



**SERVICE LINE CONSUMER NOTICE &
LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT (LSLR)**
Robins Air Force Base Water System Permit No. 1530042
2024



Team Robins,

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) revised the Lead and Copper Rule to reduce your risk from lead in drinking water. The Lead and Copper Rule was first promulgated in 1991 to identify and reduce the levels of lead and copper in drinking water through routine sampling and corrosion control techniques. In 2021, the rule was revised and now requires water systems to: 1) identify drinking water service lines that are either lead or galvanized pipe, and 2) develop a replacement plan if corrosion control techniques are ineffective at controlling lead in drinking water. In December of 2023, the EPA proposed a new, improved rule that reduces the acceptable level of lead in water from 15 parts per billion (ppb) to 10 ppb. The 2021 revisions and the 2023 improvements include new sampling procedures to measure lead more accurately in drinking water and additional public notification and public education opportunities.

In line with these rule revisions and improvements, Robins Air Force Base (AFB) has evaluated the drinking water service lines supporting facilities and military family housing. A service line is the pipe that connects a building or home to the water main.

Service line material classifications:

- **Lead:** any portion of the service line (pipe) is known to be made of lead.
- **Galvanized Requiring Replacement (GRR):** The service line is not made of lead, but a portion is galvanized and the system is unable to demonstrate that the galvanized line was never downstream of a lead service line (LSL).
- **Lead Status Unknown:** The service line material is not known to be lead or GRR. For the entire service line or a portion of it (in cases of split ownership), there is not enough evidence to support material classification).
- **Non-Lead:** All portions of the service line are known NOT to be lead or GRR through an evidence-based record, method, or technique.

A summary of the lead service line inventory results are shown in the table below:

| Total number of Service Lines | Number of currently known Lead Service Lines | Number of GRR Service Lines | Number of Lead Status Unknown Service Lines | Number of Non-Lead Service Lines |
|-------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| 2102 | 0 | 62 | 900 | 1140 |

For detailed information on the installation’s lead service line inventory and replacement plan, contact Civil Engineering Environmental Management at DSN: 468-1176, COMM: 478-926-1176 or 78cegev.frontofc@us.af.mil.

Reducing Risk From Lead Exposure

Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Please read this information closely to see what you can do to reduce the risk of lead in your drinking water.

What is Lead?

Lead is a common metal found in the environment. The main sources of lead exposure are lead-based paint and lead-contaminated dust or soil, and some plumbing materials. In addition, lead can be found in certain types of pottery, pewter, brass fixtures, food, and cosmetics. Other sources include exposure in the workplace and exposure from certain hobbies (lead can be carried on clothing and shoes). Brass faucets, fittings, and valves, including those advertised as “lead-free,” may contribute lead to drinking water. Environmental Protection Agency estimates that 10 to 20 percent of a person’s potential exposure to lead may come from drinking water. Infants who consume mostly formula mixed with lead-containing water can receive 40 to 60 percent of their exposure to lead from drinking water.

What are the Potential Health Impacts?

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.

How Can I Reduce Exposure Risk? There are steps you can take to reduce the risk of exposure to lead:

- Run your water to flush out stagnate water where lead may have accumulated. Run water for 15 - 30 seconds to flush lead from interior plumbing or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking if it hasn't been used for several hours.
- Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula. Lead dissolves more easily into hot water.
- Do not boil water to remove lead. Boiling water will not reduce lead.
- Look for alternative sources or treatment of water. You may want to consider purchasing bottled water or a water filter. Read the package to be sure the filter is approved to reduce lead or contact NSF International at 1-800-NSF-8010 or www.nsf.org for information on performance standards for water filters.

The Department of the Air Force and Robins AFB leadership are committed to the health and safety of you and your family. Reliable access to quality water is a priority for the Department of the Air Force – it impacts our people, our missions, and the communities we call home. Robins AFB continues to provide routine monitoring of the water quality and corrosion control techniques to ensure compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act and State of Georgia drinking water regulations. Robins AFB has a Lead Service Line Replacement Plan which includes a prioritized approach to replace any identified lead or galvanized service lines and will continue working to resolve those service lines that are currently unknown pipe material.

If you are concerned, there are steps you can take to further reduce your risk. Information on reducing risk of lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead are provided in this letter, and additional information can be found on EPA's Website at <http://www.epa.gov/lead>.

Current water sampling data for lead in drinking water has been below the acceptable limits for consumption. This data is published every year in the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) and can be found at <https://www.robins.af.mil/> under “more info” using the “Water Quality” link. To learn more about the installation lead sampling program, contact Bioenvironmental Engineering at DSN: 497-7555, COMM: 478-327-7555, or usaf.robins.78-mdg.mbx.sgpb-bio@health.mil.