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HELLO FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DIVISION (ESD):

The Environmental Services Division (ESD) ensures that City water and wastewater facilities protect public health and the environment by maintaining compliance with environmental laws, and by providing high-quality and reliable services to the Department, City staff, and the public.

ESD consists of various sections:

BUSINESS OPERATIONS: Administrative, community outreach, laboratory safety, and environmental training coordination.

COMPLIANCE: Air, hazardous material, wastewater, and water regulatory compliance.

LABORATORY: Analytical testing of water and wastewater. Licensed by the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) and certified by The National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (NELAP).

MONITORING: Monitoring and sampling of water and wastewater accredited by The National Environmental Field Accreditation Program.

POLLUTION, PREVENTION, & PERMITTING: Commercial, Industrial Pretreatment, and Stormwater programs conduct inspections, prevention, permitting, and sampling.

QUALITY ASSURANCE: Quality assurance, compliance and monitoring.

SAFETY: Safety oversight and training for all Water Services Department employees.

CHECK OUT ESD IN THE MEDIA!

The Environmental & Safety Division has had an eventful year full of outreach opportunities. If you'd like to learn more about our division, click on the links below:

[Phoenix tests nearly 1,000 water samples a week to monitor safety | 12news.com](#)

[Channel 12 News Stormwater Grates](#)

['Stop Poo-llution' campaign kicks off in Phoenix | FOX 10](#)

[Phoenix Innovate PHX | Improve Wastewater Monitoring with Kando Pulse \(youtube.com\)](#)



FOG FOR THE HOLIDAYS

We are swiftly approaching the most wonderful time of year, time to think about Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) Best Management Practices (BMPs) in your very own kitchen! The holidays are a time when many families cook heartier foods or simply cook more often, especially with the cooler temperatures. However, this can bring issues if FOG is not properly handled.

What exactly is FOG when it comes to your kitchen? Fats and oils from cooking meat, cooking oil, butter or margarine, food scraps, sauces, dairy and even baked goods, are all sources of FOG. Any time you pour these things down the sink or garbage disposal, you risk them building up on your pipes, clogging both your private sewer line as well as the City sewer. Did you know that there are nearly 4,800 miles of sewer pipe in the City of Phoenix? That is a lot of piping to keep clean and free of obstructions such as FOG!

What exactly happens when there is a blockage to these pipes? There is nowhere for that wastewater to go except backwards, up through your sinks and toilets or other fixtures in your house, or it can build up in the City sewer and cause wastewater to even back up and flow from manholes into the street or alley. Now that would be a true holiday disaster!

How can you be a holiday hero and keep our sewers flowing?

Follow these BMPs at home and share these tips with your friends and family:

- **Pour used grease into a container or vessel and discard into the trash.**

Coffee grounds or kitty litter can be used in the container as an absorbent.

- **Avoid or minimize the use of garbage disposals.**

Home garbage disposals do not keep FOG out of the sewer system. These units only shred solid material into smaller pieces and do not prevent FOG from going down the drain.

- **Use drain screens to capture food particles and dispose of them in the garbage.** Many of the solids that are washed down the sinks, carry with them a variety of fats. These solids only add to the problem of FOG accumulation in the sewer lines.

- **Use dry clean up methods before using wet clean up methods for pots/dishes and spills.**

In other words; wipe and scrape off first, then wash.



ONLY RAIN IN THE STORM DRAIN

The City of Phoenix invites you to help reduce stormwater pollution by participating in Stormwater Awareness Week from January 20, through 26, 2025. Stormwater can pick up pollutants such as oil or trash and impact our rivers, washes, and parks. Your simple everyday actions can make a huge difference and improve stormwater quality and our environment.

To learn more about what you can do to prevent stormwater pollution, visit phoenix.gov/stormwater. To attend a 1-hour virtual conference on Wednesday, January 22, 2025, email WSD.ESD.Outreach@phoenix.gov. Remember, only rain in the storm drain.



COMPLIANCE WITH EPA'S LEAD AND COPPER RULE

The Phoenix Water Services Department is committed to safeguarding the health of its residents by complying with the [Environmental Protection Agency's \(EPA\) updated Lead and Copper Rule \(LCR\)](#). The City is working diligently to identify and mitigate any potential sources of lead in its water infrastructure, ensuring that residents continue to have access to safe and clean drinking water.

As part of the [Lead and Copper Rule Revisions \(LCRR\)](#), the City of Phoenix is required to inventory all water service lines, focusing on those installed before 1988, when lead pipe use was restricted. The inventory will assess and categorize water service lines, including identifying those made from lead or galvanized material requiring replacement (GRR). The City submitted this comprehensive inventory of over 480,000 waterline services to the [Arizona Department of Environmental Quality \(ADEQ\)](#) by October 16, 2024, as per federal requirements.

Key Components of Phoenix Water's LCR Compliance:

1. **Proactive Field Investigations:** Since 2021, Phoenix Water has conducted over 250,000 field investigations and found no evidence of lead service lines. The City remains committed to confirming the status of any

service lines listed as "unknown" and ensuring the safety of its water distribution system.

2. **Service Line Inventory Submission:** Phoenix Water submitted a complete inventory of all service lines to ADEQ in October 2024. This inventory is a critical step in the City's ongoing efforts to comply with the updated EPA requirements.

3. **Notification to Residents:** Starting in late 2024, Phoenix residents with GRR service lines, as well as those with service lines classified as "unknown," will receive direct notifications by mail. **No existing lead service lines have been found in the City of Phoenix, but notification will be provided if any are identified.** The City will also launch an online resource at pipes.phoenix.gov, where residents can access information about their service line material and stay updated on the City's lead service line replacement efforts.

4. **Health Education and Support:** The City is dedicated to educating the public on the health risks associated with lead in drinking water. All communication will include information on health effects, steps to reduce exposure, and opportunities for service line replacement.

Looking Ahead: Phoenix Water will begin replacing any service lines identified as GRR or lead through a planned replacement program starting in 2025. The City will collaborate with federal, state, and local partners to secure funding for this effort, leveraging grants from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to support this initiative.

"As a city, we've been proactive in maintaining the highest standards for water quality. While we have found no lead service lines so far, our commitment to safety and transparency remains strong," said Troy Hayes, Director of Phoenix Water Services. "We will continue to prioritize the health of our residents as we comply with the EPA's Lead and Copper Rule."

For more information on Phoenix Water's compliance with the Lead and Copper Rule and the upcoming service line replacement program, visit pipes.phoenix.gov.

RELATED LINKS:

- <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/revised-lead-and-copper-rule>
- <https://azdeq.gov/LeadCopperRule>



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Stop the Poo-lution Pet Waste Trail Events**

Wednesday, December 4, 2024

Wednesday, January 8, 2025

9 a.m.

Telegraph Pass and Pima Canyon Trails

- **APS Electric Light Parade**

Saturday, December 7, 2024

Parade Starts at 7* p.m.

Parade starting location: Central Ave. and Montebello Ave.

Parade ending location: 7th St. and Indian School Rd.

*Parade run-time varies

- **Doggie Street Festival**

Saturday, January 25, 2025

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Steele Indian School Park

Phoenix, 85012

- **6th Annual Touch A Truck**

Saturday, February 1, 2025

1:00 pm

5757 N Central Ave

Phoenix, AZ 85012



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DIVISION - WATER SERVICES DEPARTMENT

200 W. Washington St.

Phoenix, AZ 85003

Website: phoenix.gov/esd

If you have questions or would like additional information, you can contact ESD at:

ask.water@phoenix.gov

(602) 262-1859

Clogged Storm drains:

(602) 262-6441

Drinking Water Compliance:

(602) 262-5012

Stormwater:

(602) 256-3190

CITY OF PHOENIX WATER SERVICES DEPARTMENT

QUALITY. RELIABILITY. VALUE.



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