



The City of Sarnia

Lead Water Service Line Replacement Program

Guidelines

The Corporation of the City of Sarnia (City) will cover the full cost of replacing the lead water lines and schedule the work of an independent contractor on behalf of the property owners. The properties that have verified lead water service as a result of water sampling and/or exploratory digs are eligible for lead water service line replacement from the property line to the meter connection. The total work on the private side includes the replacement of lead water service and limited restoration (seeding or filling gravel in asphalt/concrete driveways). The property owner will also qualify for the filter rebate program up to 6 months after replacement. Lead water services on the public side will be replaced with full restoration at the same scheduled time.

Eligibility Requirements:

1. Applicant(s) must be the owner(s) of single-family residential, duplex or triplex property within the City of Sarnia,
2. To qualify for the replacement program the existing service replacement must be substantially composed of lead on the private side (verified by the City),
3. Must be willing to complete, sign and submit the Commitment (Agreement) letter in a form acceptable to the City,
4. Manufacturing businesses, industrial or commercial enterprises are **not** eligible for the Lead Service Line Replacement Grant Program.

Replacement Program Procedure

1. Eligible property owners will be contacted by the City with a lead service replacement enrollment package through registered mail.
2. Applicant must complete and submit the Commitment Form through mail or a digital copy through email.
3. The City will review the completed Commitment Form and supporting documents (if any) and will add the property to the list of properties for lead line replacement.
4. The City staff/independent contractor will perform pre-replacement site inspections with prior notice.
5. Subject to the replacement schedule, an independent contractor will replace the verified lead water lines on the private property. The replacement schedule may vary based on the weather, crew availability, and other factors (In the interim application for the filter rebate program will be available).
6. Limited restoration like topsoil seeding and filling gravel on asphalt/concrete driveways will be performed after the service line replacement.
7. Post replacement, property owners will receive a letter stating the replacement is complete and qualification for the filter rebate program which is valid for 6 months after replacement.

Terms and Conditions

In consideration of enrolling in the replacement program, the property owner(s) acknowledges and agrees that:

1. The City coordinates the work with an independent contractor on behalf of the property owners.

2. The independent contractor will replace the existing lead water lines with approved non-lead material on the property at no cost to the property owners.
3. The independent contractor will only perform limited restoration (up to a maximum of \$500) after replacement such as topsoil seeding and filling gravel in asphalt/concrete driveways.
4. The independent contractor will not restore any hard surfaces like concrete or asphalt driveway, etc.
5. The independent contractor will not be responsible for any additional work/restoration and it will be the responsibility of the property owner to perform any other additional work/restoration activity.
6. The independent contractor can price additional restoration work if requested by the property owner.
7. After replacement, the City will contact the property owner and collect a water sample to verify the lead concentration in the drinking water approximately after 6 months or the soonest time available on the next sampling season (sampling can only be done in the warmer months and a viable sample can only be collected if the water temperature is above 10 degree Celsius).
8. Within 6 months of receiving the enrollment package, the property owner(s) must submit the completed and signed Commitment Form to the City.
9. The City retains the right and absolute discretion to decide on eligible properties based on water sampling, service line investigation results and maintenance records. This program will only run for 3 years (until November 30, 2023) and will then switch to a grant program, where the property owner has to coordinate the replacement themselves with a maximum grant of \$1500 from the City.
10. To qualify for the program, the property owner(s) agrees that the City is not liable for any damages to the owner's property as a result of any lead water service line replacement. The property owner agrees to not make any claim or take any action against the City of Sarnia for losses, damages, expenses or costs of any nature whatsoever arising out of or related to the property owner's participation in the Program
11. The property owner further agrees to indemnify, save and hold harmless the City of Sarnia, and its agents, officials, officers, councilors and employees (collectively, the agents) against all liability, loss, costs, damages, and expenses, causes of action, claims, demands, lawsuits and other proceedings, by whomever made, sustained, brought or prosecuted, including by third parties, involving bodily injury, death or property damage of any nature whatsoever arising out of or related to the property owner's participation in this Program.

Retroactivity

The program is retroactive to benefit eligible property owners who have proactively replaced lead lines after January 1, 2019 until November 30, 2023. The City will rebate the cost of the completed lead replacement as per the invoice (up to a maximum of \$2500). If you have already performed a lead water service line replacement contact the Lead Reduction Program at:

Phone: 519-332-0330 ext. 2232 Email: leadreduction@sarnia.ca.

On request, the application form will be mailed to your address.