Commonly Asked Questions

Why might my service line need replacing?
- Up until 1940, water service lines were lead and the corrosion of these pipes can cause lead to leach into your water.

Does the water coming to my home contain lead?
- City of Kingston drinking water does not contain lead when it leaves the treatment plant and meets all Environmental Protection Agency standards for lead.

How long will the project take?
- Replacement of the service line will normally take one to two days. Restoration of grass, sidewalks and pavement will depend on the materials needing repair, weather conditions and the season.

Will my service be off during the work?
- Yes, your water service will need to be turned off for several hours during the replacement project. Water service may also be interrupted if there is a problem with a neighboring service line replacement. You will be notified prior to your water being turned off.

Should I boil my water after work is done?
- No, boiling water will not reduce lead. Only cook and drink cold tap water and never use hot tap water to make baby formula.

Additional Information & Contacts

U.C. Department of Health
Childhood Poisoning Prevention Program
(845)340-3047

EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline
(800) 426-4791

National Lead Information Center
(800) 424-LEAD
Www.epa.gov/lead

Funding for the LSLRP is provided by:
New York State Department of Health
The City of Kingston was awarded up to $544,000 from the NYS Department of Health to identify and replace lead water service lines from the City’s main to homeowners’ water meters. The corrosion of lead pipes causes lead to leach into water flowing through lead pipes and potentially into drinking water. The City will prioritize projects in the mid-town Kingston neighborhood which has a high density of lead service lines and a high density of children. Properties located on any part of Franklin Street and properties from Franklin Street to Cedar Street between Broadway and Clinton Avenue may apply. Households with a child under the age of six (6), that have tested positive for elevated blood lead levels, may apply even if their property is outside of the target area. The Lead Service Line Replacement Program (LSLRP) will be free to most owner occupied properties. Non owner occupied rental properties are eligible for assistance but owners will need to contribute $750.00 toward the cost of the project. The City will begin the LSLRP in Spring of 2018 and continue throughout 2019 until all funding is expended.

**What is the Lead Service Line Replacement Program?**

**How to identify a lead service line.**

Identify a test area on the service line between the point where the line comes into the building and the inlet valve. If the pipe is covered or wrapped, expose a small area of metal. Use the flat edge of a screwdriver or a coin to scratch through any surface corrosion that may have built up on the outside of the pipe.

**Once a test area is identified, test the service line to determine the material.**

- Lead pipes are dull gray and very soft and look like a new nickel when scratched or sanded.
- Copper pipes look like a new penny when scratched or sanded.
- Galvanized pipes are dull gray and a strong magnet will stick to the pipe. Top to bottom: new, aged, removed from the ground.
- Plastic service lines are typically black or white.

**ELIGIBILITY**

- Property must be located in the City of Kingston.
- Property must be in target area unless a child under six (6) with elevated blood lead levels resides there.
- Properties may be single family owner occupied or rental properties. Rental properties that are not owner occupied will need to contribute toward the cost of the project.
- All property owners listed on the deed must sign application and contract documents.
- Mixed use, industrial, manufacturing and commercial properties are not eligible.
- This program is not retroactive to include any work started before application approval and contract execution.

**FOR APPLICATIONS OR FURTHER ASSISTANCE CONTACT**

City of Kingston
Office of Economic and Community Development
420 Broadway, City Hall
Kingston, NY 12401

Stephan Knox
Phone: 845-334-3928
Fax: 845-334-3932
E-mail: sknox@kingston-ny.gov

Non English speaking persons please contact:
Phone: 845-334-3962
E-mail: kwilson@kingston-ny.gov