

DC Water's Lead Service Line Replacement Plan

Fiscal Year 2025
Summary





31 District residents trained in community outreach



INTRODUCTION

Since its launch in 2019, DC Water’s Lead Free DC (LFDC) initiative has transformed its mission to accelerate lead service line replacements from ambition into measurable impact. In October 2025, we reached a major milestone: replacing more than 10,000 lead service lines across the District of Columbia. This achievement marks significant progress toward our goal of eliminating all lead service lines in the District. LFDC remains active in every ward, partnering with community leaders to expand engagement, and deliver clean water for current and future generations.

Highlights and Milestones

As of October 1, 2025, we have replaced more than 10,000 service lines and provided an estimated \$27 million in free and discounted lead service line replacements through the initiative.

In addition to accelerating free lead service line replacements in the District, LFDC also supports jobs and reinvests local dollars back into the economy. The Lead Pipe Replacement Assistance Program (LPRAP) connects local plumbing contractors with property owners who need service line replacement on private property. A partnership between the District Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE) and DC Water, the program replaced 549 lead service line replacements between October 1, 2024 and September 30, 2025.

In May 2024, DC Water’s Community Activator Program entered its second year of workforce development training in partnership with the District Department of Employment Services. The second cohort graduated in August 2025.

Each cohort participates in a year-long, on-the-job training program designed for District residents, offering hands-on experience in community engagement, canvassing, and marketing. Upon completion, the Activators have the opportunity to apply and transition into full-time roles with the LFDC program. The first and

second cohorts trained 31 District residents. To date, 23 Activators have joined the program full time following graduation.

Our Commitment

We remain excited about the future of this program and appreciate all the hard work from our partnerships in the government, the community, and local businesses. We are grateful to our DC Water employees, contractors, and customers for making this commitment a reality.



“This annual report is a testament to our commitment to the wellbeing of the District’s residents, now and for generations to come. Since launching Lead Free DC, our

mission has been clear: replace every lead service line in the District. Our continued progress reflects the dedication of our team and partners. In 2025 we reached a major milestone, and we remain focused ahead on accelerating this work until every lead line is removed and replaced.”

~ David Gadis

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) & General Manager

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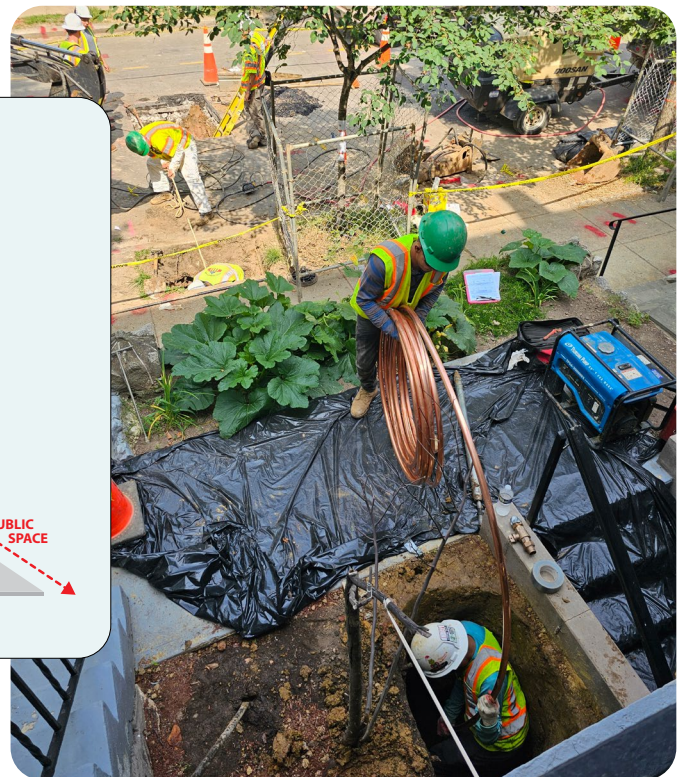
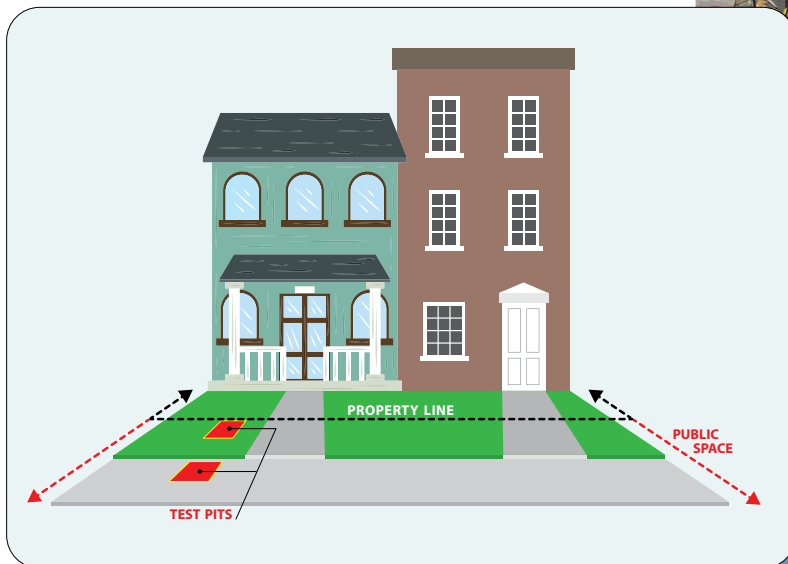
SECTION 1: LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY AND REPLACEMENTS

In Fiscal Year 2025 (Oct 1, 2024 - Sept 30, 2025) we replaced 3,159 lead service lines across the District. Use the QR Code to see real time data.

LFDC Public Dashboard



Replacements are occurring in every ward through multiple free and discounted programs. These programs include the Capital Improvement Project & Emergency Repair Replacement Program (CIPERR), Lead Pipe Replacement Assistance Program (LPRAP), or the Voluntary Full Replacement Program (VFRP).





SECTION 1: LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY AND REPLACEMENTS continued

Table 1 – Lead Service Line Replacement Programs in DC - Every property owner in the District with a lead or galvanized iron service line is eligible to participate in one of these programs.

Program	What It Is	How It Works	Cost of Service Line Replacement
Block-by-Block Replacements	DC Water replaces the lead service line connecting to your property in the public and private space.	You will receive mail, phone calls, emails, texts, and door visits from our team to notify you of your eligibility and tell you how to sign up for a replacement.	No cost to homeowner Why is it free? DC Water has annual funds it uses for infrastructure maintenance and improvements.
Lead Pipe Assistance Replacement Program	If there are no public replacements on your block, or if the public side has already been replaced, the District will cover the cost for you to get a replacement on your property.	If a service line in the public space is not lead but the one on your property is lead, the District can cover the cost of your replacement. Apply through the District Department of Energy and Environment and request estimates from DC Water-approved contractors. After your replacement is complete, DC Water will pay the contractor directly.	No cost to homeowner. Why is it free? Supported by District and Federal funding, this program can cover the cost of replacing any eligible property.
Voluntary Full Replacement Program	If you want a replacement before DC Water is scheduled to come to your block, coordinate directly with DC Water and a DC Water-approved private contractor.	If your service line is lead on both the public and private side and you want to schedule your replacement ahead of DC Water's timeline, you can work with DC Water and a private contractor for a voluntary replacement for your property and the public space at the same time.	On average, the replacement cost for the property owner is between \$2,500-\$4,500 . Why are there costs? Replacements are typically scheduled based on a planned capital improvement project. Because you are voluntarily choosing to have the replacement done outside that window and earlier than scheduled, the owner pays 100% of the private-side replacement costs, and DC Water will pay to replace the lead pipe in public space.

SECTION 1: LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY AND REPLACEMENTS continued

Program	What It Is	How It Works	Cost of Service Line Replacement
Small Diameter Water Main Replacement	DC Water replaces your lead service line for free when it is working on public property replacements and/or replacing the water main on your block.	When DC Water is replacing the water main on your block, the construction crew can replace a lead service line on your property. You will receive mail, phone calls, emails, texts, and door visits from our team to notify you of your eligibility and tell you how to sign up for a replacement.	No cost to homeowner. Why is it free? DC Water has annual funds it uses for infrastructure maintenance and improvements. Because there is already construction on your block, your replacement can be covered by funding under this project.
Emergency Repair Replacement	DC Water replaces your lead service line for free if they are doing a public replacement while responding to an emergency.	In the event DC Water is doing emergency construction on public property, the crew can replace a lead service line on your property. You will be contacted by DC Water or one of our contractors to notify you of your eligibility and tell you how to sign up for a replacement.	No cost to homeowner. Why is it free? DC Water has annual funds it uses for emergency repairs. If there is an emergency on your block that requires construction, your replacement can be covered by the funds set aside for this need.



Test pit excavation at a residential property in DC

A key piece in reaching our goal to replace all lead service lines is to continue improving the accuracy of the service line inventory.

The inventory contains a list of property addresses and the type of pipe material for that property’s water service line and is routinely updated based on field inspections and other documentation. Like many water utilities, the information available to DC Water may be incomplete and must be verified in the field.

During FY 2025, we verified the pipe material of 7,581 service lines, to inform customers about their pipe material. LFDC currently determines service line materials through “dig and determine” test pit inspections, point of entry inspections inside properties, and verifying historic construction records. DC Water customers can visit dcwater.com/lead to see DC Water’s service line inventory and learn when they can expect construction on their block.

DC Water customers can search for information about their property’s service line material on DC Water’s Inventory Map.



To find out if a lead service line replacement project is coming to your block, please visit the Construction Dashboard or visit dcwater.com/lead.

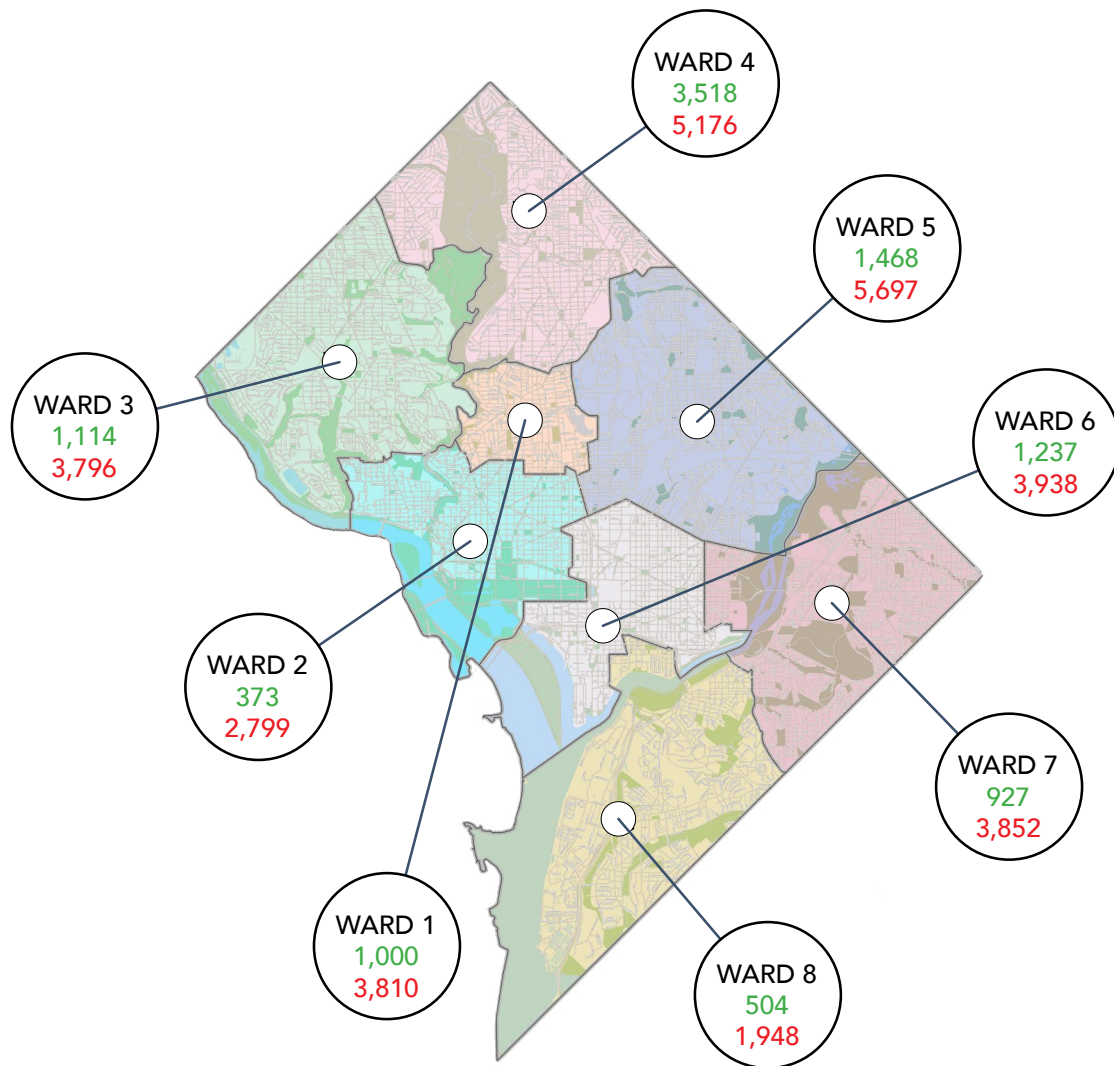


SECTION 2: PRIORITIZATION PLAN

LFDC has multiple lead service line replacement programs performing construction in all wards of the District and monitors the progress of lead service line replacements in all wards.

Lead Service Lines replaced during FY 2025: **3,159**

Total remaining as of September 30, 2025: **31,016** – Total replaced at the end of FY 2025: **10,141**



Data reflects inventory records as of the publication date. Inventory records routinely undergo quality assurance review and updates. The most current data is available on the Program Status Dashboard at dcwater.com/lead.

During FY 2025, LFDC replaced most lead service lines through LPRAP and the Block-by-Block Program, which offers free replacements. Our Block-by-Block Program uses a data-driven approach: LFDC systematically identifies high-priority blocks for replacement, focusing on areas with the most estimated lead service lines and populations - especially children - at higher risk of health issues from lead exposure.

SECTION 3: LEAD FREE DC PROGRAM SCHEDULE AND ESTIMATED COSTS

DC Water is accelerating the replacement of lead service lines through multiple, concurrent construction contracts. To minimize disruptions to District residents, these replacements are strategically coordinated with other capital improvement initiatives, such as water main upgrades, and through partnerships with District agencies and utilities. This integrated approach reduces neighborhood impacts and achieves cost efficiencies by consolidating projects—ensuring that streets are excavated and repaved only once.

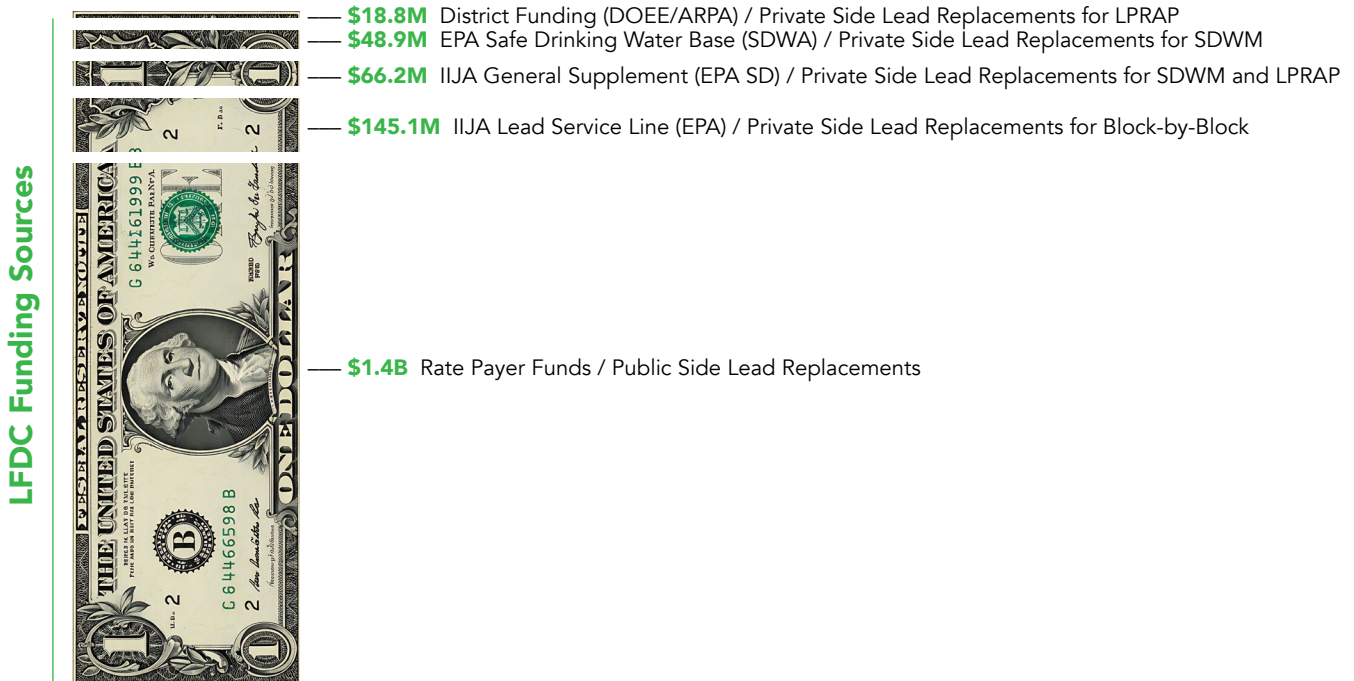
3.1 Estimated Program Costs

The total program cost for LFDC is estimated at about \$1.8 billion. Actual program costs are influenced by many factors, including customer participation, coordination with other District programs and agencies, and the actual number of lead service lines replaced rather than estimates, as LFDC works to confirm the pipe material of service lines designated as “no information” or “suspected” in DC Water’s records. These planning level cost estimates reflect both public-side replacement costs (paid by DC Water) and private-side replacement costs (paid by District and Federal Funds).

Additional actions required by the Environmental Protection Agency’s 2024 federal rule, the Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI), may also impact the program’s cost as it will require all water systems to replace lead service lines by 2037. DC Water has aligned the LFDC program strategy with the LCRI requirements and will make adjustments based on future regulatory changes.

3.2 Estimated Program Funding

The LFDC program has multiple funding sources. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) lead service line funding is estimated at \$145.1 million based on the original IIJA calculations. However, some states are not fully utilizing their lead service line allotments, which will allow other states and the District to receive additional funds. DC Water has been awarded \$2.195 million from the 2022 reallocation but also expects additional funds from each subsequent year of IIJA allotment from 2023 through 2026. The current funding projections show that outside of funding secured by grants and DCW dedicated funds, there is a funding gap of \$152.9 million.





3.2 Estimated Program Funding continued

DC Water is reviewing federal and local grant announcements and will apply for those grants should additional funding programs or grant funding for lead service line replacement become available.

DC Water continues to explore the possibility of private foundation grant funding and private donors to bridge the program’s funding gap. Funding secured by private grants will be dedicated to replacing lead service lines on private properties in the District. Applications are being completed based on foundation schedules and funding availability.

Program Cost Savings Initiatives

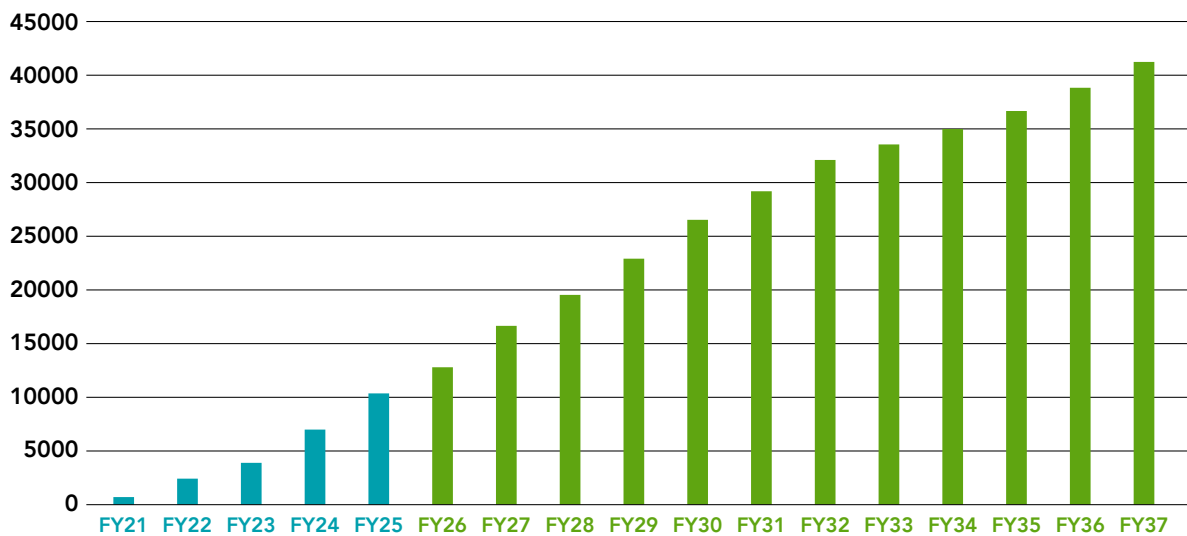
DC Water is always looking for efficiencies and opportunities to reduce the cost of the program.

A few of the successful initiatives so far include:

- LFDC has initiated a construction materials prepurchase program in which DC Water purchases construction materials directly from a supplier and furnishes them to the construction contractor. This realizes cost savings for DC Water by avoiding the contractor’s procurement markup.
- DC Water has partnered with the Department of Employment Services (DOES) in a workforce development program. During FY 2025, DC Water trained 10 District residents in customer outreach. DOES employees have served as door-to-door canvassers for LFDC, which is essential to public education and participation in the program.
- DC Water and the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) have entered a Memorandum of Understanding to streamline the permitting process and will likely reduce the cost of developing permit documents and speed the final inspection and closeout process.
- DC Water has increased the size of Block-by-Block construction projects to create efficiencies of scale in construction and program management costs.
- DC Water is in collaboration with DDOT’s Pave DC Program and Washington Gas to find alignment in paving plans and DC Water construction projects to generate an overall cost savings in post construction paving.

Cumulative Lead Service Line Replacements by Fiscal Year (FY21 through FY37)

(DC Water’s fiscal years begin on October 1 and end on September 30)



- Data shown for FY 2021, FY 2022, FY 2024 and FY 2025 are actual numbers.
- Data shown for LFDC Replacement Goals for FY 2026 through FY 2037.

SECTION 4: COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Lead Free DC cannot replace the portion of the lead service line on private property without the owner’s written permission, which is why building public awareness about the health impacts of lead exposure and options to remove lead service lines is so important to LFDC’s mission. To encourage owner participation, we deliver a transparent and robust communications approach to connect with residents, community leaders, and other stakeholders. Our approach relies on three areas: stakeholder engagement, social marketing, and community outreach.

Stakeholder Engagement: To help inform and inspire our community to consider a lead service line replacement, we keep community leaders informed and engaged with our program regularly. This includes providing regular presentations to Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (ANCs) and civic associations, attending community meetings, meeting with community stakeholder and health advocates, and engaging community-based organizations.



dc water is life® LEAD FREE DC

Join Us!

Frozen Ground, Forward Motion: Lead Line Replacements in Winter

Join our next Lead Free DC Virtual Meeting to Learn How Our Programs Adapt to Winter Weather.

Wednesday, January 28
6:00 – 7:00 PM

Social Marketing: LFDC is working to increase public recognition and customer awareness through an integrated marketing program. In 2025, DC Water partnered with DC Health and the District Department of Energy and Environment to co-produce new materials about lead in the District.

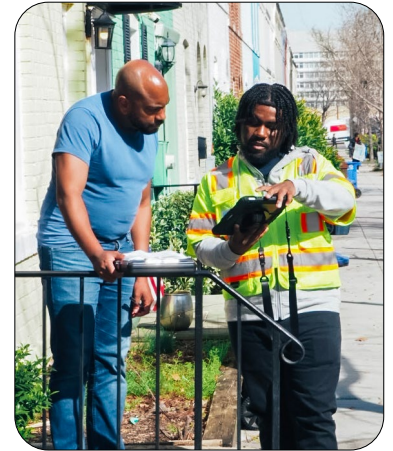
Additionally we are expanding our materials and resources for residents, including a quarterly webinar series, quarterly newsletter, social media promotion, monthly customer emails for properties enrolled in replacement programs, construction activity notifications and program marketing door hangers.

Through these efforts, and supported by paid advertising through the “Imagine a City without Lead” (2021, 2022) and “Lead Free for Me” (2024) campaigns, we continue to educate the public on the health impacts of lead in drinking water, promote the tools available to customers to check if they have a lead service line, and provide guidance to overcome barriers to signing an agreement.

SECTION 4: COMMUNITY OUTREACH continued

Community Outreach: Whether we are staffing a table at a community fair or knocking on customers' doors, LFDC is dedicated to meeting residents where they are. We ensure they have the information they need to find out if they have a lead service line and to learn more about the health impacts of lead exposure in drinking water. In addition to events and canvassing, we also partner with community organizations and local businesses to reach customers. So far, we are working with 70 local businesses to help promote the program by posting signs or distributing flyers.

LFDC canvassers have been visiting residents who qualify for the program to answer questions and have collected over 8,000 signed agreements in FY2025.



Homeowners receive brochures, texts, voicemails, emails, and visits from our canvassing team and Customer Service teams.

DC Water is replacing lead service lines throughout the District to protect drinking water and public health.

Our records indicate your water service line needs to be replaced by Fall 2025. If you haven't signed up for a service line replacement, a licensed DC Water contractor will conduct a test to identify required repair service line material. You will be notified approximately three days before the date of your test job.

What is a test job? A DC Water contractor will dig two holes about 4 ft by 4 ft deep, using care to avoid disturbing landscaping and other personal items. One hole will be on the public side of your property line, which may be in your yard or driveway or on public property. The second hole will be on the sidewalk or on the street before the road. You can check DC Water's Service Line Inventory Map at www.dcwater.com/lead-free for the location of your property line.

If lead is found and you have already signed a Right of Entry Authorization form for a Free Lead Service Line Replacement, you will be notified by text, email, or voicemail. If you have not yet signed up, you can go to www.dcwater.com/lead-free or call 202-725-4644 to start the replacement process.

For more details about DC Water's lead service line replacement program, visit www.dcwater.com/lead-free. If you have written records indicating you do not have a lead service line, please contact Lead Free DC at leadfree@dcwater.com or call 202-725-4644.

DC Water covers the cost of replacing the public portion of a lead service line. It offers major help for the private side, too.

Lead Free DC Hosts
Your Home, Your Timeline: Exploring More Ways to Replace Your Lead Service Line.

Lead Free DC Virtual Community Meeting

Wednesday, October 22, 6 – 7 PM

ATTENTION RESIDENT:
You can have the lead service line on your property replaced.

DC Water is working to replace all lead service lines in the District through our Lead Free DC Program. We are going block-by-block through the city, but you don't have to wait. To learn how to replace your lead service line faster, check out our Voluntary Fall Replacement Program.

Lead Pipe Replacement Assistance Program (LPRAP)

Our records indicate you have a lead pipe on your private property.

Lead exposure can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and children.

The District will pay 100% of the cost to replace your lead pipe.

Let's work together to protect their futures, today. Please visit www.dcwater.com/lead-free for full program details.

Importante: Si las tuberías de agua después de que hemos reemplazado su tubería.

LES PARTICULARES DE ALGUNO PREFERENCIA EN LAS TUBERÍAS SERVICIO DEL PROPIETARIO EN LA CALLE DEBE SER REEMPLAZADO POR EL PROPIETARIO DEL PROPIETARIO.

1. Antes de comenzar la instalación de la tubería de agua, asegúrese de que la tubería de agua de la casa esté correctamente instalada y conectada a la tubería de agua de la calle.
2. Antes de hacer la tubería de agua, asegúrese de que la tubería de agua de la casa esté correctamente instalada y conectada a la tubería de agua de la calle.
3. Después de haber instalado la tubería de agua, asegúrese de que la tubería de agua de la casa esté correctamente instalada y conectada a la tubería de agua de la calle.
4. Después de haber instalado la tubería de agua, asegúrese de que la tubería de agua de la casa esté correctamente instalada y conectada a la tubería de agua de la calle.
5. Después de haber instalado la tubería de agua, asegúrese de que la tubería de agua de la casa esté correctamente instalada y conectada a la tubería de agua de la calle.
6. Después de haber instalado la tubería de agua, asegúrese de que la tubería de agua de la casa esté correctamente instalada y conectada a la tubería de agua de la calle.

Important: Follow These Steps After We Replace Your Pipe

LEAD PARTICLES REMAIN IN YOUR PLUMBING AFTER THE LEAD PIPE REPLACEMENT. FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS TO FLUSH THE LEAD PARTICLES OUT.

1. Turn on the cold water faucet for 5 minutes and flush the water out. Repeat this process for 10 minutes for all faucets.
2. Turn on the hot water faucet for 5 minutes and flush the water out. Repeat this process for 10 minutes for all faucets.
3. Turn on the cold water faucet for 5 minutes and flush the water out. Repeat this process for 10 minutes for all faucets.
4. Turn on the hot water faucet for 5 minutes and flush the water out. Repeat this process for 10 minutes for all faucets.
5. Turn on the cold water faucet for 5 minutes and flush the water out. Repeat this process for 10 minutes for all faucets.
6. Turn on the hot water faucet for 5 minutes and flush the water out. Repeat this process for 10 minutes for all faucets.

Lead Free DC July 2025

- Replaced 211 lead service lines
- Visited 5,439 homes across all 8 Wards
- Signed 506 homes up for FREE replacements
- Attended 14 community events & meetings

Help us make sure your water line is lead free!

Your home may have a lead water service line, creating potential health impacts to you and your family. We can replace this service line FOR FREE with your landlord's permission.

The service line is the pipe that connects the water main to your home or property. We are working to replace all lead service lines with copper lines in the District.

To move forward with the replacement process, you can:

1. Visit www.dcwater.com/lead-free and type in your address to see if you have a lead service line.
2. Ask your landlord to use DC Water's lead to download a copy of the authorization form, which can be signed and mailed to leadfree@dcwater.com.
3. Contact us at leadfree@dcwater.com with your address and landlord contact information and we will contact them directly.

If you or your landlord has additional questions, our customer response team is available by email at leadfree@dcwater.com or phone at 202-725-4644. They can provide more information about replacing lead service lines FOR FREE.

We can help FOR replace lead service lines FREE!

WHY REPLACE YOUR LEAD SERVICE LINES?

Replacing lead service lines is important to your health because it helps remove sources of lead from your drinking water.

If you have a lead or galvanized iron service line, the lead material in these types of pipes can dissolve into your drinking water when the water sits in these pipes unused for several hours. The exposure can lead to serious health issues that can have an impact on the brain and other organs.

Young children are most vulnerable to lead's effects. Let's work together to protect their future, today!

National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week October 20-26, 2024

Bright futures begin lead free

dc Celebrating 10,000 lead line replacements

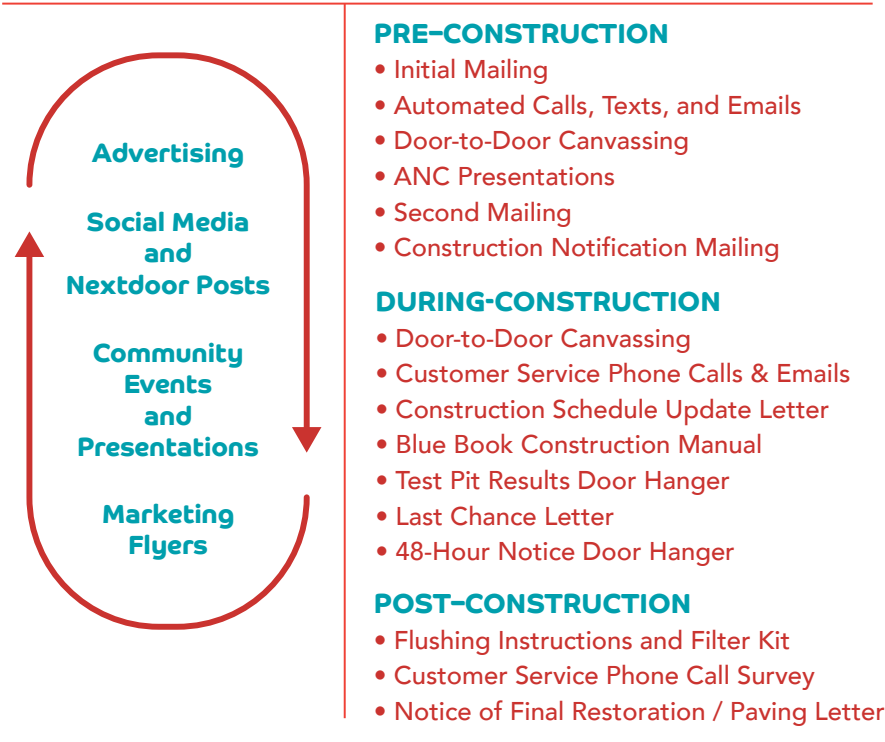
Discover the latest Lead Free DC Newsletter

From the Ground Up: 10,000 Homes Safer, Cleaner, Lead-Free

Even though our treated water starts out lead free, risk can remain in old pipes and plumbing.

SECTION 4: COMMUNITY OUTREACH continued

LFDC Outreach: The Customer Journey

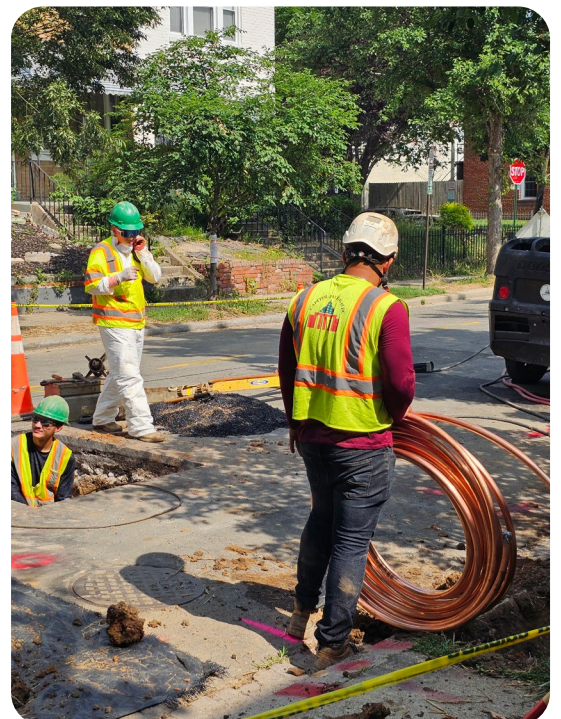


SECTION 5: ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF THE PROGRAM

The wide reach of the Lead Free DC Program allows DC Water to collaborate with entities across the District and boost the local economy and workforce. In FY 2025, LFDC continued to rely heavily on local firms and workforce to get the work done, including construction contractors, design and permitting services, and community outreach services.

Supporting Local Contractors (Key Metric: Number of lead service lines replaced through LPRAP)

More than **10,000 PROPERTIES** are estimated to be eligible for the Lead Pipe Replacement Assistance Program (LPRAP) replacements on private property where the publicly-owned portion of the service line was previously replaced. Under the LPRAP, DC Water and DOEE’s Affordability and Efficiency Division partner with local, smaller contractors and plumbers to complete lead service line replacements for free or at a discount. This year, DC Water helped expedite replacements with outreach and marketing support to LPRAP contractors. From October 2024 through September 2025, LPRAP completed its annual goal with **549 LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENTS**.



SECTION 6: HOW CAN YOU PARTICIPATE IN LEAD FREE DC?

Our success depends on our partnership with our customers, District agencies, and community-based organizations. Greet our canvassers when they are in your neighborhood and see us at local community events and ANC meetings. You can also be an ambassador of LFDC by encouraging your friends, family, and neighbors to check if they have a lead service line and sign up for a free replacement through LFDC at dcwater.com/lead.

Stay connected with us on social media for instant updates, engaging conversations, exclusive content, and event announcements. Your support and engagement help us to build community around our efforts and play a crucial role in our mission to create a lead-free DC. Let us build a community committed to clean water and a healthier environment!



