



## **Frankfort Plant Board**

### **Service Line Inventory Information**

The Frankfort Plant Board (FPB) is working every day to promote the health of our customers and minimize exposure to lead in drinking water. Our employees daily monitor and analyze water quality not only at the treatment plant, but also throughout the distribution system.

Although lead-based paint and lead-contaminated dust are the most common source of lead exposure in children, Exposure from drinking water is also something to be knowledgeable and aware of (1). Lead in drinking water can come from the customer owned service lines, plumbing, faucets, and lead solder used in some homes. However, it can also come from utility owned lead service lines, of which, FPB does not have a robust history of utilizing, nor do we think we have many remaining.

(1) For more information on sources of lead exposure, please visit the CDC website at <https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/prevention/sources.htm>.

For decades, FPB has implemented a number of strategies to minimize the potential for lead exposure with an overall focus on maintaining excellent water quality. Strategies the FPB has used to ensure compliance with EPA regulations on lead in drinking water include corrosion control, find and replace, and flushing.

#### Corrosion Control

FPB closely monitors water quality parameters (such as pH, alkalinity, temperature, etc.) and performs hundreds of tests to ensure that the drinking water that leaves the treatment facility is stable and not corrosive. In addition, FPB adds zinc orthophosphate that mitigates the chemical reaction that can result in lead leaching into drinking water from service lines and household plumbing, this process is called corrosion control. Since 1983, FPB has had an effective corrosion control program, which means FPB has been minimizing lead exposure for the benefit of all customers for a long time. FPB has not been out of compliance with EPA's required system-wide compliance testing for lead, with results that are below EPA's current regulatory threshold. This is a clear indication that our proactive corrosion control program is effective.

#### Find and Replace

Lead service lines may have had limited usage within our distribution system until approximately 1954. The challenge is, we do not know precisely where these lead service lines may be located. However, for many decades, any utility owned lead components have been removed when discovered by crews as part of routine operations or line replacement.



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### Flushing

Flushing is also an integral part of FPB's commitment to water quality. FPB flushes throughout the entire distribution system. System-wide flushing consists of opening hydrants at specific locations and running water through our water mains. Flushing is a vital part of maintaining water quality once the water leaves the treatment plant by:

- Ensuring proper distribution of phosphates (corrosion control)
- Minimizing water age
- Ensuring proper distribution of chlorine disinfectant
- Removing sediment/debris that may have accumulated over time

The distribution of phosphates and minimizing water age are key to controlling lead exposure and flushing is most critical in areas of low use and dead end water mains.

### Lead and Copper Rule Revision (LCRR)

The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) regulations of lead in drinking water is an evolving process. The EPA recently revised the 1991 Lead and Copper Rule with the Lead and Copper Rule Revision (LCRR). As part of the revision, FPB is currently conducting a water service line inventory which involves an inventory of both the customer owned service line and the utility owned side of the service line. The inventory must be completed by October 2024. The FPB will be conducting the survey on our facilities and is asking our customer for help on their side of the meter, in an effort to keep everyone's water rates affordable. Information on the Customer Side Service Line Inventory can be found at <https://fpb.cc/servicelineinventory>. Please conduct the survey and help keep water rates low for everyone!

As this inventory work progresses and provides valuable information, FPB will formulate a cost-effective plan for complying with the EPA's LCRR and will work with each affected customer on an individual basis to ensure safeguards are in place to protect their health.