

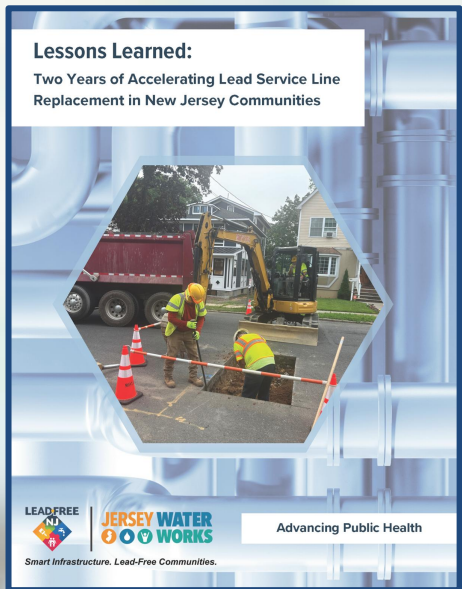
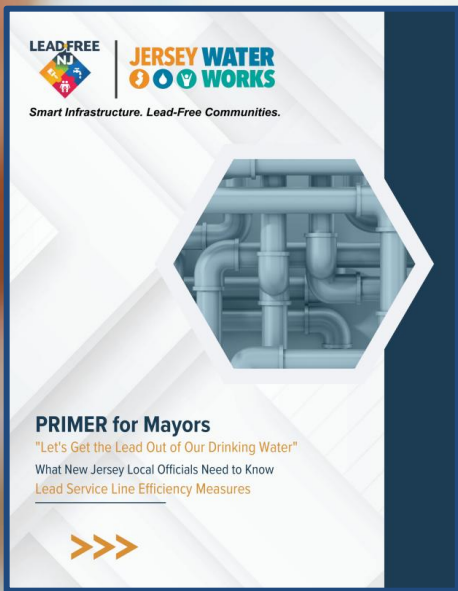
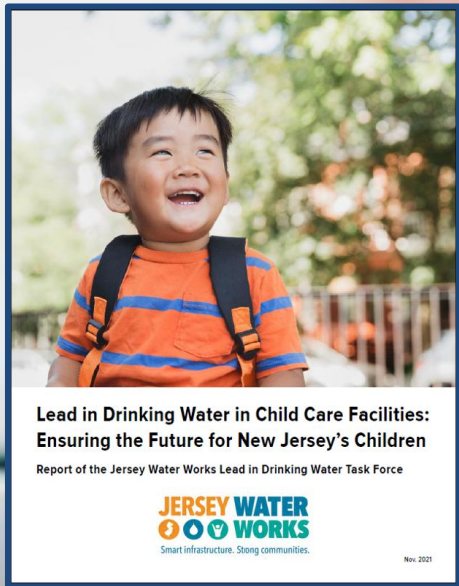
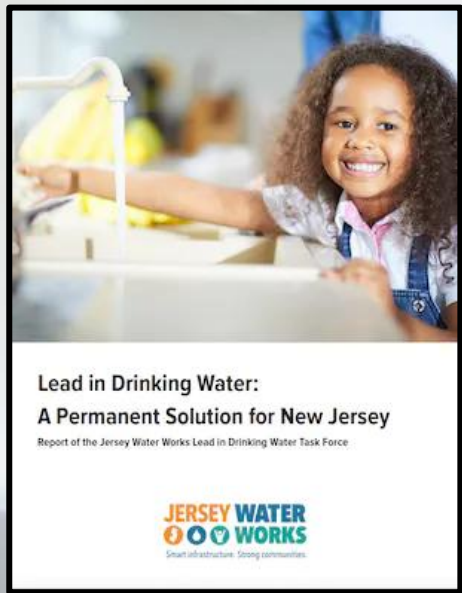


Lead In Drinking Water:

Learning and Adapting in New Jersey Amid Federal Changes

Deandrah Cameron
New Jersey Future

New Jersey's Lead -in Drinking Water Landscape



2019-2020

- Lead in Drinking Water : Permanent Solution for New Jersey
- **LCRR Proposed**

2021-2022

- **NJ Lead Service Line Replacement Statue**
- Child Care Facilities Report

2023

- **LCRI Proposed**
- **PRIMER** for Mayors
What NJ local officials need to know

2024

Lessons Learned:
Two Years of Accelerating Lead Service Line Replacements in New Jersey Communities

2025

- New Jersey Lead Disclosure Bill (Water)
- Filters and Faucets for Schools

2026 (?)

PENDING
Filters for Childcare Facilities (Rentals)

P.L. 2021, C. 183, **Replace all lead service lines in their distribution systems by 2031**

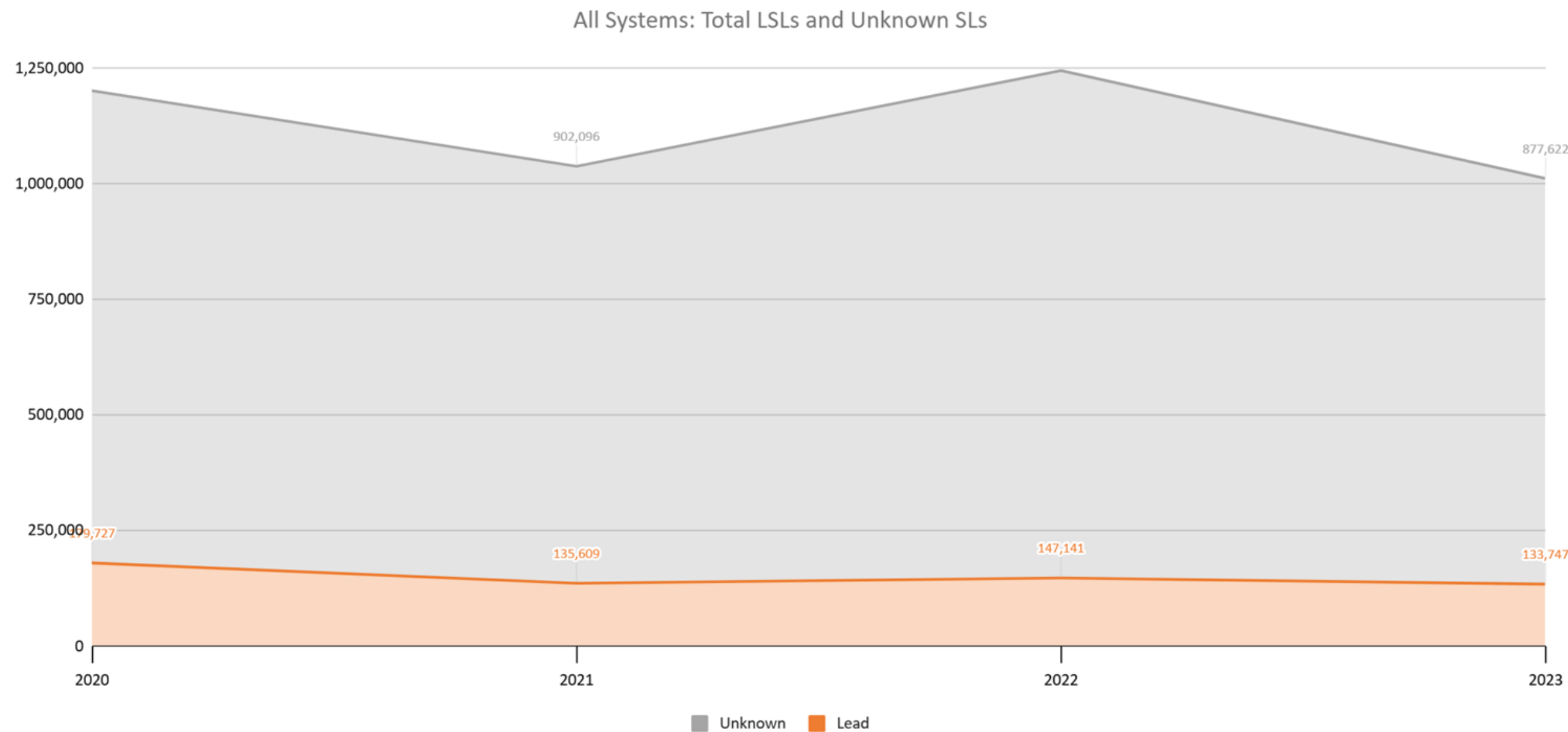
- Acknowledge presence of LSL or line of unknown composition based on information provided by water utility
- Properties built before 1986, disclose “significant possibility” of LSL or indoor lead plumbing
- Lead violations received by the landlord, property-specific test results, and any action level exceedances in service area in past three years
- Educational materials developed by DOH



Signed into law by Governor Phil Murphy in July 2021, New Jersey’s [Lead Service Line Replacement Law](#), ems to replace all lead service lines in their distribution systems by 2031. This Law includes requirements for community water systems to develop inventories identifying the service line materials in their distribution systems, submit these inventories to the DEP, post inventories on their websites, and notify property owners, tenants, and non-paying consumers served by lead service lines.

Progress - New Jersey's Lead Service Line Removal

Figure 1: Trend- Total LSLs and Unknown SLs over time (JWC 2024 data, 388 Public Water Systems Reporting)



- The trend in Unknown Service Lines reflects a decline (indicating successful identification of service line material), although in a **roller-coaster pattern**.
- From conversations with the case study water systems, this is not uncommon due to the **complexity of the work in validating service line composition and needing to rectify records based on test pit data**.
- In addition, some systems may not have reported in the initial two years. The **trend in Total Lead Service Lines reflects a steady and slow decline**.

Key Challenges:

Policy Inconsistencies:

Lack of uniformity in LSLR policies across municipalities can cause confusion and erode public trust.

Low Public Awareness:

Many homeowners may not be aware of the risks posed by lead pipes or the need for replacement, hindering participation in programs.

Implementation Issues:

High costs, delays, and administrative hurdles complicate LSLR efforts and discourage participation from both water systems and property owners.

Financial Burdens on Customers:

Without sufficient financing options, low-income households face financial barriers, making it difficult to comply with mandated LSLR programs.



State-Level Recommendations

- **Develop Robust State Guidance:**
 - Establish **uniform policies** and **consistent messaging** across all water systems to reduce confusion and enhance trust among residents.
 - **Comprehensive outreach** should engage community leaders to promote awareness, build trust, and encourage participation in replacement programs.
 - State guidance should standardize **regulatory reporting** and educational campaigns to ensure all municipalities are on the same page regarding expectations and requirements.
- **Establish Enforcement & Incentives:**
 - States should establish **clear penalties** for non-compliance with LSLR mandates. To monitor progress and hold water systems accountable, use tracking tools like the **Potential Lead Exposure Mapping Tool (PLEM)**.
 - **Incentivize progress** with visual aids and data transparency, helping to show tangible improvements and encourage faster replacement efforts.
 - State policies must be updated regularly to address **new risks** and **emerging challenges** in lead exposure and water safety, ensuring continued protection of public health.

Lessons Learned:

Two Years of Accelerating Lead Service Line Replacement in New Jersey Communities

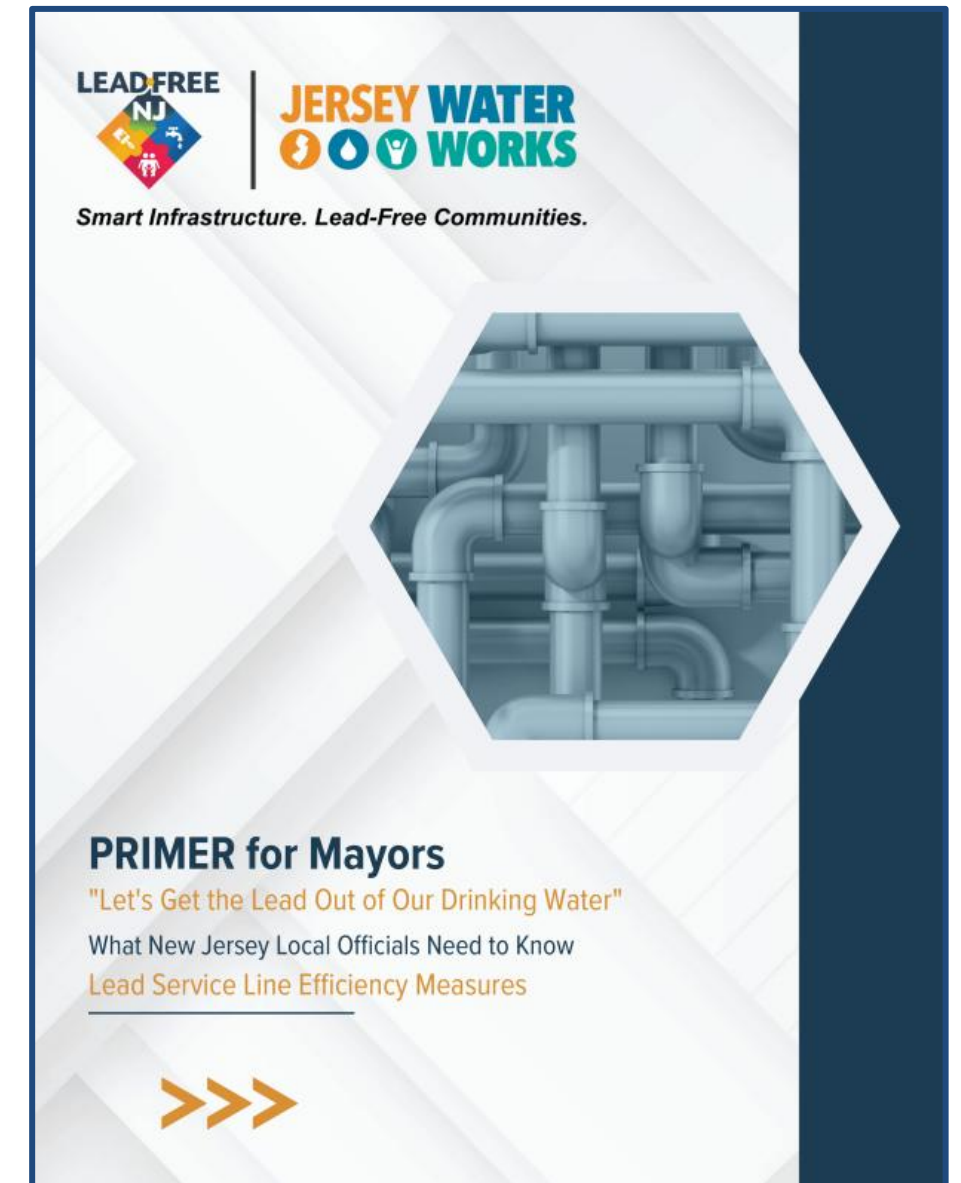


Advancing Public Health

Smart Infrastructure. Lead-Free Communities.

Municipal-Level Recommendations

- **Coordinate with Infrastructure Projects:**
 - **Bundle LSLR with other municipal projects** (e.g., road paving, sewer maintenance, utility upgrades) to reduce costs and minimize road disruptions.
 - Work across jurisdictions to leverage **economies of scale** and bulk purchasing of materials to achieve cost savings while speeding up the replacement process.
- **Waive Road Opening Moratoriums:**
 - Suspend existing **moratoriums** on road openings for the period 2021-2031 to facilitate quicker LSLR work. Moratoriums can otherwise delay replacements by up to five years.
 - Allow for **permit issuance** for LSLR projects even when roads have recently been paved, ensuring projects are not unnecessarily delayed.
- **Optimize Traffic Control:**
 - Reduce reliance on **off-duty police officers** for traffic enforcement by using lower-cost **special traffic control agents** or certified traffic agents.
 - Use **regular officers** and avoid expensive senior officers or off-duty overtime. Traffic management costs can increase project expenses by 10-30%, so reducing these costs can help streamline implementation.



Water System Recommendations

- **Public Health Education & Outreach:**
 - Water systems should use **multiple communication channels** (in-person, phone, email, text, etc.) to ensure property owners are aware of the need for LSLR.
 - Develop **interactive online tools** (e.g., LSL mapping) and share them with the public to increase
 - **transparency** and provide **real-time information** about service line replacements.
 - Engage residents, particularly in **high-risk areas** like schools and daycare facilities, where children are most vulnerable to lead exposure.
- **Financing Options & Incentives:**
 - Water systems should provide **no-cost incentives** and **financing options** to minimize customer costs.
 - Offer **government subsidies** or **water bonds** to assist low-income households and make the replacement process more equitable.
 - Create **discounts for eligible recipients** of government assistance programs (e.g., SNAP, WIC, veterans, low-income water bill assistance).
- **Accurate Inventory & Tracking:**
 - Review historical records, inspect properties, and engage the community to identify service lines to ensure a thorough LSL inventory.
 - **Track progress** through key performance indicators (KPIs) that measure replacement rates and completion timelines to ensure accountability and transparency.
 - Engage with property owners to obtain accurate service line data and begin replacements in areas with the highest risk of lead exposure.



Disclosure of lead Drinking Water Hazards(Tenants/Occupants)

- **Acknowledge presence of LSL or line of unknown composition based on information provided by water utility**
- **Properties built before 1986, disclose “significant possibility” of LSL or indoor lead plumbing**
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- **Educational materials developed by DOH**



[Bill S1034/ A2929](#)

Requires disclosure of lead drinking water hazards to tenants of residential units; prohibits landlords from obstructing the replacement of lead service lines; concerns testing of certain property for lead drinking water hazards.

Point-of-Use Filters

Appropriates \$2m

Bill S4632 Sca

*Establishes a grant program in DOE for public schools to **purchase and install point-of-use filtered bottle-filling stations and filtered faucets.***





Questions?



Thank You