

## EPA's Lead and Copper Rule Improvements

EPA's Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) strengthen nationwide requirements to protect children and adults from lead in drinking water.



Legacy lead pipes have exposed generations of Americans to lead and will continue to do so until they are removed. The LCRI, combined with unprecedented funding and technical assistance, represents a commitment to addressing lead exposure in our communities.

#### What are the sources & impacts of lead?



Lead in drinking water irreparably harms children and adults and disproportionately impacts lower-income communities and communities of color



The science is clear: Lead is a potent neurotoxin and there is no safe level of exposure

Lead used to be commonly used in everyday products like gasoline and paint, and in lead pipes that carry drinking water to homes. These lead pipes are also called lead service lines

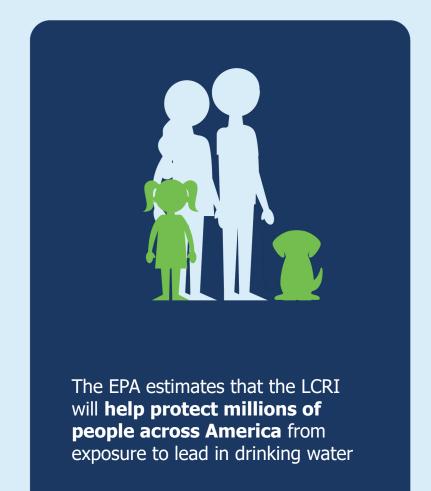


The EPA estimates that over 9 million homes are connected to water mains through lead pipes, posing an ever-present risk to people's health and wellbeing

# The final rule focuses on key areas that will protect our communities



# The benefits of the LCRI exceed the costs by more than tenfold

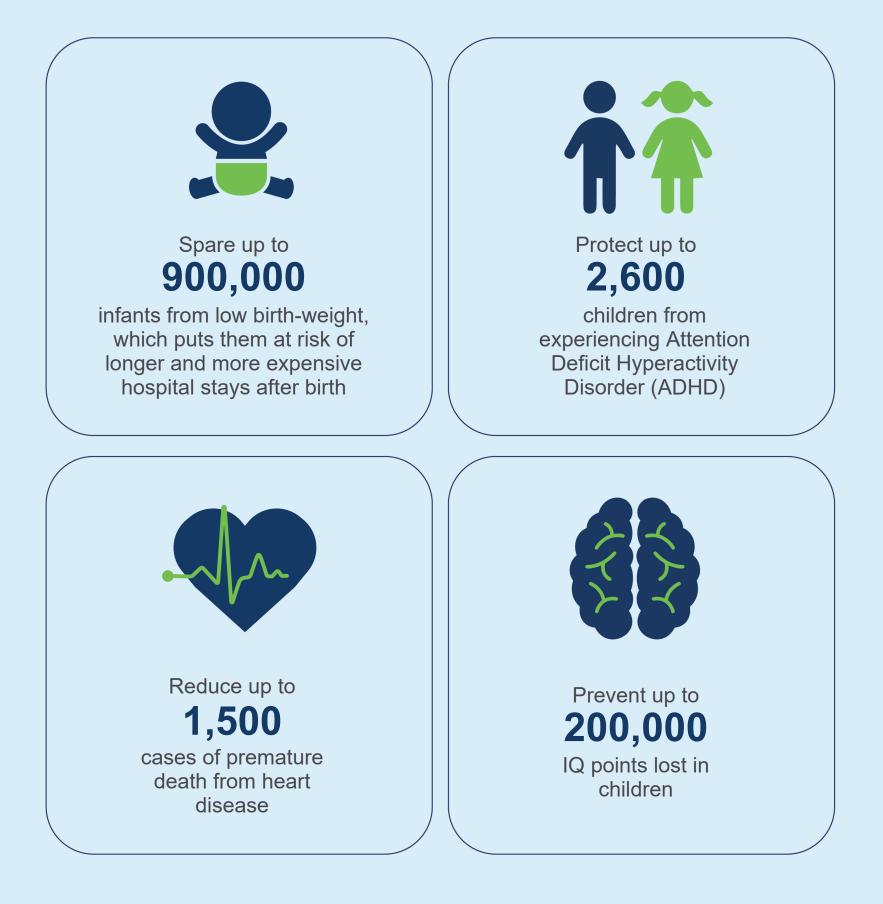




The estimated annual benefits of the rule exceed the estimated annual costs by up to **13 times** 

### BENEFITS Up to \$25 billion per year

#### The EPA estimates that on average, each year after the LCRI is issued it will:



### COSTS Range from \$1.5 to \$2 billion per year



These costs are for replacing lead service lines, water system monitoring, communicating with customers, and – if necessary – installing treatment technologies

## Resources are available to support LCRI implementation



The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and funding programs like Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) and Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) inject billions of dollars into projects to reduce lead in drinking water



**\$11.7 billion** from Drinking Water State Revolving Fund



**\$15 billion** from Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) for lead service line replacement



**\$35 million** competitive grant funding from the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (apply through grants.gov)



Every \$1 billion invested in water infrastructure creates approximately **15,500 jobs** 

To complement this historic federal funding, the EPA's water technical assistance (WaterTA), including the Get the Lead Out Initiative, helps disadvantaged communities identify lead service lines, develop replacement plans, and apply for funding to get the lead out

**To learn more visit:** https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/ lead-and-copper-rule-improvements

October 2024