

LEAD WATER SERVICE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM GUIDANCE MEMORANDUM

January 1, 2026



GRANT SUMMARY

The Albany Water Board is committed to help homeowners replace their lead water service lines. Lead is no longer a suitable material for pipes and should be removed completely to mitigate associated health risks.

The Albany Water Department's (AWD) Lead Service Replacement Program (LSRP) is a multi-faceted program that has been established to help homeowners find a path to replacing their lead water service lines.

CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES

Service Replacement Funding: \$1,000.00 for 1/2 service replacement
(Curb Box to Water Meter or Water Main to Curb Box)

\$2,000.00 for full service replacement (Water Main to Water Meter)

Free Water Filter: One water pitcher with filter cartridge good for approximately 6 months. (Only a temporary solution until replacement can occur.)

CITY CODE REQUIREMENT

Current City of Albany Code (Section 371-89.A) requires that a lead or galvanized service be replaced in full with copper pipe rather than spot-repaired or partially replaced to mitigate health and safety concerns.

The LSRP is always evolving to better serve the community and to remain compliant with the Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) established by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which regulates the actions AWD takes regarding lead lines. Future versions of the LSRP and its requirements and opportunities are not retroactive and do not apply to past applications.

LEAD SERVICE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

ELIGIBILITY CHECKLIST – FREE WATER FILTER

Any lead service within the City of Albany can be eligible for LSRP opportunities, regardless of ownership as long as the application requirements are met.

1. Confirm your lead service with AWD staff.
 - You may have already completed this step by submitting your service information online or by email. If you have not already, you may submit your information online at this link: albanyny.gov/662/Lead-Service-Line or you can call 518-434-5322 to schedule an appointment with AWD staff to confirm your water service material.
2. Submit qualifying sampling information.
 - The water filter program requires that the homeowner or tenant occupying the home with the lead service meet a minimum lead sample requirement of 0.01 mg/L or 10 ppb.
 - You may test a water sample privately through an accredited lab or through the New York State Department of Health's free program (link available at albanyny.gov/lead)
 - Keep in mind that lead tends to sample highest during the summer when water is warmer.
 - If you do not meet this sample requirement, a water filter is not available through the LSRP at this time. Water filters or pitchers can be found online, at any hardware store, and at some grocery stores for \$20-\$30. Call AWD at 518-434-5322 for more information about water filters.
3. Submit your LSRP – Water Filter Application.
 - Online at: albanyny.gov/lead
 - Emailed to Engineer Team at awdgrants@albanyny.gov
 - Or mailed to the following address:

Albany Water Department
c/o Engineer Team: Lead Grants
10 N. Enterprise Dr.
Albany, NY 12204
4. Receive your Filter Award Notice.
 - Your notice will come via email or mail. The notice is your notification that your application for a water filter has been received and approved.
5. Schedule Delivery
 - The Applicant will need to schedule an appointment with AWD staff to pick up the water filter from the Albany Water Department or have it delivered to the address.

LEAD SERVICE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

GRANT APPLICATION – FREE WATER FILTER

Property Information

1) Property Address _____

2) Property Owner _____

Applicant Information

4) Applicant Name _____

5) Mailing Address _____
(Street Address) _____ (City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip Code) _____

6) Phone Number (1) _____ Phone Number (2) _____

7) Email Address _____

How would you like to receive a Water Filter Award Notice? –check one Mail Email

Sample Information

In order to be eligible for a water filter under the Lead Service Replacement Program, the applicant must have a water sample result showing a lead content at or above 0.01 mg/L or 10 ppb from an accredited lab. The Sample Results must be attached as part of this application unless the Albany Water Department already has the results on file. Review the checklist for information on how to complete a water sample.