

Champions WELLAND LEADING THE WAY



September 10, 2014
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GOT LEAD? GET THE LEAD OUT!

Welland, ON – The City of Welland continues to offer Welland property owners a grant to help reduce the cost of replacing the lead service line on the private portion of their water service. The Lead and Split Water Services Replacement Program (LASSR) grant is available to property owners who submit an application prior to replacement of the lead service line; however, retrofitting might be available under some circumstances.

Ray Chamberlain, Water Quality Coordinator for the City of Welland, urges residents to take advantage of the LASSR Program. “The City has offered this grant to qualified homeowners since 2007 and has increased the funding from an initial maximum amount of \$750 to a current maximum of \$2,000,” said Chamberlain. A limited number of property owners have taken advantage of the LASSR program to date. Chamberlain encourages property owners who suspect they have a lead water service line to contact the City, and to further inquire about eligibility for the grant.

The LASSR program was initiated by the City in order to reduce lead in residential drinking water. Some homes built before 1950 could have lead pipes, which could potentially pose health risks, particularly to pregnant women and children. Receiving the LASSR grant could off-set costs by \$2,000 for property owners needing to replace a lead service. Recipients are responsible however for organizing and retaining a contractor to complete the replacement work.

The City of Welland also offers a lead testing program to Welland property owners. City staff will visit the property to take a water sample and have it lab tested. For more information regarding the LASSR program or the Drinking Water Sampling Program please contact the City of Welland at 905 735-1700.

For more information about lead in drinking water visit Niagara Region’s fact sheet at <http://www.niagararegion.ca/living/water/pdf/lead-in-drinking-water-fact-sheet.pdf>

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Contact: Ray Chamberlain A.Sc.T
Water Quality Coordinator
Infrastructure Services
Corporation of the City of Welland
99 Federal Rd. Welland, ON L3B 6C2
Tel: (905) 735-1700 ext. 3103
www.welland.ca