

Division of Environment  
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Topeka, KS 66612-1367



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www.kdheks.gov

Janet Stanek, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

October 16, 2025

MATT MOCK, PUBLIC WORKS SPRV  
CITY OF SOUTH HUTCHINSON, WATER SYSTEM  
2 S MAIN  
SOUTH HUTCHINSON, KS 67505

Re: Violation: Failure to distribute Notification of Known or Potential Service Line Containing Lead Trifold by  
Deadline Date for Compliance With LCRR  
Federal ID #: KS2015504

The CITY OF SOUTH HUTCHINSON was required to certify to KDHE that each resident was notified of the type of service line material serving their residence. Distributing the Notification of Known or Potential Service Line Containing Lead Trifold to the appropriate locations within 30 days after submitting to KDHE the initial Lead Service Line Inventory. The system would then upload one copy of each type of service line notification sent to residents on the PWSDC in the portal by July 1, 2025.

According to our records, you have not submitted the Trifold template as of the date of this letter, and therefore did not meet the requirements for this section of the LCRR. Due to this failure, your water system has incurred a violation.

Your system will remain in a status of non-compliance until the system has distributed the enclosed trifold notification template to the appropriate locations and provide proof on the PWSDC in the portal. Log into PWSDC at <https://pwsdc.kdhe.ks.gov/>

This is a Tier 3 violation in which public notice must be issued as soon as practical, but within 365 days from the date of this letter. Public Notice must be distributed by OCTOBER 16, 2026. You must use one or more of the following methods to deliver the notice to consumers: mail or hand delivery. You may choose to use the partially completed public notice form included with this letter. Water systems must use the EPA provided lead health effects language in public education materials to ensure consistent notification messaging with Public Notice (PN) requirements.

You may need to use additional methods (e.g., newspaper, delivery of multiple copies to hospitals, nursing homes, clinics, mobile home parks, apartment buildings, or posting in conspicuous locations), since notice must be provided in a manner reasonably calculated to reach all persons served.

After issuing the public notice, you are required to submit to our office a copy of each type of notice that you completed and the enclosed "Certificate of Delivery" within ten (10) calendar days. This is due to KDHE no later than OCTOBER 26, 2026. **If you choose to include the required public notice with your system's CCR, you must still submit the Certificate of Delivery and a copy of the notice you distributed as described in the beginning of this paragraph. Please know that a public notice included with a CCR must still contain the ten required elements (included with this letter), and therefore a one-line mention of the violation within the CCR will likely not satisfy public notice requirements.**

Failure to address non-compliance with State and Federal drinking water regulations may result in additional enforcement action. Technical assistance to help resolve non-compliance is available upon request.

If you have any questions about this letter, please contact me at 785-296-0694 or by email [jenny.smith@ks.gov](mailto:jenny.smith@ks.gov)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jenny Smith", written in a cursive style.

Jenny Smith  
Public Water Supply Section  
Bureau of Water

cc: e-file

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

CITY OF SOUTH HUTCHINSON Water System failed to distribute the Notification of Known or Potential Service Line Containing Lead by the deadline date. Public water systems should have provided the enclosed notification trifold template to customers where a known or a potential service line containing lead is present within 30 days of completion of the initial inventory and repeat notification on an annual basis until the entire service connection is no longer lead, galvanized requiring replacement, or unknown. For new customers, water systems shall also provide the notice at the time-of-service initiation.

A monitoring violation occurred because the System failed to distribute the notification trifold template by the deadline date.

As our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct this situation.

### **What does this mean?**

On January 15, 2021, the EPA promulgated the first major update to the Lead and Copper Rule, known as the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) under the Safe Drinking Water Act. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 141.84(a), The LCRR requires, among other things, that community and non-transient non-community water systems must develop an inventory to identify the materials of service lines connected to the public water distribution systems regardless of ownership status and water systems must notify customers of known or potential service line containing lead is present within 30 days of completion of the initial Lead Service Line Inventory.

*Health effects of lead: Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or worsen existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these negative health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, and kidney, or nervous system problems.*

(Text in italics is required and cannot be changed.)

### **What should I do?**

#### 1. Use a water filter

Using a filter can reduce lead in drinking water. If you use a filter, it should be certified to remove lead. Read any directions provided with the filter to learn how to properly install, maintain, and use your cartridge and when to replace it. Using the cartridge after it has been expired can make it less effective at removing lead. Do not run hot water through the filter that you use for drinking or cooking.

#### 2. Clean your aerator

Regularly clean your faucet's screen. Sediment debris, and lead particles can collect in your aerator. If lead particles are caught in the aerator, lead can get into your water. Turn on full flow to let water run after cleaning. After replacing the clean aerator turn on full flow to let water run to flush loose particles after cleaning before drinking.

#### 3. Use cold water

Do not use hot water from the tap for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula as lead dissolves more easily into hot water. Boiling water does not remove lead from water.

#### 4. Run Your Water

If your water has been sitting in the pipes more than 18 hours, the more lead it may contain. Before drinking, let the water run for at least 30 seconds or until the temperature changes.

5. If you're concerned about construction disturbing your service lines

Contact your water system to find out about any construction or maintenance work that could disturb your service lines. Construction may cause more lead to be released from a lead service line or galvanized service line if lead is present.

6. If you want your water tested

Contact your water system to learn about your options with having your water tested for lead.

7. Get your child tested to determine lead levels in their blood.

A family doctor, pediatrician, or your County Health Department can perform a childhood blood lead level test and provide information about the health effects of lead. KDHE can also provide information about how you can have your child's blood tested for lead.

8. Replacing lead service lines or galvanized requiring replacement service lines.

If you replace your service lines, make sure to use filters for 6 months after service line replacement. For questions on filters, contact your water system.

**What is being done?**

[Describe corrective action.] The City of South Hutchinson has notified those with lead or galvanized pipes on 8/14/2025 and will be notifying again by certified mail. We also have an inventory tracker on water lines for public view and will be submitting our inventory annually in November.  
We anticipate resolving the problem within [estimated time frame] November 28th, 2025

For more information, please contact Name: MATT MOCK Phone: 620-663-7104

Or by Mail: 2 S MAIN, SOUTH HUTCHINSON, KS 67505

*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.*

This notice is being sent to you by CITY OF SOUTH HUTCHINSON, KS2015504

Date distributed: 10/28/2025

# GET THE LEAD OUT



## HAVE YOU COMPLETED YOUR MANDATORY WATER SERVICE LINE INSPECTION?

### Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Lead and Copper Rule (LCR)

Lead levels in drinking water were first regulated by the EPA in the late 1980's. In 2021, the EPA released updates to regulations addressing lead levels in water provided by public drinking water systems. The first step of the updated regulations requires public drinking water systems to create an inventory of the lead service lines in their service area. The inventory must include both public and privately owned water service lines, and must be completed by the end of 2024 for communities to remain in compliance with the EPA's Lead and Copper Rule regulations.

The City of South Hutchinson must develop a lead service line replacement plan which includes an inventory of all pipelines, public and private, in the service area. The City needs your help in creating this inventory.

### Here's how to conduct your mandatory water service line inspection:

1. Review the information on the bottom of this flyer to learn how to check your water service lines to determine if they are lead-based.
2. Use the online reporting tool to submit your findings. Access the online tool by scanning the QR code found on the bottom of this flyer, or by visiting the following online address: <https://arcg.is/1Srm191>.
3. Not sure if your water service lines are lead or galvanized metal? No problem! You can contact the City with any questions or assistance filling out your service line inventory report.

### The Dangers of Lead

Lead is a common metal found in the environment and can cause serious health problems if too much enters the body from drinking water or other sources. Lead plumbing fixtures are a major source of lead entering the body.

#### Lead can:

- Damage the brain and kidneys and can interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to all parts of the body.
- Cause the greatest risk to infants, young children, and pregnant women – lowered IQ in children has been directly linked to the effects of lead on the brain.
- Enter a child's bloodstream during pregnancy from the mother's bones if she has been exposed to high levels, which may affect the child's brain development or cause other health concerns.
- Be stored in the bones and its impacts can be released later in life.
- Cause significantly greater risk to adults with kidney problems and high blood pressure than healthy adults, even if exposed to low levels.

In older homes and buildings (built prior to 1988), lead can leach into the tap water from water service lines or solder at plumbing joints and fixtures. This can eventually become a significant source of lead exposure.

## WHAT'S IN YOUR LINE?

To find out if you have a copper, lead, or galvanized steel service line on your property, you (or your landlord) can perform an inspection of where your service line enters your home or business. Read the steps below to help you determine the water service line material on your property.

### Steps to Check Your Service Line Material

- 1 Find the water shut-off valve on your property – likely located in your basement or utility closet.
- 2 Look for the pipe that comes through the outside wall or floor of your home that connects the water meter to your home or building.
- 3 If the pipe is painted, use sandpaper or a key to expose a small section of the metal.
- 4 Determine your service line material using the reference guide to the right.
- 5 Send us your results by using the QR code to the right (preferred method) or contact the City of South Hutchinson for assistance completing your form.


### Need Help Determining Your Service Line Material?


If you need assistance determining your water service line material or you cannot access the online self-reporting tool, contact the City of South Hutchinson.

Contact:  
[ronniep@southhutch.com](mailto:ronniep@southhutch.com) (620) 663-7104  
2 South Main, South Hutchinson, KS 67505


### What You'll Need

- A house key or coin
- A strong refrigerator magnet

  
**Galvanized Steel**  
Magnet will stick.  
Is a dull grey color.

  
**Lead**  
Magnet will not stick.  
Is a grey or silver color.

  
**Copper**  
Magnet will not stick.  
Is a tarnished penny color.

  
**Plastic**  
Magnet will not stick.  
Is usually blue, black, or white in color.



### Self-Reporting Tool

Submit your findings from your water line inspection to the online self-reporting tool. This information will be added to the City's overall water line inventory database.

