



City of Revere

Mayor Patrick M. Keefe Jr.

Health effects of lead

Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems.

Steps you can take to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water

- **Obtain an ANSI (American National Standards Institute)/NSF (National Sanitation Foundation) Certified home water treatment device** that is certified to remove lead (e.g., a faucet-mounted or pitcher water filter). An ANSI/NSF Certified treatment device is an effective way to reduce lead exposures.
- **Run your water to flush out lead.** Lead levels increase over time as water sits in lead-containing plumbing materials and regular non-consumptive water usage (e.g., laundry, bathing) in the building can reduce lead levels in drinking water. Consumers served by lead service lines may need to flush water for longer periods.
- **Use only cold, fresh water for drinking, cooking, and preparing baby formula.** Run the water for at least 1 minute or until after it turns cold.
- **Do not boil water to remove lead.** Boiling water does not remove lead.
- **Clean your aerator.** Regularly clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator). Sediment, debris, and lead particles can collect in your aerator. If lead particles are caught in the aerator, lead can get into your water.
- **Identify and replace plumbing fixtures** containing lead and any copper piping with lead solder.
- **Have your child's blood tested for lead.** Children are a higher risk group of the health effects of lead. If you would like to have your children tested, call the Massachusetts Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at 800-532-9571 to learn more, including where you can have your child's blood tested.
- **Have your water tested for lead.** Send your water to a Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) approved laboratory (<https://www.mass.gov/how-to/find-a-certified-laboratory-for-water-testing>). If the results show lead levels at or greater than 15 parts per billion (ppb), call the City at 857-204-2398 so we can look for a cause.

Opportunities to replace lead service lines

Ownership of the service line varies by water system, but for the City of Revere, the service from the water main to the shut off valve is owned by the City and the water service from the shut off valve to the water meter is the responsibility of the homeowner. The City-owned portion of your water service is of lead material and the homeowner-owned portion is also lead.

The City is developing a plan to replace the both the City-owned and privately owned portions of the lead service line. Currently, the City covers the cost of replacing the private portion of the service line. In the



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future, the City may require that homeowners cover this cost, at which time we will develop a financial assistance program to help with this.

The City is **required** to replace its portion of a lead service line if the homeowner notifies the City that they are replacing their portion of the lead service line.

Please notify the City if you disagree with the service line material categorization in our service line inventory, using the contact information below.

For MassDEP information on Lead in Drinking Water see <https://www.mass.gov/lead-in-drinking-water>. For more information on the City's efforts to replace lead service lines in our community see <https://www.revere.org/departments/water-and-sewer>. For questions, contact Anthony Gulizia at 781-808-6444 or agulizia@revere.org.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water at this address, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by the City of Revere, Massachusetts (PWS ID#: 3248000)