

# Lead Free Program

Saint Paul Regional Water Services



# Program overview



## 10-year program

to remove lead water service lines within the SPRWS system



## Voluntary and free

replacements for property owners

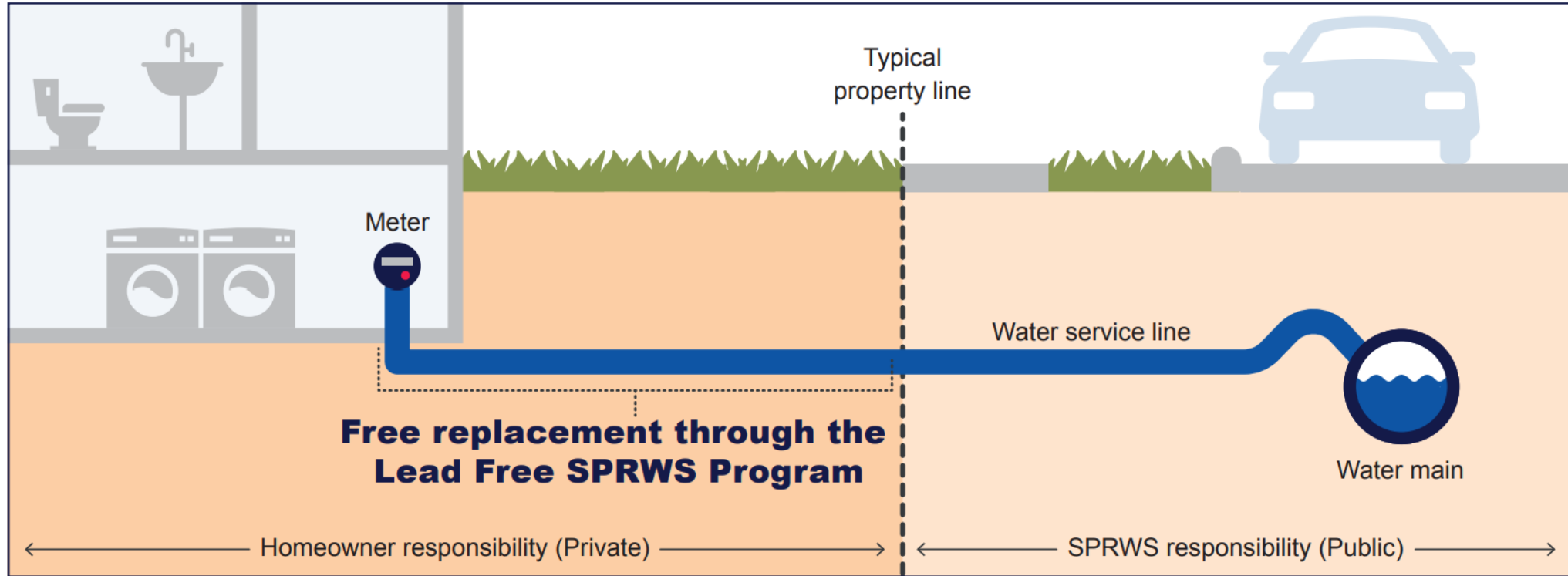


## 85% participation

is the goal, within existing project areas and priority zones



# What is a lead service line?



# Dangers of lead



Lead is a common metal found in air, soil, household dust, and water. It is also found in consumer products, some types of food, pottery, pewter and lead-based paint.

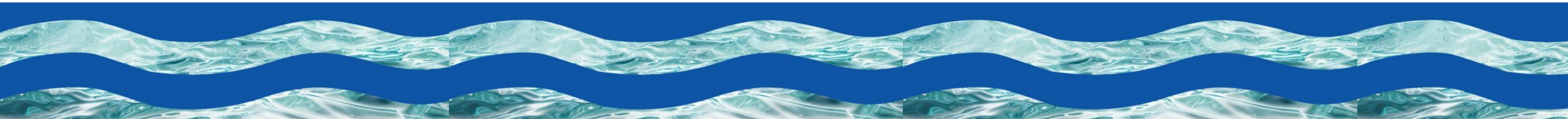
- Can build up in the body if breathed in or swallowed
- Too much lead in the body can hurt the brain, nervous system, red blood cells, and kidneys
- Children, infants, and pregnant people are at greater risk



# General Lead Awareness



- Lead is **rarely** found in natural sources of water such as rivers and lakes or underground aquifers
- The most likely sources of lead in your household water are lead pipes, lead plumbing joints, or brass fixtures in your plumbing.



# Funding



- Replacement services are based on available funding
  - Support from state and federal funding.
- Future assistance is not guaranteed if a replacement is declined at this time
- There are no immediate plans to increase water rates to fund this project







# Current outreach efforts



Mailings



Phone calls



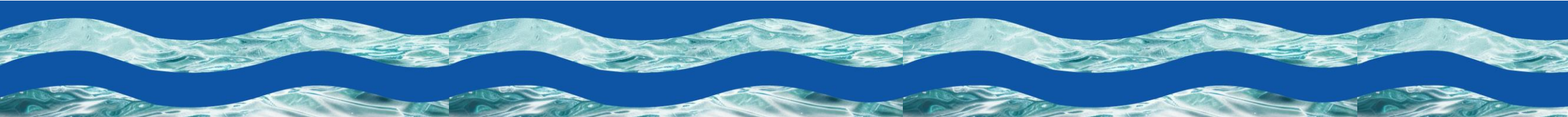
Door knocking



Community meetings and events



Yard signs, brochures, door hangers



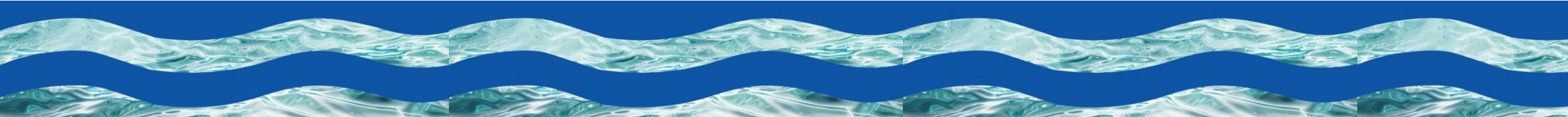


# Completed projects

SPRWS serves about 96,000 properties. Of those, about 19,000 (20%) have a lead service line and 5,500 (6%) have a service line that is of unknown material.



| Year      | Connections serviced                         |
|-----------|--|
| 2022      | 305  |
| 2023      | 614  |
| 2024      | 1045   |
| 2025      | 2500 anticipated                             |
| 2026-2029 | Ramp up to 3500 per year                     |
| 2030-2032 | Ramp down from 3000 to 1500 (until complete) |





# Current mitigation efforts



- Treatment
  - Corrosion control
    - A naturally occurring compound orthophosphate is added to the water to form a protective layer inside the pipes
  - Constantly monitoring and adjusting PH and alkalinity levels
- Testing
  - Test often per the EPA Safe Drinking Water program
- Investigating complaints
  - Take water quality complaints and issues seriously



# Submit an intent form



## STEP 1

Visit the SPRWS Service Material Map



[bit.ly/SPRWS\\_ServiceMaterialMap](https://bit.ly/SPRWS_ServiceMaterialMap)

## STEP 2

Review the welcome page and click OK.



*Check the box to confirm you understand the information*

## STEP 3

Type your property address into the search bar.



# Submit an intent form

## STEP 4

Select your property highlighted in green.



## STEP 5

Click on the "Submit an intent form" link in the pop up window.



## STEP 6

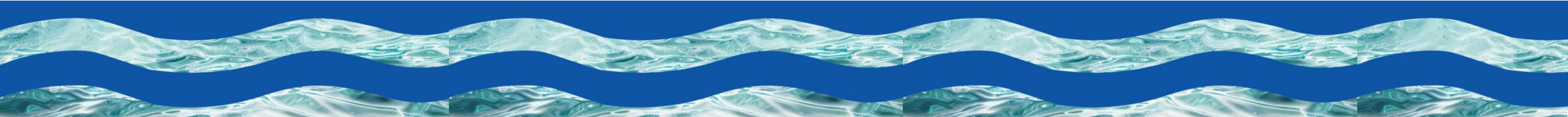
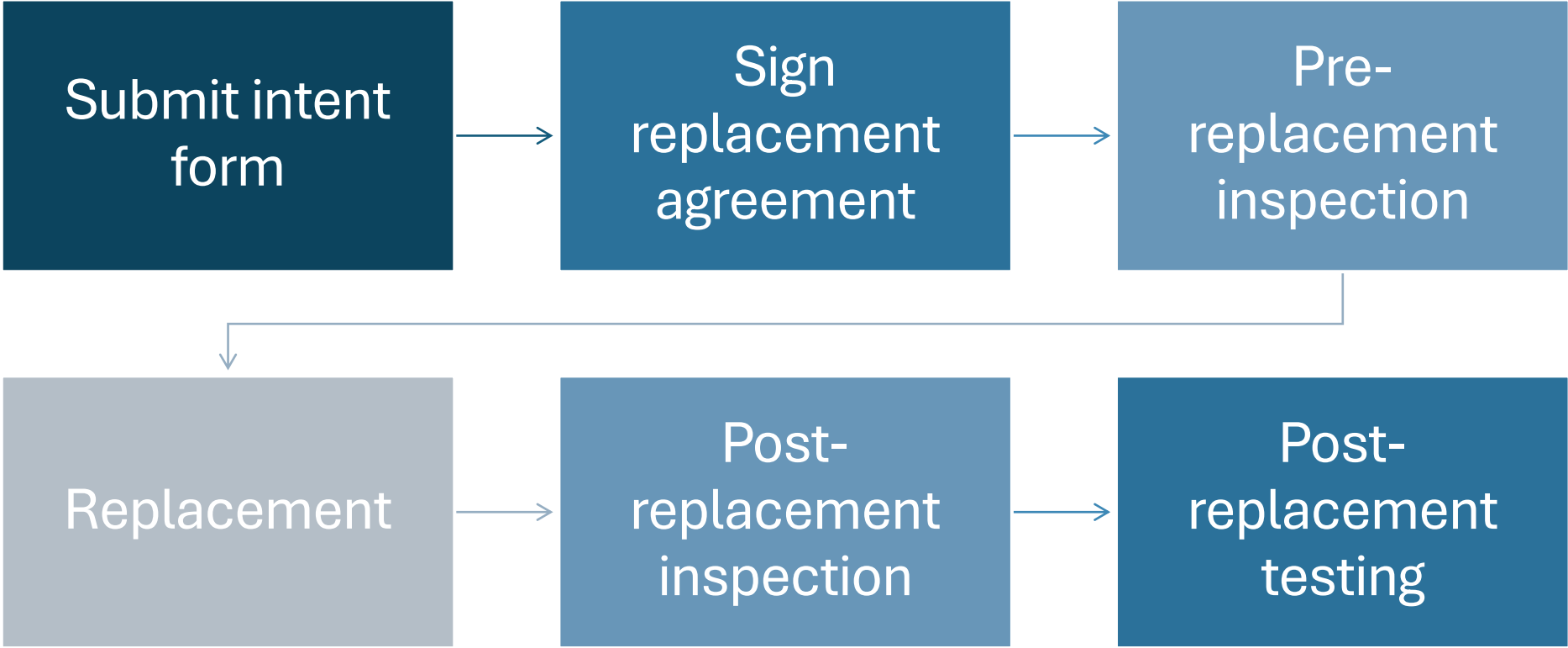
Complete and submit the intent form.



*Required fields are indicated by a red asterisk\**



# Replacement process



# How you can help



**Social posts**



**Newsletters**



**Print materials**



**Presentations**

*Help us connect with your networks!*



# Frequently asked questions



## When will my lead service line be replaced?

- Project areas are selected each year based on several factors, including cost efficiency.
  - Whenever possible, replacements are coordinated with other infrastructure projects, such as water main upgrades and street reconstructions.
- Replacements are prioritized for vulnerable populations, focusing on areas with a higher number of children under five.
- Property owners will be notified when their property becomes eligible for replacement.





# Frequently asked questions



## Can I replace my lead service line now?

- Yes, but SPRWS funding and crews will only apply in determined project zones
- Customers can work with contractors to replace lines at their own expense



# Frequently asked questions



## What should I do if I have a lead service line?

- Do not drink or cook with water that has collected in plumbing for more than six hours
- Clear water lines by running cold water for 3-5 minutes
- Run the water before you drink from any faucet in the house
- Use cold water for cooking, drinking, making baby formula
- Clean faucet aerators at least once per month
- Treat your water using a pitcher or filtration system that is [NSF certified for lead](#)



# Testimonial- CBS News



# Questions?



[stpaul.gov/lead-free](http://stpaul.gov/lead-free)



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