



FACT SHEET

# KNOW YOUR RIGHTS UNDER THE FLINT SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

## SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT

If you live in a house and have had an active water account with the City of Flint at any time between March 28, 2017, and July 26, 2021, you can participate in the city’s pipe replacement program, and the rights outlined below apply to you. If you have a question about whether you’re eligible, contact NRDC at [flintpiperemoval@gmail.com](mailto:flintpiperemoval@gmail.com) or (312) 651-7918.

- Though you must have a currently active water account with Flint to have your service line replaced, you DO NOT need to be up to date on payments on your water bill.
- You have a right to have the city dig up your service line to see what it is made of. If part or all of the service line is confirmed to be made of lead or galvanized steel, you have a right to have your line replaced.<sup>1</sup>
- If you are a homeowner or resident, the city must get your permission to check your service line and replace it if it is made of lead or galvanized steel. A city representative must come to your house in person two times to ask for your permission, including at least once after 5 p.m. or on a weekend, and the city must send a letter seeking permission to your mailing address.<sup>2</sup>
- If you are a homeowner or resident, you have a right to sign up to have your service line checked and/or replaced through an online form available at <https://www.cityofflint.com/get-the-lead-out>. You can submit the completed form by email to [GetTheLeadOut@cityofflint.com](mailto:GetTheLeadOut@cityofflint.com), bring it in person to City Hall, or mail it to:  
  
City of Flint DPW Service Line Replacement  
1101 S. Saginaw St.  
Flint, MI 48502
- If you sign up to have your service line checked and/or replaced, someone over 18 years old must be at home when the city’s contractors do the work. A city representative must call you the day before the scheduled work to confirm



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- the time, and if you are not home at the time of the first appointment, the city must try to reschedule. If you call the city to reschedule, the city must schedule another time with you to complete the work.<sup>3</sup>
- You can refuse to have your service line checked or replaced. If you do, you have three months to change your mind, measured from the day when a city representative first knocked on your door to seek your permission to check your service line.<sup>4</sup> As of March 1, 2023, the city is allowing any resident who would like to join the program to submit a consent form.
- After your service line is replaced, you have a right to have a team install a faucet filter for you if you do not have one already. You have a right to free replacement filter cartridges to last six months after the service line at your home has been replaced.<sup>5</sup>

## PROPERTY REPAIRS<sup>6</sup>

If you have your service line checked and/or replaced, the city must fix any damage to your lawn, sidewalk, curb, and driveway and remove any debris from your property. You have a right to a complete sidewalk, driveway, and curb and a lawn free of holes and with even grass or seeding.

- You have a right to these property repairs even if your service line was checked and/or replaced several years ago.
- The city is sending workers to homes where it did work earlier to determine which homes in the program still need repairs. If the city decides that it will not be doing future property repairs at your home, it must leave a door hanger letting you know.
- If you have any questions or concerns about the city's repair of your property, you can contact a program representative at (810) 410-1133 or [GetTheLeadOut@cityofflint.com](mailto:GetTheLeadOut@cityofflint.com).

## FAUCET FILTERS AND WATER TESTING<sup>7</sup>

- Free faucet water filters, filter replacement cartridges, and water testing kits are available at City Hall. If you can't pick up these items in person, you can request home delivery by calling (810) 410-2020. Deliveries are provided by City of Flint Public Health Navigators.
- You have the right to free testing of your tap water for lead up to twice every six months until August 1, 2024, although this end date may be extended.
- Results of tests of your water must be mailed to you no more than 30 days after the lab doing the testing gets your results.



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## Act Now!

**Flint residents can still have their water service lines checked and replaced for free if the pipe is made of lead or galvanized steel.** To participate in the city's pipe replacement program, call (810) 410-1133, or download the consent form available online at <https://www.cityofflint.com/get-the-lead-out> and submit it to [GetTheLeadOut@cityofflint.com](mailto:GetTheLeadOut@cityofflint.com).

The agreement in Flint is part of a case brought by Concerned Pastors for Social Action, Melissa Mays, NRDC (Natural Resources Defense Council), and the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan. They did not ask for money damages—just a solution to the lead contamination of Flint's drinking water. The agreement in this lawsuit does not provide all of the justice Flint residents deserve. But we believe it is an important step toward making the city's tap water safer. The agreement also shows that, by standing together to fight for what's right, the people of Flint have the power to force the government to do its job.

If you have questions about anything in this fact sheet, contact NRDC at [flintpiperemoval@gmail.com](mailto:flintpiperemoval@gmail.com) or call (312) 651-7918.

### ENDNOTES

- <sup>1</sup> *Settlement Agreement, Concerned Pastors for Social Action et al. v. Khouri et al.*, ¶¶8-11, No. 16-10277 (E.D. Mich. Mar. 27, 2017), ECF No. 147-1, <https://www.nrdc.org/sites/default/files/flint-drinking-water-lawsuit-settlement-agreement-20170327.pdf>.
- <sup>2</sup> "Order Modifying Settlement Agreement," ¶15, *Concerned Pastors*, No. 16-10277 (E.D. Mich. Mar. 26, 2019), ECF No. 208, <https://www.nrdc.org/sites/default/files/order-amending-settlement-agreement-flint-20190326.pdf>.
- <sup>3</sup> "Order Granting Plaintiffs' Fifth Motion to Enforce Settlement Agreement," at 14, *Concerned Pastors*, No. 16-10277 (E.D. Mich. Feb. 24, 2023), ECF No. 258.
- <sup>4</sup> "Order Amending Settlement Agreement," ¶15.d., *Concerned Pastors*, No. 16-10277 (E.D. Mich. July 19, 2018), ECF No. 174; "Order Amending Settlement Agreement," ¶14, *Concerned Pastors*, No. 16-10277 (E.D. Mich. Mar. 26, 2019), ECF No. 208, <https://www.nrdc.org/sites/default/files/order-amending-settlement-agreement-flint-20190326.pdf>.
- <sup>5</sup> *Settlement Agreement*, ¶38.
- <sup>6</sup> "Order Granting Plaintiffs' Fifth Motion" at 23, 25.
- <sup>7</sup> *Settlement Agreement*, ¶¶39, 59-62.