### PHX WATER SMART



WATER SERVICES DEPARTMENT

# ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DIVISION

#### THE CITY'S JOURNEY TO LCRR COMPLIANCE

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) on January 15, 2021. However, on January 20, 2021, the Biden Administration issued Executive Order 13990, which directed the EPA to review the new rule. Due to the EPA's directive to review the LCRR, on June 16, 2021, the EPA published the agency's decision to delay the effective and compliance dates of the LCRR to allow time for the review.

On December 16, 2021, the EPA announced that the LCRR would go into effect, and the initial compliance date remains October 16, 2024. At the same time, EPA will develop a new proposed rulemaking to strengthen key elements of the rule. The agency anticipates finalizing the forthcoming Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) before October 16, 2024.

While waiting for Federal and State guidance, the Water Services Department (WSD) has already started planning and putting efforts into achieving compliance with the various new requirements of the LCRR. There are five major components: service line inventory & replacement, lead and copper tap monitoring, corrosion control & water quality parameters, public education & outreach, and lead monitoring in drinking water at schools and daycare facilities.

A significant new requirement of the rule is that Community Water Systems (CWS) must develop an initial service line (SL) inventory to identify SL

materials and subsequently submit the inventory to the primacy agency. Additionally, the City is required to publish the inventory online. The SL inventory is a critical part of the LCRR because it provides the necessary information to comply with the other components of the rule, such as the service line replacement plan, tap monitoring, and various public notification requirements.

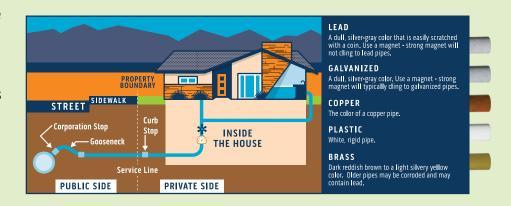
The WSD will be required to submit the City's SL material inventory and supplemental forms to the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) by October 16, 2024. To complete the SL material inventory, the Department must identify the City side (public) and Customer side (private) for over 457,000 service lines and categorize them as either "Lead," "Galvanized requiring replacement (GRR)," "Non-lead" or "Lead status unknown."

As of December 2021, 207,189 SLs remain to be identified. Fortunately, a lead SL has yet to be identified.

However, GRR SLs exist and will be included in the inventory. Therefore, the WSD will be required to develop a Service Line Replacement Plan. WSD staff attends regularly scheduled meetings to provide progress updates on the service line identification and discuss data collection of the various data elements required in the final report provided to ADEQ.

While various WSD staff and contractors identify and collect the SL material data, efforts and planning are underway to publish the inventory online. The inventory will be available on a website and allow customers to search their address to find out their SL material type. The website will also provide public education materials and links to recent tap monitoring 90th percentile results.

Complying with the new LCRR is a considerable undertaking for a CWS as large as the City of Phoenix. There is excellent progress towards compliance, but much work is still needed before October 2024.





Let the pool water sit for a few days. Letting it sit will dissipate the chlorine.

> Use it to water your plants!

Send it down the sanitary sewer.

And you can always call us for more information.

# IT'S HEATING UP, AND IT'S POOL SEASON!

#### AND THAT MEANS POOL MAINTENANCE.

The Phoenix Water Services department wants to remind you of the proper ways to discharge pool water from backwashing or flushing. We encourage you to reuse that water on your landscaping! Otherwise, locate your sanitary sewer cleanout and direct the water into our sanitary sewer system! Click here for more information:

phoenix.gov/waterservices/customerservices/ generalinfo/poolinfo

#### **CITY OF PHOENIX**

Clean Water Starts With You!

#### PHOENIX.GOV/STORMWATER

phoenix.gov/waterservices/ customerservices/generalinfo/poolinfo

(602)256-3190



#### MONSOON

The summer monsoon brings more than just torrential down pours and lightning shows; stormwater runoff also picks up pollutants, such as oil, pesticides, fertilizers, pet waste, trash, and debris. Stormwater in the Valley is not treated and all those pollutants on streets, parking lots, and driveways end up in our retention/detention basins, washes, rivers, and canals.

Another concern during monsoon season is heavy rainfall! The City's stormwater drainage system is designed to drain stormwater from the streets into retention/detention basins and surface waters. However, when culverts, catch basins

and drainage grates become clogged with debris, the flow of stormwater is impacted, and localized flooding may result.

#### YOU CAN HELP PREPARE FOR MONSOON:

- Pick up and properly dispose of trash
- Sweep, bag, and toss pet waste in the trash
- Collect and dispose of yard waste
- Maintain leaky vehicles to help prevent pollutants from entering stormwater
- Make sure culverts and catch basins are free of trash, vegetation, and sediment that can restrict flow
- Report clogged storm drains to 602-262-6441.

#### MEDICATION: PROPER DISPOSAL OF PHARMACEUTICALS

Proper disposal of pharmaceuticals is important to public health. There are concerns that unused medications can be misused. Another concern is the impact improper disposal can have on the environment. Drugs like antibiotics and over-the-counter medications are commonly disposed by flushing down the toilet to prevent them from falling into the wrong hands. However, pharmaceuticals are engineered to remain stable as they are absorbed by the human body, as a result, they also remain stable while traveling through the sewer system. Most wastewater treatment plants are not equipped to remove pharmaceuticals. They can pass through the treatment process and end up in our environment leaving a negative impact on aquatic life. With your help, the amount of pharmaceuticals in the environment can be reduced.

#### **HOW TO PROPERLY DISPOSE OF PHARMACEUTICALS:**

- Do not flush medications down the toilet or put down the sink
- Take unused medication to an official drug take back site. Find a location near you at: Drug Enforcement Administration Controlled Substance Public Disposal Locations. The next National Prescription Drug Take Back Day is April 30, 2022.

- Take unused medications to a City of Phoenix Police Department Drop Box (note: needles, sharps, aerosols, inhalers, medical waste, lotions, liquid medicines, and thermometers are not accepted):
  - 1. Police Downtown Headquarters, 620 W. Washington St., 85003
  - 2. Black Mountain PCT, 33355 N. Cave Creek Rd., 85331
  - 3. Cactus Park PCT, 12220 N. 39th Ave., 85029
  - Central City PCT, 1902 S. 16th St., 85034
  - 5. Mountain View PCT, 2075 E. Maryland Ave., 85016
  - 6. Maryvale-Estrella Mountain PCT, 2111 S. 99th Ave., Tolleson, 85353
  - 7. Maryvale PCT-Substation, 6180 W. Encanto Blvd., 85035
  - 8. Desert Horizon PCT, 16030 N. 56th S., 85254
  - 9. South Mountain PCT, 400 W. Southern Ave., 85041
- As a last resort, dispose at home. Mix medications with cat litter or used coffee grounds and place in a sealed disposable container or plastic bag. Throw away the container in the trash. Cover up or remove personal information from medicine bottles or containers before throwing the empty container in the trash.

## CONTACT US

#### VISIT US AT WWW.PHOENIX.GOV/ESD

If you have questions, or would like additional information, you can contact ESD at:

ASK.WATER@PHOENIX.GOV | 602-262-1859