

# PORTLAND WATER BUREAU

## Lead Hazard Reduction Program

### Evaluation Services

# Ordinance Purpose

187978

- To evaluate the Public Education and Community Outreach component of the City's Lead Hazard Reduction Program
- Evaluation conducted by Multnomah County's Program Design and Evaluation Services (PDES) group
- PDES will provide a final report to the Water Bureau in Fall 2017.
- The Intergovernmental Agreement is for an amount not to exceed \$56,250.

# Background on lead in Portland

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1992 EPA passed the Lead and Copper Rule: Requires system to treat water to reduce levels below 15 ppb.

Limited sources of lead in water in Portland system

- Portland never used lead service lines
- Removed all known lead pigtails
- Copper pipes and lead solder - most common in homes plumbed or built from 1970 – 85
- Home plumbing fixtures installed prior to 1985 can also contribute to lead in water
- In Portland lead paint is the greatest source of exposure to lead

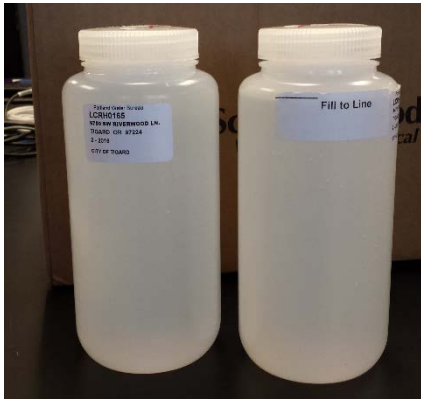
As a result, Portland City Council directed the Water Bureau to look at alternative ways to reduce lead exposure

# Portland's Lead Hazard Reduction Program

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4-part alternative program to meet federal requirements  
(Lead and Copper Rule) for lead exposure reduction:

## Water Treatment & Monitoring



## Lead in Water Education and Testing



## Home Lead Hazard Control Program



## Public Education and Community Outreach





# Water Treatment & Monitoring

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Adjust pH from 6.5 to 8 with caustic soda.

Monitor every six months from pool of high-risk homes and water quality parameters every three months.

Treatment has resulted in more than 60% reduction in lead levels in high-risk homes.

Monitoring results are below system action level of 15ppb.



# Lead in Water Education and Testing

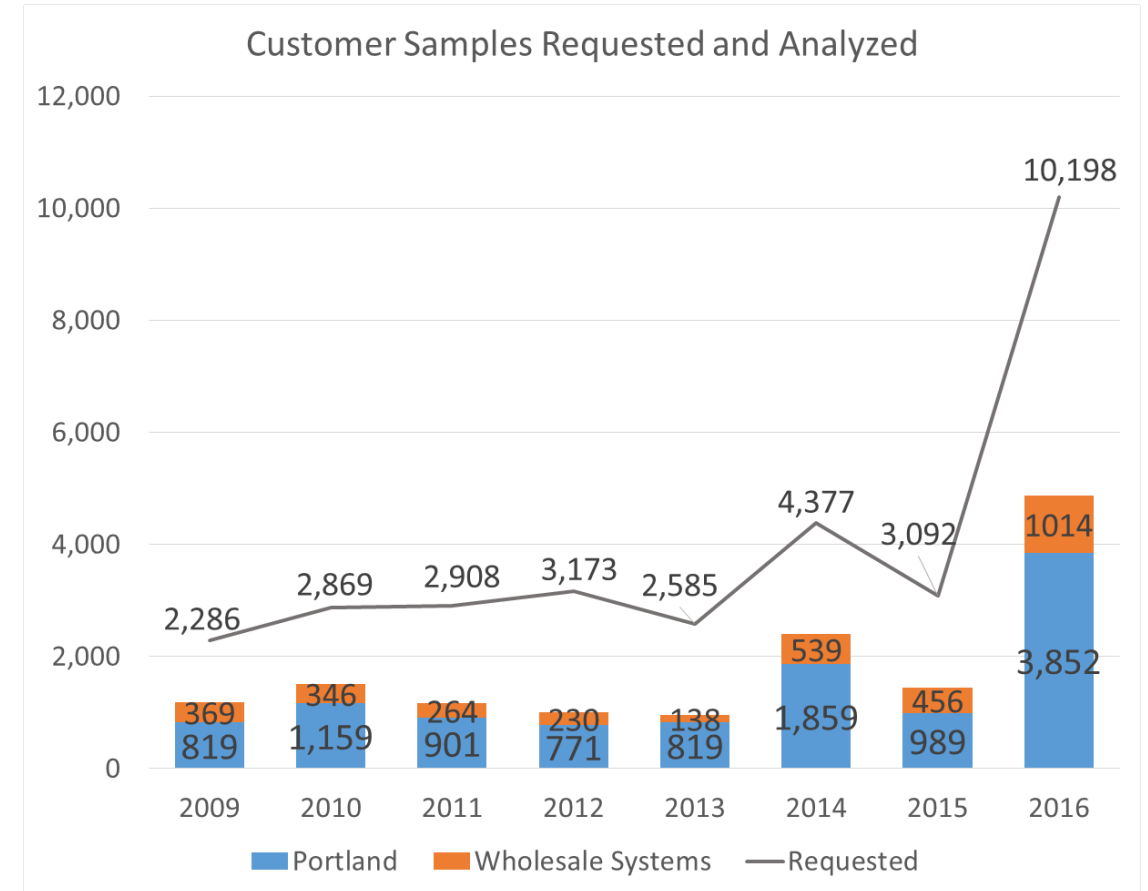
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Free lead in water testing for all customers:

- Average of 3,000 requests per year

Outreach and education to reduce exposure to lead in water:

- Utility bill brochure annually
- Annual mailer sent to highest risk homes
- Information on website and water quality report



# Home Lead Hazard Control Program

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Since 2001, LHRP funds have been used as local match to Portland Housing Bureau to receive 5 HUD grants

Year Awarded	Amount	Units Completed	Number of Kids
2001	\$3,000,000	318	636
2004	\$3,000,000	281	625
2006	\$3,000,000	335	700
2009	\$4,000,000	529	1,000
2013	\$3,000,000	118	118
TOTAL	\$16,000,000	1,543	3,061

# Public Education and Community Outreach 187978

## Current Programs FY2016/17

**Community Alliance of Tenants** - Tenant outreach

**Community Energy Project** - Community workshops and outreach

**Fair Housing Council of Oregon** - Outreach and education to landlords

**Growing Gardens** - Soil testing for lead contamination

**Multnomah County Health Department** - Resource referrals through LeadLine, education, blood lead testing, home investigations

**Portland Public Schools** - Paint stabilization in schools



# LHRP Accomplishments

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**Since 2004 more than:**

**19,000** tenants received lead information

**6,500** people attended a lead workshop

**14,000** landlords received lead information

**900** soil samples tested

**7,600** new and expecting mothers received lead information

**40,500** people contacted the LeadLine

**12,500** blood lead level tests conducted

**95** pieces of playground equipment replaced

**180** paint stabilization projects completed

Questions posed by the evaluation:

- Are the LHRP partner organizations raising awareness and knowledge about lead hazard risks in the community?
- Do partner organizations improve knowledge about and use of resources for reducing lead exposure?
- Are the LHRP partner organizations targeting and reaching the most at-risk populations in the Portland community for lead exposure?

Results of the evaluation will be used to:

- Improve effectiveness of community partner programs
- Direct outreach efforts to better target those most at-risk
- Identify gaps in lead prevention education and guide development of future partners and grantees

# Questions?