**[YOUR LETTERHEAD]**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**DATE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_, 2023

**Contact:** [Point of Contact’s name, phone number, email address]

**[NAME OF YOUR ENTITY] LAUNCHES LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT INVENTORY**

**[YOUR TOWN], Mont.** – The [name of entity] announced today the launch of an inventory for the presence of lead service lines in [name of town]. This effort will support the statewide work of the Montana Department of Commerce and the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Lead Service Lines Inventory Program and help communities apply for more than $100 million in additional project funding made possible by the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs act of 2021 to remove and replace lead service lines. This funding will support communities in inventorying, removing, and replacing lead pipes, and promote the health and safety of all Montanans.

“Add quote here from local official, such as your mayor, city/county commissioner, etc. emphasizing the importance of access to safe, clean drinking water,” said [name and title of local official].

“Add quote here from local PWS point of contact detailing steps taken and progress made to inventory all lead service lines in your community, encouraging local citizens to participate,” said [name and title of PWS point of contact].

The Montana Department of Commerce’s [Community Technical Assistance Program](https://comdev.mt.gov/Programs-and-Boards/Community-Technical-Assistance-Program/) (CTAP) will provide technical assistance to all public water systems in the form of online and in-person trainings and community education toolkits. In addition, partner service providers, such as engineers, may be assigned to eligible water systems serving fewer than 10,000 users to complete lead service line inventories at no cost and plan for removing and replacing lead services lines.

To access the funding, all drinking water systems will have to complete their inventory and submit a plan for the replacement or mitigation of lead service lines by October 16, 2024. The [Montana Department of Commerce](https://commerce.mt.gov/) is working with the [Montana Department of Environmental Quality](https://deq.mt.gov/) to ensure all eligible water systems receive support to complete these activities.

For more information, visit the CTAP Lead Service Lines [webpage](https://comdev.mt.gov/Programs-and-Boards/Community-Technical-Assistance-Program/Lead-Service-Lines).

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