

State Program Examples: Lead Service Line Inventory and Replacement

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Replacing the nation's estimated 10 million lead service lines is a significant public health challenge that will require momentum, funding, partnerships, and innovation. Below are some examples and resources that can help stakeholders consider state-level programmatic and policy alternatives.

Common themes across these examples:

- Setting a clear timeline for replacement helps drive action.
- Mandating full-service line replacement clarifies the expected outcome.
- Providing direct TA to municipalities for inventory development and management helps reduce the impacts on utility ratepayers. Contracting through the state can help leverage efficiencies, standardize reporting, improve utilities' compliance with federal LCRR and state inventory requirements, reduce state resources required to certify inventories, and help utilities lay a foundation to enable more equitable, expeditious, and cost-efficient LSLR.
- Allowing joint applications for funding for service line inventory and replacement can stretch limited dollars and advance efficiencies and full replacement.
 - [EPA's 2017 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Eligibility Handbook](#) (p. 9) states that "Multiple community water systems can join together in a consortium to apply for a single loan for a mutually beneficial project or set of projects."
- Standardizing LSL inventories and creating a central and publicly accessible database enables partners to track LSL replacements statewide.

GEORGIA:

- [Georgia's](#) lead service line replacement program (1,910 systems reporting) provides financing solely for lead service line inventory management and lead service line replacement projects that will assist local communities with the implementation of proactive LSLR programs.
- [Georgia](#) has contracted with 120Water to help systems manage and report their service line inventories, ultimately contributing to statewide databases. Georgia will provide free access to the online mapping portal for communities without GIS.

INDIANA:

- [Indiana](#) (756 total water systems) has also contracted with 120Water to help systems manage and report their service line inventories contributing to the statewide database. Indiana has procured software licenses for all public water systems.

KANSAS:

- The Kansas Dept. of Health and Environment (842 total water systems) hired contractors to do historic record reviews and customer surveys. As of October 2023, thirty systems had sent [requests for TA](#).
- Kansas Department of Health and Environment (842 total water systems) developed a standardized [questionnaire](#) that systems can use with their customers.

MICHIGAN:

- [Michigan's Lead and Copper Rule](#) gives utilities in that state ten years to replace their LSLs and defines LSLs to include both the utility-side and private-side of the service line and also includes lead pigtails, goosenecks, or other lead fitting that is connected to the service line in the definition. The rule also requires LSLs and galvanized pipes containing lead to be replaced at the water system's expense.

MINNESOTA:

- Minnesota's (916 total water systems) [Inventory Assistance Program](#) gives priority to Action Level Exceedances, then from fewest connections to greatest. Out of 731 municipal systems, roughly 435 have applied. Work is capped at \$75,000.
- The state of Minnesota (916 total water systems) is partnering with the University of Minnesota to develop a [reporting portal](#) that includes links to CCRs.

NEW JERSEY:

- New Jersey passed [legislation in 2021](#) mandating a ten-year timeline for replacing lead pipes.
- New Jersey requires full LSLR in order to access SRFs.
- New Jersey [legislation](#) authorizes municipalities to replace lead contaminated services (including LSLs) on private property if the work is: 1) an environmental infrastructure project; and 2) funded by loans from either the NJ Department of Environmental Protection or the NJ Infrastructure Bank.
- New Jersey (569 total water systems) enacted [legislation](#) that allows municipalities to enter private property to perform LSLR activities.
- Jersey Water Works: [2023 Primer for Mayors – Let's Get the Lead Out of Our Drinking Water: Lead Service Line Efficiency Measures](#)

NEW YORK:

- New York (2,080 total water systems) recently enacted [legislation](#) that specifies requirements for inventory activities and transparency in reporting the presence of LSLs.
- Part UU in New York's [proposed FY24 budget](#) (TED, p. 247) enables all public funds to be used for private and public side replacements.
- New York state [guidance](#) defines a Lead Service Line (LSL) to be any portion of pipe that is made of lead that connects the water main to the building inlet and states that the LSL may be owned by the water system, the property owner, or both.

OHIO:

- Ohio contracts with the Rural Community Assistance Partnership and the Ohio Rural Water Association to prepare inventories for systems serving fewer than 10,000 people.

- Ohio EPA's [website](#) provides public access to maps for every system that's reported on its service line inventory.

PENNSYLVANIA:

- Pennsylvania DEP's [Sufficient-Evidence-Job 9-19-23.pdf](#) provides guidance on how to navigate the complexity of verification of non-lead lines.
- Pennsylvania [P.L. 2017-44](#) gives municipalities the authority to replace or remediate private water and sewer laterals using public funds and municipal employees if they determine the work "will benefit the public health."

UTAH:

- [Utah](#) (978 total water systems) staffed up and hired a contractor to provide direct TA to develop LSL inventories and replacement plans. Systems can apply for either a \$100,000 grant or no-cost TA. As of October 2023, one third of the systems that need to submit inventories had received or applied for a grant.

VIRGINIA:

- The state established a [Lead Elimination Assistance Program \(LEAP\)](#) in 2017 that educates localities and homeowners about the dangers of lead service lines, partners with cities to conduct LSL removal and provides funding to eligible participants
 - Eligible participants include community waterworks or non-profit non-transient waterworks owners with confirmed or suspected LSLs; single family homes and apartments; and school and daycares
 - Grants are limited to \$500,000 for LSL replacement and \$250,000 for LSL inventory per applicant per funding year
 - \$2M is allocated for LEAP per funding application cycle. If awarded, these funds are distributed as 100% principal forgiveness.
- The state is also contracting with a [technical service provider](#) called TruePani to assist communities with their inventories (developing strategies and developing funding submissions - not the actual inventory work) at no cost.

WISCONSIN:

- Wisconsin requires full LSLR in order to access SRFs. Wisconsin law ([Wis. Stat. § 196.372 \(2\)\(a\)](#)) sets out that municipalities using rate revenues to provide financial assistance for private LSLR must adopt ordinances that allow use of rate revenues for these purposes and require property owners to replace their LSLs.
- [Wisconsin's](#) new technical assistance program is intended to help systems comply with the October 2024 federal LCRR deadline.