

Robinson, Mikelle (DCH)

From: Priem, Wesley F. (DCH)
Sent: Thursday, September 24, 2015 9:45 AM
To: Robinson, Mikelle (DCH)
Subject: FW: Env. Health Perspectives on Washington DC. lead in Drinking Water

Mikelle: Env. Health Perspectives article on Washington D. C. Lead in water and the plan they followed. One thing we could consider is water filters for families as a stop gap measure.

From: Priem, Wesley F. (DCH)
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2015 2:34 PM
To: Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH); Dykema, Linda D. (DCH); Miller, Corinne (DCH)
Subject: Env. Health Perspectives on Washington DC. lead in Drinking Water

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1868000/>

Excerpt below with the plan they implemented.

Following the LCR (U.S. EPA 1991), guidance from the U.S. EPA, consultation with the DC Department of Health, and its own contingency plans, in 2003 the DCWASA implemented plans for families living in homes with lead lines or testing above the LAL:

- Advisories were disseminated recommending that water lines should be flushed for 10 min before consuming drinking water.
- Specific advice for limiting exposure to children < 6 years of age and pregnant and nursing women was sent to all households with suspected lead service lines, in the form of flyers prepared in English, Spanish, Korean, Chinese, Vietnamese, and Amharic.
- Filters were distributed to homes with suspected lead service lines and later to all homes with a test result > 15 ppb (the LAL). Replacement filter cartridges were then sent to the same homes at 6-month intervals for the duration of the period of the exceedance, ending in June 2006.
- The board of directors of the DCWASA decided to adopt a voluntarily accelerated program to replace the public segment of all lead service lines in the District of Columbia, exceeding requirements of the LCR (U.S. EPA 1991).
- Homeowners were offered replacement of the private segment of lead service lines on their property, at cost, at the same time that the public segments of the lead service lines were replaced. When the public line is replaced but the private line is not, lead levels are reduced proportionally to the length of pipe replaced but not eliminated.
- Low-cost financing was arranged with a local bank for qualifying property owners who wished to replace the private part of the lead service line on their property. The DC government later made grants available to low-income eligible residents for this purpose.
- The DCWASA offered free water testing to any customer in the distribution area who requested it.