In May 2016, Governor Inslee issued Directive 16-06 because of increased public concern about lead in drinking water. This directive instructed state agencies to work with partners to address potential sources of lead exposure and ways to minimize its impact. One aspect of this directive was that “Department of Health (DOH) shall work with each Group A public water system to identify all lead service lines and lead components within two years.”

Directive 16-06 is part of a broad effort to assess and address potential sources of lead exposure in Washington State. While we recognize that lead paint and dust account for most of the lead exposure for children in the U.S., we also know there is no safe level of lead and we must take steps to reduce all exposures.

Taking Action
In summer 2016, DOH Office of Drinking Water worked with several Group A public water systems to develop a survey. The purpose of the survey was to assess the occurrence of lead service lines and lead components (goosenecks) within the state. In October 2016, we surveyed the state’s public water systems about the occurrence of lead service lines and lead components in their system.

More than 680 water systems responded, which serve more than 90 percent of the connections in the state. From these responses, we wrote a report that captures specific data from water systems that participated in the survey. We also created a summary of findings, which shows a “snapshot” of information from that time.

Although initial responses showed very low percentages of lead service lines and lead goosenecks in service overall, we followed up. In early 2018, we reached out to water systems to confirm the accuracy of their original survey response. We wanted to check in with systems that reported either:
- An estimated number of lead service lines or lead goosenecks in service.
- Unknown number of lead service lines or lead goosenecks in service.

Survey Results
Based on what we learned, below is an update for lead service lines and lead goosenecks:

Lead Service Lines
- Two water systems report a combined estimated 551 lead service lines currently in service.
  - One of the two systems knows where its lead service lines are located and will replace them by 2020.
  - The other system estimates as many as 300 lead service lines remain in service, with no budgeted plan to replace them. This water system is interested in funding support to replace their lead service lines and the old water mains attached to them.
- Five water systems serving over 1,000 connections report an unknown number of lead service lines. It is possible there are some lead service lines still in service within these systems.

Lead Goosenecks
- Fifteen water systems report they have a combined estimated 4,841 lead goosenecks. All but one system is interested in funding support to replace their lead goosenecks and the old water mains attached to them.
Twelve water systems serving over 1,000 connections report an unknown number of lead goosenecks still in service.

To date, here is how Washington State measures up.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lead component</th>
<th>% of connections</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lead service lines in service</td>
<td>0.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown number of lead service lines</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>No lead service lines</strong></td>
<td><strong>98.8</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead goosenecks in service</td>
<td>0.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown number of lead goosenecks</td>
<td>7.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>No lead goosenecks</strong></td>
<td><strong>92.2</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We will continue to provide technical assistance to water systems as they identify and replace their lead service lines and/or lead components. As part of Directive 16-06, we are moving toward our goal of removing all lead service lines and lead components within 15 years. We are also expanding access to our drinking water state revolving fund loans for lead replacement. By 2020, we expect the number of lead service lines in service will decrease to 0.01 percent.

**Funding Options**

**Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)**

The DWSRF Program has funding available for the removal and replacement of lead service lines and lead goosenecks under the DWSRF Construction Loan Program. These activities are a high public health risk and ranked in Risk Category 3, the third highest health risk category for construction loan funding.

The DWSRF Program has approximately $20 million to award to projects, with a maximum award of $3 million per water system. To be eligible for funding in Risk Category 3, the water system must meet the following criteria:

- Provide documentation through historic records that the service lines or lead goosenecks to be replaced are lead. Acceptable historic records include information on the age of the houses and high probability of lead service lines and components being present, line installation records, line repair information, or as-builts.
- All work performed within 500 feet of a replaced lead service line or lead gooseneck is eligible for reimbursement. Eligible work includes service line (main to the meter) and water main replacement, regardless of pipe material.
- Project applications intended to replace only lead service lines and/or service lines with lead goosenecks (no water main replacement involved) are eligible, if at least 50.1 percent of the total service line replacement costs (from main to the meter) are associated with lead service line or lead gooseneck removal and replacement.
- Temporary access and construction easements are required to allow the cultural review, environmental review, and construction activities to occur for replacement of lead service lines on private property. Permanent easements are not required for the new service lines installed on private property. However, if the water system requires a permanent easement for the project, the costs associated with establishing the permanent easement are eligible for reimbursement.
- The DWSRF Program will award principal forgiveness or subsidy based on the affordability index or debt service coverage ratio of the entire water system.

We will accept applications for the 2018 construction loan cycle from October 1 to November 30, 2018.