

**PWSA Water Quality Initiative
Status Report
June 27, 2016**

In May, 2016 the Authority outlined a water quality program initiative involving programmatic, testing and customer education efforts. This report is designed to keep customers updated on those efforts.

Item	Status
<p>1. Continue free residential customer requested lead testing program. Advise customers on options based on results.</p>	<p>PWSA has received 1,065 requests from customers for testing. To date, 454 have been returned, 393 of which have been analyzed by an independent certified lab with the balance at the lab for analysis.</p> <p>The results of those completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 225 are non-detect for lead (57% of those tested) ▪ 72 are between 1-5 ppb (parts per billion) (18%) ▪ 52 between 5.1 and 9.9 ppb (13%) ▪ 24 between 10-14.9 ppb (6%) ▪ 20 at or above 15 ppb (5%)
<p>2. Conduct mandatory lead and copper testing during two periods in 2016 on eligible residential properties and report in mid-July and mid-January, 2017. Eligible properties include those that are known to have lead service lines or are of an age where lead service lines were likely installed.</p>	<p>The first round of testing has begun. 104 eligible properties were recruited by May 16 and list sent to DEP. Customers are collecting samples which are due at the end of June. They are being sent to an independent, certified lab. On target to report results mid-July.</p>
<p>3. Conduct corrosion control study (referred to as pipe loop studies) where in various chemical treatments for lead corrosion are flushed through lead pipes for a period of time to determine which may be more effective for the Pittsburgh system. This includes the current agent, soda ash.</p>	<p>The study plan was submitted to the Department of Environmental Resources on May 25; DEP responded with several suggestions on June 24th; testing will begin this summer.</p>



<p>4. Create a Water Quality Advisory Board to advise and how to improve our overall program.</p>	<p>PWSA Board created at the May meeting and initial appointments made at the June meeting. Members notified and initial meeting being scheduled.</p>
<p>5. Reorganize water quality and production functions within PWSA.</p>	<p>Appointed Acting Deputy Director of Water Production and Acting Chief Water Quality Officer; positions posted for recruitment.</p>
<p>6. Adoption of revised policy on lead service line replacement to make it as affordable as possible to customers that choose that option.</p>	<p>Policy adopted by PWSA Board at May meeting. The Upper Lawrenceville water line replacement project is being used as a demonstration project. As PWSA digs up streets and sidewalks in this area, we are alerting customers to the existence of lead service lines and offering them the opportunity to replace those lines during the project. PWSA will then do the restorations as part of the overall project budget, saving the customer additional costs. To date, the project has uncovered 61 services, 20 of which are lead. PWSA provided those customers information of their options.</p>
<p>7. Identification of lead services, including cataloguing and digitizing lead service line population.</p>	<p>Staff is examining paper records inherited from the city; while some of the information is valuable, there are challenges with accuracy and readability. This project is continuing.</p>
<p>8. Continue customer education efforts and respond to requests for technical assistance from other institutions.</p>	<p>In addition to required annual drinking water quality report (published June 1, 2016) the Authority examined and updated its web based resources, provided bill inserts on the subject, and has participated in meetings and webinars with other water providers dealing with water quality issues. PWSA will continue to provide customers with latest information on all aspects of this issue, including updates such as this. We will look to the Advisory Board for its suggestions.</p>