD CARES

- More likely to **enroll individually**
- **Letters, emails, and post cards more effective** than phone calls during normal business hours
- High turnover

Program Data

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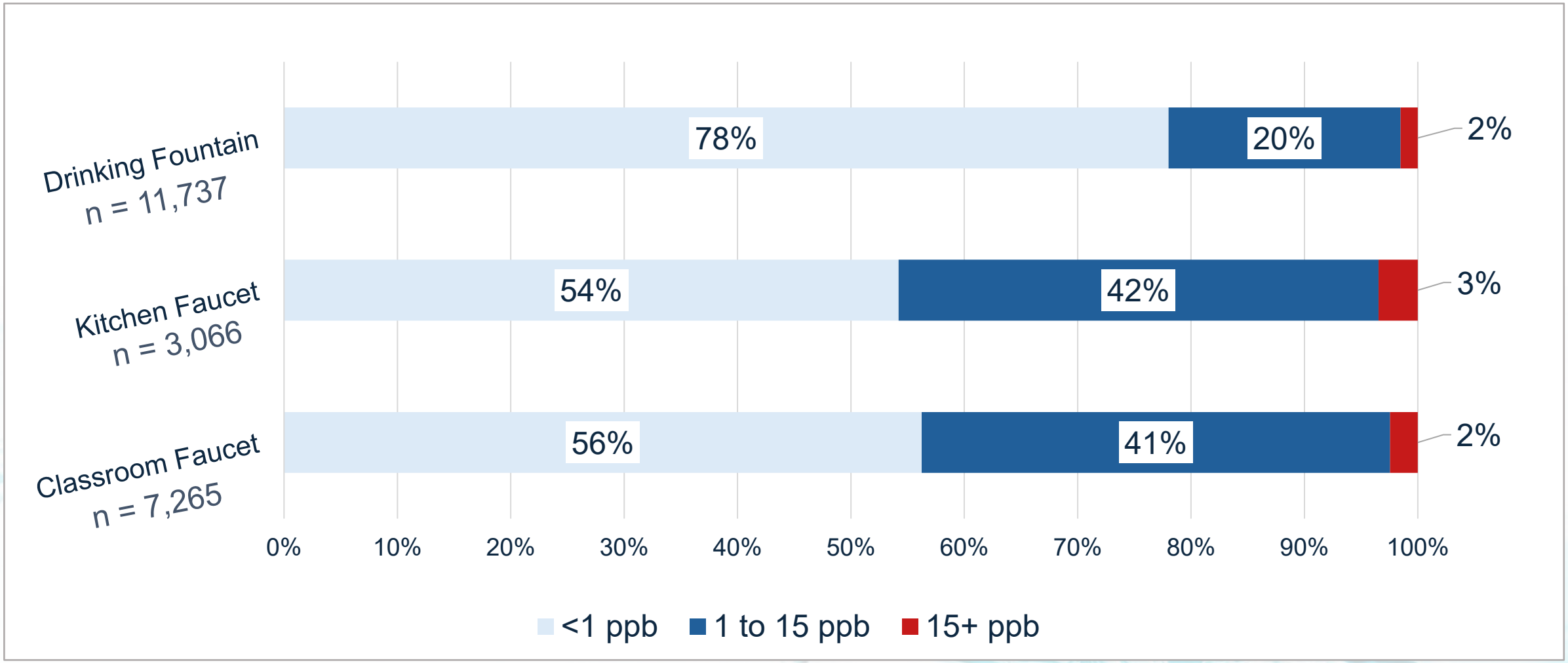
	SCHOOLS	CHILD CARES
% of samples at or above 15 ppb*	2.1%	1.5%
% of facilities with at least one result at or above 15 ppb*	27.8%	6.7%
Average number of samples collected*	30	7

**Data includes initial first-draw samples through 7/15/24*

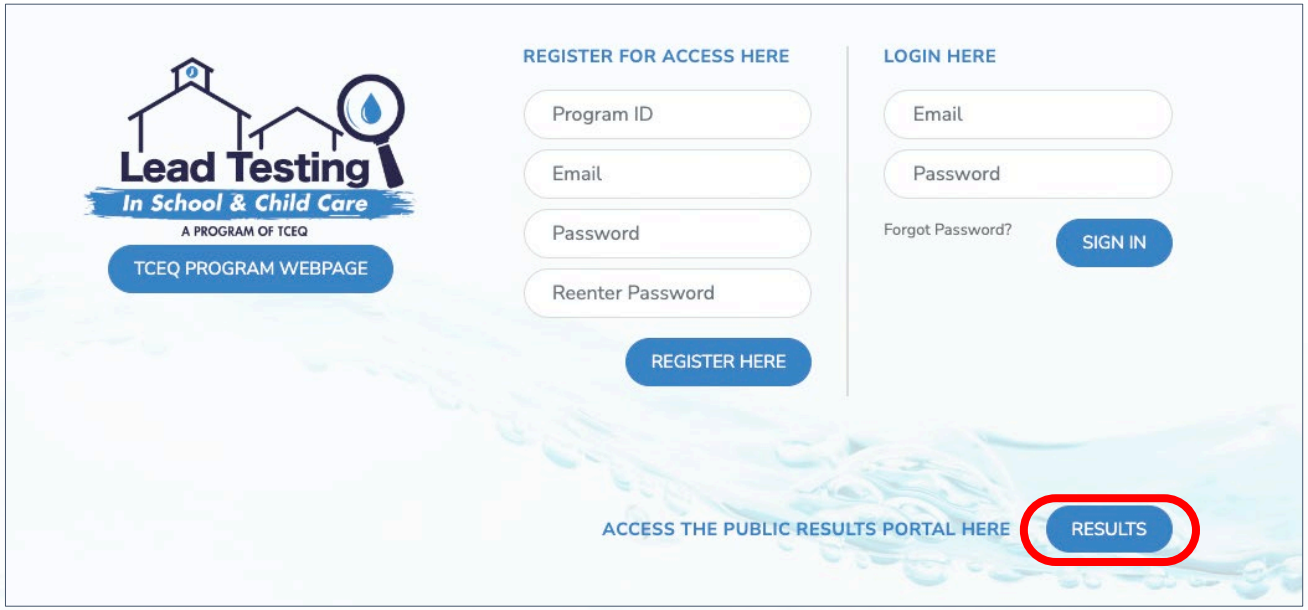
Program Data – Outlet Type

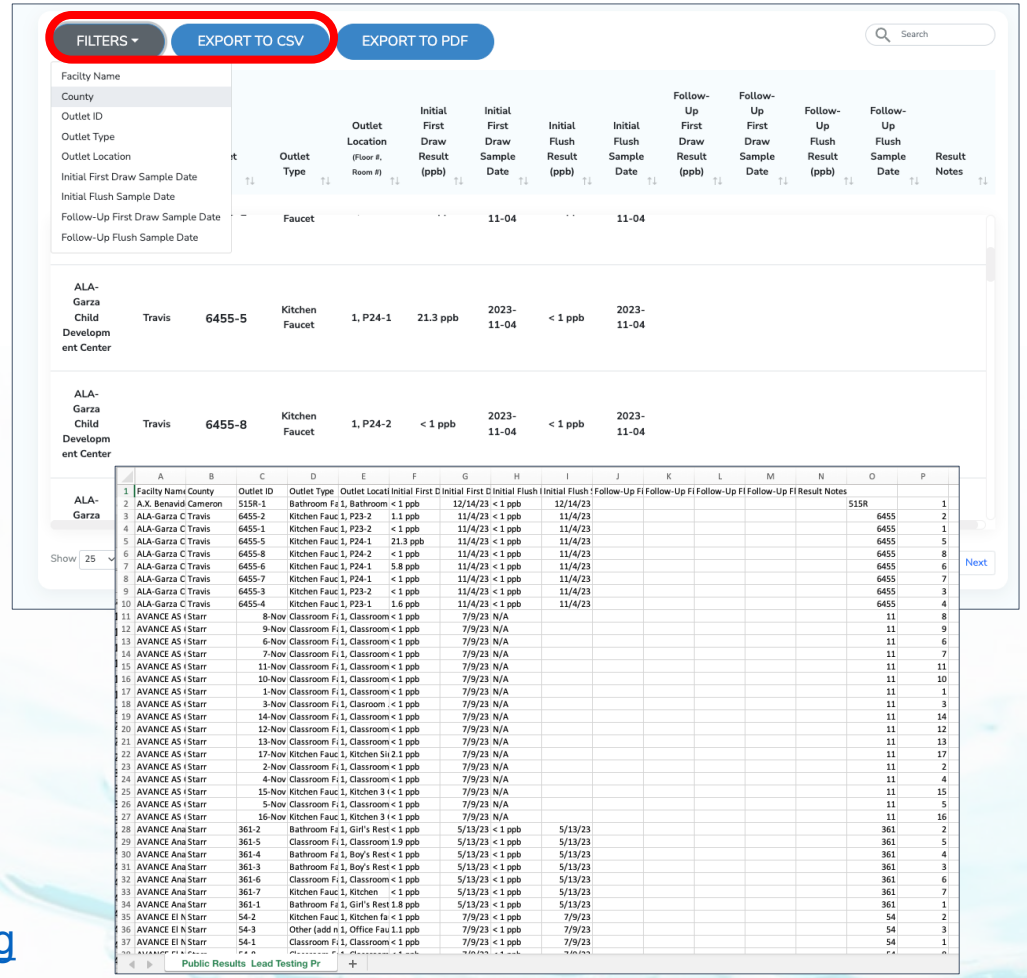


*Data includes initial first-draw samples through 7/15/24

Results Portal

txleadtesting.org > “Results” button





Note: Only facilities that have completed sampling are displayed; enrolled facilities that have not completed sampling are not shown.
Tip: Use pivot table or “unique” function in Excel to get a list of facilities from the export of all data.

For assistance email enroll@txleadtesting.org or info@txleadtesting.org

How Can the LTSCC Program Help You?

LCRI Compliance

Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI)	Lead Testing in School and Child Care (LTSCC)
• Requirement for compliance sampling beginning in 2028 • **WIIN funded program (LTSCC) applies** • 5 samples required per school, 2 per child care, locations predetermined • School and child care notification required; CCR must also include statement	• Available now and voluntary • WIIN grant funded state program • Every location used for drinking or food preparation can be sampled; facilities determine locations • School and child care community notification required

Sampling now through the LTSCC Program can help with LCRI compliance!

Stakeholder Engagement

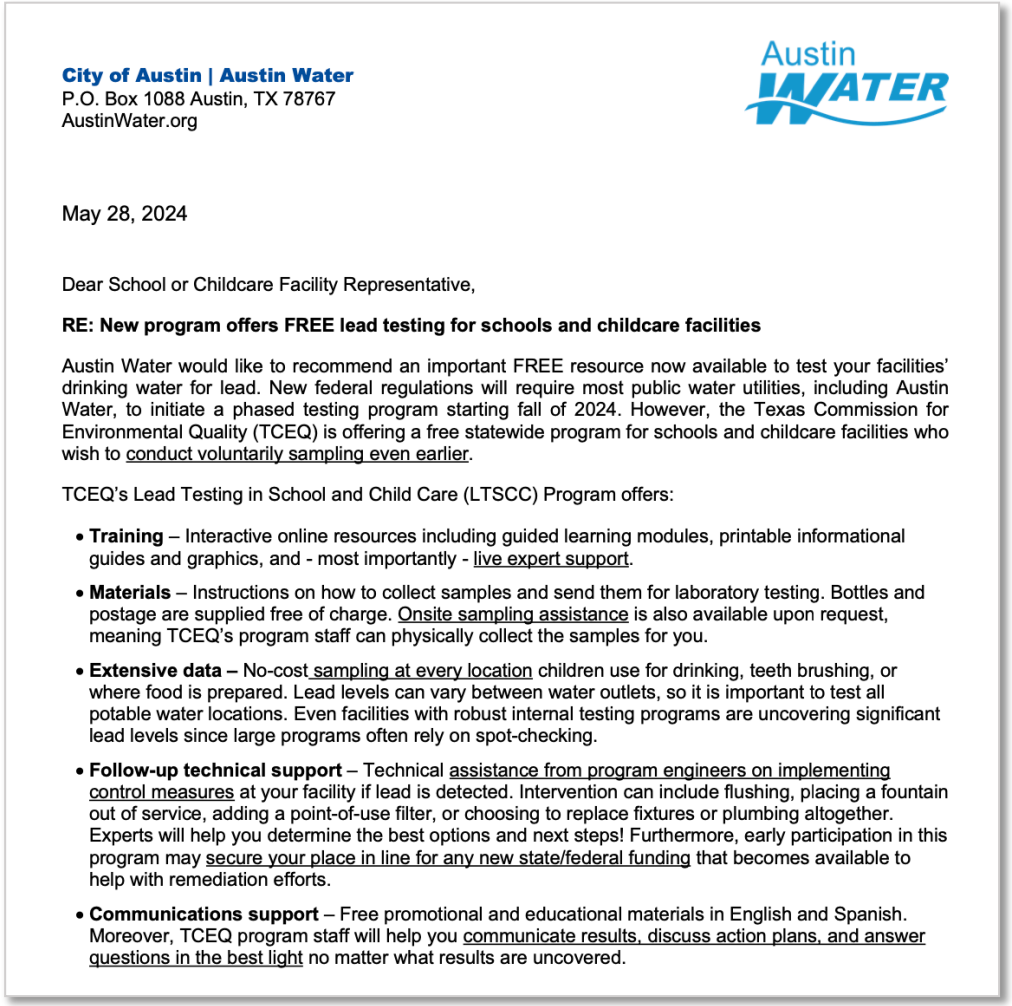
- Reaching stakeholders through:
  - Conferences, presentations, webinars (audience of 10,000+)
  - 18,000+ phone calls
- Network of program cross-promotion to increase program awareness and trust

Program Highlight: *The LTSCC Program worked with the City of Pharr Public Utilities to host a LTSCC Program Information Session for 30+ child care administrators, increasing program engagement in and around Pharr, TX.*

Communications Resources

- English and Spanish promotional material available
  - Can be distributed by water providers to help communicate with facilities in their service area
- LTSCC team can help write custom press releases, hold webinars, etc. to assist with questions from the community
- The program's connections with various stakeholders can help with efficient use of resources

Program Highlight: *The LTSCC Program worked with Austin Water to promote the program to Austin-based schools and child care facilities, which lead to the enrollment of Austin ISD (100+ schools) and 50+ child care facilities.*



City of Austin | Austin Water
P.O. Box 1088 Austin, TX 78767
AustinWater.org

May 28, 2024

Dear School or Childcare Facility Representative,

RE: New program offers FREE lead testing for schools and childcare facilities

Austin Water would like to recommend an important FREE resource now available to test your facilities' drinking water for lead. New federal regulations will require most public water utilities, including Austin Water, to initiate a phased testing program starting fall of 2024. However, the Texas Commission for Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is offering a free statewide program for schools and childcare facilities who wish to conduct voluntarily sampling even earlier.

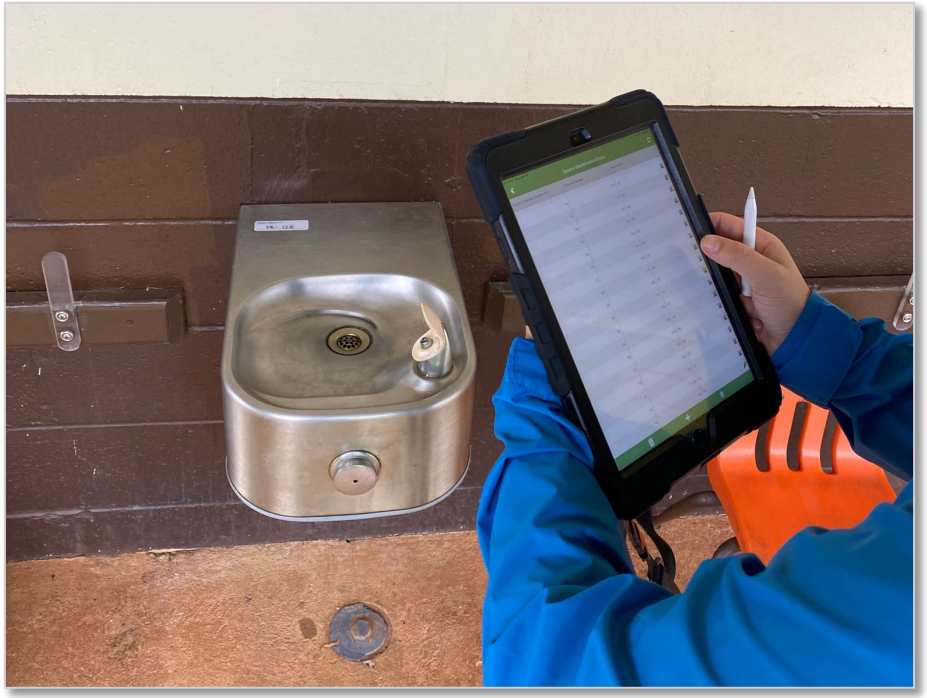
TCEQ's Lead Testing in School and Child Care (LTSCC) Program offers:

- **Training** – Interactive online resources including guided learning modules, printable informational guides and graphics, and - most importantly - live expert support.
- **Materials** – Instructions on how to collect samples and send them for laboratory testing. Bottles and postage are supplied free of charge. Onsite sampling assistance is also available upon request, meaning TCEQ's program staff can physically collect the samples for you.
- **Extensive data –** No-cost sampling at every location children use for drinking, teeth brushing, or where food is prepared. Lead levels can vary between water outlets, so it is important to test all potable water locations. Even facilities with robust internal testing programs are uncovering significant lead levels since large programs often rely on spot-checking.
- **Follow-up technical support** – Technical assistance from program engineers on implementing control measures at your facility if lead is detected. Intervention can include flushing, placing a fountain out of service, adding a point-of-use filter, or choosing to replace fixtures or plumbing altogether. Experts will help you determine the best options and next steps! Furthermore, early participation in this program may secure your place in line for any new state/federal funding that becomes available to help with remediation efforts.
- **Communications support** – Free promotional and educational materials in English and Spanish. Moreover, TCEQ program staff will help you communicate results, discuss action plans, and answer questions in the best light no matter what results are uncovered.

Austin Water LTSCC Letter Excerpt

Sampling Assistance

- **Free** sampling and analysis available through the program
  - Waiver for schools and child care facilities sampled through WIIN Grant Programs after 2021
- Sample kits can be sent directly to facilities OR to water providers assisting facilities with sampling through the program



Program Highlight: *During Summer 2024, LTSCC Program field technicians collected samples from over 400 schools across the state, potentially alleviating future sampling requirements for public water systems under LCRI.*

Remediation Support

- LTSCC team can provide free remediation support for water locations with detectable lead
- Program helpline and communications templates can be used to field questions regarding results and remediation efforts

Program Highlight: *The LTSCC Program is collecting information from participants that have completed sampling on what actions, if any, they have taken to reduce lead. As of July 2024, remediation information has been collected from 711 out of 1,184 (60%) facilities that have completed sampling.*

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Program Helpline: (512) 957-0439
Email: info@txleadtesting.org
Webpage: texasleadtesting.org

Thanks for your interest in the Lead Testing in School and Child Care Program, where we are working to reduce childhood lead exposure!

Questions?

Individual meetings with our program team can be scheduled at: **calendly.com/txleadtesting**

Lead Testing in Schools and Child Care Facilities (LTSCC): How PWSs Can Get Involved

Thank you for joining us!

Questions?

Webinar Feedback

- Please provide your feedback on today's webinar in this 4-question survey. Thank you!

Provide Webinar Feedback Here

Water for North Texas Online Library

- Resources related to today's topic and other water-related subjects can be found on the Water for North Texas Online Library

Wrap-Up

- If you have submitted an RSVP for this webinar, you will receive an email with the presentation slides and a link to the recording.
- All webinar slides and recordings are posted on NCTCOG's website under the green banner, "Webinars" here:
  https://www.nctcog.org/envir/natural-resources/water-resources
- If you did not RSVP and would like these webinar materials, please email aknox@nctcog.org.

North Central Texas Council of Governments

Thank you for attending!

NCTCOG Webinar
November 6, 2024

Alyssa Knox, NCTCOG
aknox@nctcog.org

North Central Texas Council of Governments
Environment & Development

www.nctcog.org/WaterResources

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Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

EPA United States Environmental Protection Agency