

The City of Madera has completed the initial lead service line inventory required by U.S. EPA's Lead and Copper Rule Revisions, indicating that it has no lead or galvanized requiring replacement service lines in its distribution system.

Why-

In January 2021, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) updated the rules related to lead and copper in drinking water, the rule is now called the **Lead Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR)**. The LCRR requires that the City determine if any service lines are made of lead or require replacement. Under this rule, water suppliers are required to create a detailed list of all the service lines that carry water from the main system to customers' homes. This includes both the service lines owned by the city, and those owned by homeowners.

In California, a law (California Health and Safety Code section 116885) already required water suppliers like the City of Madera to make a list of their own service lines in 2018. That process showed that the City does not have lead or lead-containing service lines in its water distribution system. However, the survey completed in 2018 did not include service lines on the homeowner's side. Under the LCRR, in 2024 the City must determine if a homeowner's pipe is made of lead and must provide notification should it be.

How-

For the initial lead service line inventory, the City of Madera conducted a historical records review of construction records, plumbing codes, water system records and council ordinances and resolutions. City maintenance crews regularly conduct field investigations and have records of service line materials going back 15-20 years. Using these records and records from sampling required by the lead and copper rule (LCR) prior to the 2021 revisions; the City of Madera has determined that it has no lead or galvanized requiring replacement service lines in its distribution system.

The City of Madera is aware of the previous use of Lead connectors used to connect water mains to service lines in its distribution system. These connectors are not considered lead service lines for the purposes of LCRR. Water division maintenance staff document the location of and remove any lead connectors found.

Moving forward-

The LCRR requires that the lead service line inventory is updated annually or triennially, which means that the work of the investigation and record documentation of service line materials will continue to be conducted. Because of the concerns regarding lead service lines, public engagement in the process of updating the inventory is encouraged.

California Health and Safety Code section 300.6 banned the use of lead solder and lead pipe in public water systems after 1985. Please reach out to the Public Works Department (559)661-5466 with records of service line materials from before 1986.