



Work Session Meeting Agenda
2 Park Drive South, Great Falls, MT
Gibson Room, Civic Center
May 16, 2023
5:30 PM

The agenda packet material is available on the City's website: <https://greatfallsmt.net/meetings>. The Public may view and listen to the meeting on government access channel City-190, cable channel 190; or online at <https://greatfallsmt.net/livestream>.

Public participation is welcome in the following ways:

- Attend in person.
- Provide public comments in writing by 12:00 PM the day of the meeting: Mail to City Clerk, PO Box 5021, Great Falls, MT 59403, or via email to: commission@greatfallsmt.net. Include the agenda item or agenda item number in the subject line, and include the name of the commenter and either an address or whether the commenter is a city resident. Written communication received by that time will be shared with the City Commission and appropriate City staff for consideration during the agenda item, and, will be so noted in the official record of the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

PUBLIC COMMENT

(Public comment on agenda items or any matter that is within the jurisdiction of the City Commission. Please keep your remarks to a maximum of five (5) minutes. Speak into the microphone, and state your name and either your address or whether you are a city resident for the record.)

WORK SESSION ITEMS

1. Update of EPA's Lead and Copper Rule Revision - Mark Juras.
2. Review Ballot Language for Public safety Levy General Obligation Bond - Melissa Kinzler and Greg Doyon.

DISCUSSION POTENTIAL UPCOMING WORK SESSION TOPICS

ADJOURNMENT

City Commission Work Sessions are televised on cable channel 190 and streamed live at <https://greatfallsmt.net>. Work Session meetings are re-aired on cable channel 190 the following Thursday morning at 10 a.m. and the following Tuesday evening at 5:30 p.m.

Wi-Fi is available during the meetings for viewing of the online meeting documents.

UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULE

Work Session -- Tuesday June 6, 2023 5:30 p.m.

Commission Meeting -- Tuesday June 6, 2023 7:00 p.m.

CITY OF GREAT FALLS UPDATE ON EPA'S LEAD AND COPPER RULE REVISION

May 16, 2023

EPA's Lead & Copper Rule Revision Effective October 24, 2024

City Progress Update on:

- 1) Lead Service Line Inventory
- 2) Tap Sampling Plan
- 3) Lead Service Line Replacement Plan



Lead Service Line Inventory

Approximate Totals as of May 2023		
• Non-Lead	14,846	(67.8%)
• Lead	142	(0.6%)
• Galvanized	502	(2.3%)
• Unknown *	6,423	(29.3%)
• Total	21,913	

* EPA considers unknown as lead until proven otherwise!

Lead Pipe

- A magnet will not stick to a lead pipe.
- Scratch the pipe with a coin. If the scraped area is shiny silver and flakes off, the service line is lead.

Copper Pipe

- A magnet will not stick to a copper pipe.
- Scratch the pipe with a penny. If the scraped area is copper in color, like a penny, your service line is copper.

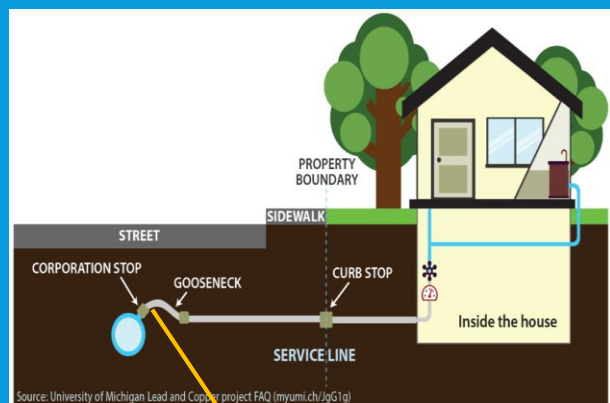
Galvanized Steel Pipe

- If a magnet sticks to the surface, your service line is galvanized steel.
- A scratch test is not needed. If you scratch the pipe, it will remain a dull gray.

Lead Service Line Inventory

Public Engagement

- ~10,000 letters mailed in July 2022
 - ~3,000 responders (thank you!)
- City inspectors calling non-responders
 - Calling statistics as of May 2023
 - ~4,000 owners called
 - ~2,500 contacts made
 - ~1,000 lines identified



Lead Service Line Inventory

Public Engagement

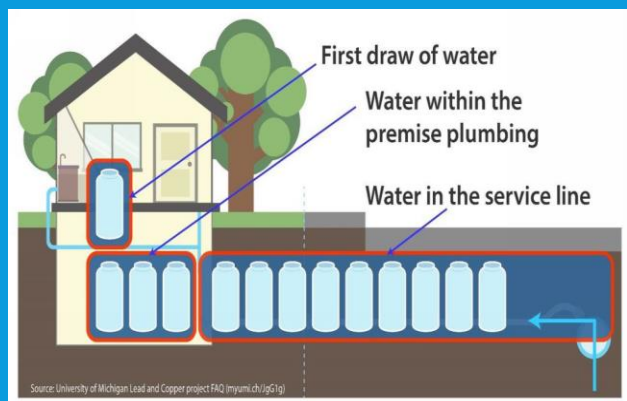
- Website: <https://greatfallsmt.net/publicworks/water-service-line-inventory>
 - In future City must publicize inventory
- Water Service Hotline: 406-455-8401
- Email: waterserviceline@greatfallsmt.net
- Facebook
- Presentations



Tap Sampling Plan

City Progress Update

- Early mandatory sampling in June 2023
 - 30 lead line participants in City limits
 - Results in July will identify if:
 - Corrosion treatment at plant
 - Service line replacements
 - Lead, galvanized, & unknown
- Working towards 60 LSL participants
 - Encourage LSL owners to participate!
- All schools and child care facilities listed



City Policy & LSLR Funding

OCCGF 13.6.010 "All the expense of laying and maintaining the service pipes from the mains to the consumer's premises must be borne by the consumer."

Infrastructure Bill

- Allocates \$15 B for LSLR efforts
- MT to receive ~\$140 M
- ~\$28 M per year for 5 years
- Dispersed via SRF loans
- City is on the State's Intended Use Plan



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Lead Service Line Replacement Plan

City Progress Update

- Lead service line project concept development underway
 - Pilot project
 - Replace 20 lead service lines
 - Gain useful experience
 - Develop template for future projects
 - Utilize SRF loan with 60% loan forgiveness
 - Eligibility requires 10% utility rate increase
 - Focus on equitable use of SRF funds while they are available



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Questions?

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Common Questions & Answers

Where can I find more information? Where can I learn more about the EPA's Lead and Copper Rule Revision and/or the City's compliance?

Monitor the City's Facebook page and engineering website, as information will be released when it is available. Additional information on EPA's Lead and Copper Rule Revision can be found on their website:

<https://www.epa.gov/dwreginfo/lead-and-copper-rule>

<https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/revised-lead-and-copper-rule>

How does lead get into drinking water?

Lead enters drinking water primarily through plumbing materials.

What are the common health concerns with lead in drinking water?

Please refer to the EPA's webpage which discusses potential lead related health concerns:

www.epa.gov/lead/what-are-some-health-effects-lead

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Common Questions & Answers

How can I test my drinking water for lead?

The City of Great Falls is not able to perform lead tests for individual consumers. To test for lead, contact the Department of Health Services Lab in Helena, (406) 444-3444, or visit their website:

<https://dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/laboratoryservices/EnvironmentalLaboratory/>

The cost is approximately \$60 and they will direct you to the necessary size of the sample, the sample container, and a sample pick up location.

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Common Questions & Answers

How can I check if my water service line is lead or lead containing?

Lead and galvanized water service lines can be identified by performing a "Scratch Test" on the water service line where it enters the building. The scratch test is essentially a visual test that can be completed with basic tools and in a short timeframe. First, locate the water service line coming into the building. It is typically found in the basement, crawl space, mechanical room, or in a wall panel. A water meter is installed on the water service line pipe after the point of entry into the building. Identify a test area on the pipe on the upstream or street side of the meter, which is between the point where it comes into the building and the water meter. If the pipe is covered or wrapped, peel back the cover to expose a small area of the pipe, about 6-inches, to clearly see the color of the pipe. Using the edge of a screwdriver or penny, scratch or scrape through any corrosion that may have built up on the outside of the pipe so that the color of the pipe can clearly be seen. Also, grab a strong magnet. Using the color of the scratched surface and the magnet, identify the pipe from the following criteria:

- Lead – scratches are shiny and silver-gray – a strong magnet will not stick to a lead pipe
- Galvanized – scratches are dull silver-gray – a strong magnet will stick to galvanized pipe, pipe fittings are also threaded on galvanized pipe
- Copper – scratches are copper – a strong magnet will not stick to copper
- Plastic – plastic pipes are rigid, non-metallic, and may vary in color – magnets do not stick

Residents can download a test form with instructions to perform the scratch test and return the results to the City at greatfallsmt.net/publicworks/engineering. The test form is under the Supporting Documents at the bottom of the webpage. Residents can also contact the City of Great Falls water service Inventory Hotline at 406-455-8401. Please keep questions pertinent to identifying the material type of the water service line, and please be patient with us as we respond to calls as we expect a large volume of calls. Residents can also take a picture of the water service line where it enters the building, indicate the physical address of the building, and send that information in an e-mail to waterservice@greatfallsmt.net. Residents with non-copper water service lines are encouraged to communicate their water service line material type and address to the City so that the City can incorporate that data into the water service line inventory.

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Common Questions & Answers

Why did I receive a mailer and not someone else?

Mailers were delivered to every residence or building which had a water service line installed prior to 1970 or replaced prior to 1980. The mailer included instructions to perform a scratch test and return the results to the City. About 10,000 mailers were delivered.

I have a lead, lead containing, or galvanized water service line, what now?

Let the City know as instructed on the test form available under the supporting documents heading at the bottom of the following webpage: greatfallsmt.net/publicworks/engineering. The City will add the information to the water service line inventory. As of May 2023, the Federal government is not requiring line replacement, and the next phase of the LCRR is tap sampling. The Federal Government may require water service line replacement in the future as dictated by the results of the LCRR Tap Sampling Plan.

Who will pay for replacement of a lead, lead containing, galvanized, or unknown water service line?

The City's Code states that all the expense of laying and maintaining the service pipes from the mains to the consumer's premises must be borne by the consumer.

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Common Questions & Answers

What is the estimated cost for a lead or lead containing water service line replacement?

As of May of 2023, the City does not know with certainty whether or not lead service line replacement is required. The cost may vary greatly from residence to residence. Local qualified water utility contractors should be contacted to obtain individual quotes.

Will the State or Federal government provide funding for lead or lead containing water service line replacement?

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law allocates \$15 Billion for LSLR efforts. Montana is to receive ~\$140 Million: \$28 Million per year over 5 years. Money will be dispersed through the State Revolving Fund process, a low interest loan program. 60% loan forgiveness (up to \$2m) is available for suppliers that are at or above certain utility rates as defined by the State.

What if the plumbing inside my building is lead, lead containing, or galvanized?

Lead plumbing components inside the building are another potential source of lead contamination. As of July of 2022, the LCRR does not require replacement of interior plumbing, just lead, lead containing, unknown, or galvanized water service lines.

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