

Lead ALE and public notices

*2025 Spring Partner Training
May 20, 2025*



DRINKING WATER SERVICES
Public Health Division

1

Overview

- Oregon's current lead action level
- Regulatory background
- How do I know if my system exceeds the AL?
- Where can I find the letter template and fact sheet?
- Public notice is issued, now what?
- What happens if PN is not issued?
- New CCR requirements for lead



2

2

What is the current lead AL?

- Oregon's regulatory AL is currently 15ppb. When Oregon adopts the current lead rule, then it will align with the national AL.



Regulatory Background

- 2016 Water Infrastructure Improvement for the Nation (WIIN) Act amended SDWA section 1414(c)(2) to require EPA regulations to require a public notice within 24 hours of a PWS learning of a lead ALE.
- As part of the rulemaking to revise the LCR in 2021 (LCRR), EPA determined that a lead ALE has the potential to have serious adverse effects on human health as a result of short-term exposure, and therefore revised the PN rule.

How do I know if my system has an ALE?

REMINDER – this is based on the 90% calculation

Once DMCE determines a lead ALE, they will notify the DWS phone duty person who will then reach out to the regulator and/or the water system.

An auto-generated letter will be sent out to the water system. It also includes the Tier 1 PN.



5

5

Where can I find the public notice?

- <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/HEALTHYENVIRONMENTS/DRINKINGWATER/MONITORING/Pages/monitoring.aspx>
- Under Monitoring and Reporting
 - Resources and Forms
 - Lead and Copper



6

6

DWS Website info

Lead and Copper

- **Community-Wide Notification Template for Community Water Systems (CWS) and Non-Transient Non-Community (NTNC)**
 - **Tier 1 Public Notification Template following a Lead Action Level Exceedance**

The 2021 Lead and Copper Rule Revisions require water systems to issue a Tier 1 Public Notification (PN) when there is an exceedance of the lead action level no later than 24 hours after systems learn of an exceedance. This document provides a template that water systems can use to develop a Tier 1 PN for a lead action level exceedance.

- Tier 1 Public Notification Template [MS Word](#) -or- [PDF](#)
- Plantilla para Notificación Pública de Nivel 1 [MS Word Spanish](#)
- [Fact Sheet: Requirements for Tier 1 Public Notice Following a Lead Action Level Exceedance](#)

Notice is issued, now what?

- Send in the public notice to DMCE. DMCE will then send the notice to EPA.
- Make sure the public notice certification is sent to the state within 10 days of issuance.

What happens if the notice is not issued?

- If the system does not issue the public notice, the state may issue the notice on behalf of the PWS.
- DMCE will issue a Lead ALE PN violation
- If neither the PWS or state issued the required PN, EPA will issue a notice of the ALE.
- EPA monitors Lead ALE's via FedRep, so we will want to respond in a timely manner.



Questions?

New CCR updates related to lead

- CCR Checklist of Required Components – Revised April 2025 is located under Monitoring and Reporting/Consumer Confidence Reports
 - Contaminant table is to include the latest round of lead and copper samples (photo credit to Michigan (EGLE))

Inorganic Contaminant Subject to AL	Action Level	MCLG	Your Water ¹	Range of Results	Year Sampled	Number of Samples Above AL	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	15	0					Lead service lines, corrosion of household plumbing including fittings and fixtures; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3					Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

11



11

New CCR updates related to lead

- Lead Service Line Inventory
 - A paragraph can be put together outlining the systems' summary table information (# of lead lines, # of unknown, total # of service lines).
 - The methodology used to determine the service line materials
 - Link (or location) to where the inventory can be found online (public access)
- Updated "information about lead" paragraph
- Additional lead paragraph if a system had at least one lead sample above the AL.

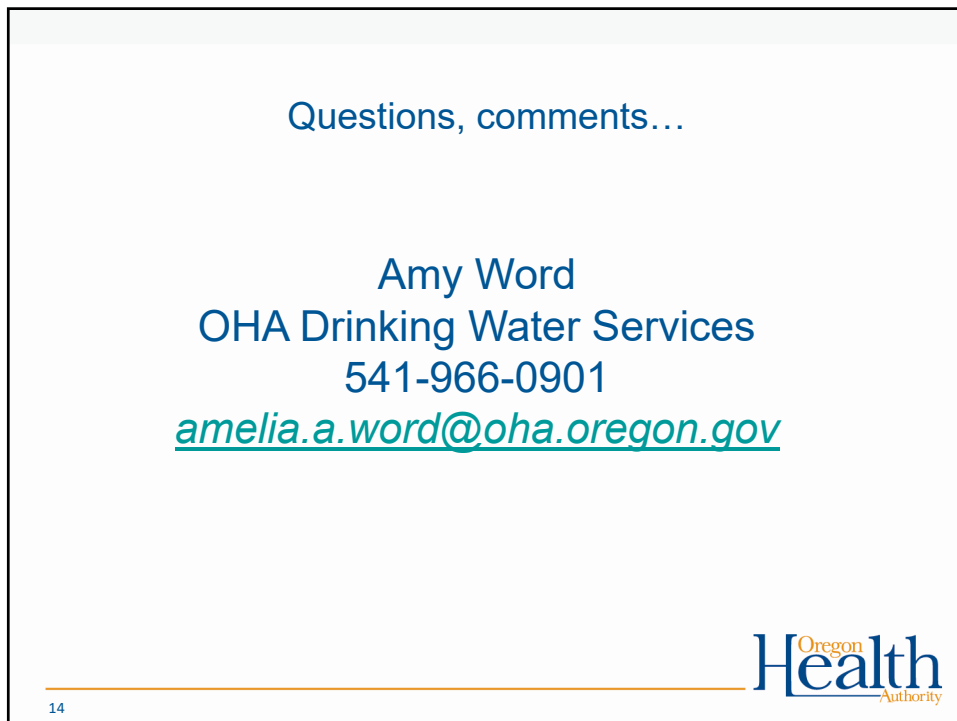
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12



13



14