

Post Partial Lead Service Line Replacement Flush Instructions to Reduce Lead Exposure

Source: American Water Works Association

High velocity flushing of indoor plumbing reduces the concentration of particulate lead present after completion of a partial LSL replacement. After a line replacement, residents should follow these steps to reduce exposure to lead. For extra precaution, these steps can be repeated every week for a month after the line replacement. Other precautions to take after a line replacement include purchasing a point of use water filter which states it removes lead AND has the NSF-53 certification stamp. These can be purchased for as low as \$15 at many stores, either online or at several general chain stores including Walmart, Home Depot, and Lowes.

1. Turn off their water before infrastructure work that may disturb LSLs begins.
2. At the completion of work, residents should flush their lines at high velocity at a point before it enters the residence to prevent particulate lead from becoming trapped in the crevices and joints of household plumbing or snagged along the walls of rusty galvanized pipes. Water can be run for 15-30 minutes or as long as possible.
 - a. Particulate lead caught in the house's interior plumbing has the potential to be released at any time into the home's tap water. An exterior faucet connecting with or close to the service line should be used if available.
3. Beginning in the lowest level of the home, [residents] should remove faucet aerators and fully open the cold water taps throughout the home, letting the water run for at least 30 minutes at the last tap.
4. Turn off each tap starting with the taps in the highest level of the home.