

EPA Public Comment Period ends 8/18: Proposed Plans to address lead in private drinking water wells - Washington County, MO

EPA is broadcasting the below information, but feel free to spread the word about EPA's public comment period on proposed plans to address lead contamination in private drinking water wells in Washington County, Missouri.

Feel free to share the below links on your local social media platforms and to your contacts and colleagues. Also, contact EPA to sign up for free lead testing of your yard and/or well.

To share on social media:

1. See EPA's online Public Notice, at: [Public Notice: Washington County Lead District National Priorities List \(NPL\) Superfund Sites: Furnace Creek, Old Mines, Potosi and Richwoods; Washington County, Missouri | US EPA](#)
2. Or, share EPA's online Fact Sheet, at: <https://www.epa.gov/mo/washington-county-lead-district-national-priority-list-npl-superfund-sites-washington-county>
3. Map or Infographic: If you'd like to use a thumbnail image for your social media post, feel free to use one of the attached image files on your organization's social media post.

Reminder –

Public Notice: Washington County Lead District National Priorities List (NPL) Superfund Sites: Furnace Creek, Old Mines, Potosi and Richwoods; Washington County, Missouri

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7 is seeking public input on four Proposed Plans to address lead and other heavy metal contamination in private, domestic drinking water wells at residential properties located within the Washington County Lead District (WCLD) National Priorities List (NPL) Superfund Sites, which include Furnace Creek, Old Mines, Potosi and Richwoods.

EPA's Proposed Plans summarize different options (also known as alternatives) to address lead contamination in private wells under an interim (intermediate) action. Lead mining waste was dispersed throughout the area from historic lead and barite mining activities in the area; lead is the main contaminant of concern at this site. Lead is a toxic metal that is harmful if inhaled or swallowed. It affects multiple body systems and is particularly harmful to young children. Since 2006, over 4,500 private drinking water wells have been tested in Washington County with approximately one out of seven wells being contaminated with lead and/or other heavy metals

(such as cadmium, arsenic or barium). To prevent residents from drinking contaminated well water, EPA has supplied water treatment or bottled water to residents with impacted wells.

See the below links to EPA's Fact Sheet and Public Notice about the Proposed Plans:

-See the online Public Notice, at: [Public Notice: Washington County Lead District National Priorities List \(NPL\) Superfund Sites: Furnace Creek, Old Mines, Potosi and Richwoods; Washington County, Missouri | US EPA](#)

-For more information, see EPA's online Fact Sheet, at: <https://www.epa.gov/mo/washington-county-lead-district-national-priority-list-npl-superfund-sites-washington-county>

PROPOSED PLAN OVERVIEW: EPA is asking for public input on four options, including the recommended option, Point-of-Use Treatment Systems with Institutional Controls and Health Education. Under this recommended cleanup option (also known as the preferred alternative), residential properties with lead or other heavy metal contamination in their private drinking water wells will be eligible for EPA to install Point-of-Use (POU) water filtration units or treatment systems (also known as drinking water filters). Drinking water filters will need to be changed to properly maintain the system to meet health-based standards for drinking water.

HOW TO COMMENT: Public comments on the Proposed Plans will be accepted from Tuesday, July 19, 2022, through Thursday, August 18, 2022. Upon timely request, the comment period can be extended by an additional 15 days. On July 19, the Proposed Plans and Administrative Record files (AR files) for these actions will be published online for public review at the weblinks included below. EPA will host two Public Meetings with an EPA presentation to share information about the Proposed Plans, followed by an opportunity to provide verbal and/or written comments about the plans.

The meetings were held:

VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING*

Thursday, July 21, 6 to 7:30 p.m.

To register, visit: https://usepa.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_2JGF-uoLR6queD7WsXK4Hg

Or at the time of the event, click on any of the sites' weblinks (below) to join the meeting.

To view a recording of the Virtual Meeting, click here and enter the below password: This link will be live until August 21,

2022: <https://usepa.zoomgov.com/rec/share/pyuqOH4Z3j-oLf52krLDr2BjaZS7xYnGEe43GzONe7by8lQn61Xe9Wg7yg9ONoU.WjgVqswYjb1KKWcr?startTime=1658444404000>

Passcode: 95092428

IN-PERSON PUBLIC MEETING*

Monday, July 25, 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Washington County Library

Lower Level, 235 E. High St., Potosi, MO 63664

*Please check any of the weblinks (at right) for event updates. Captioning will be provided during the virtual meeting. For accommodations, including live translation into a language other than English or other accommodations at the meeting, please contact Elizabeth Kramer (contact information below) to make arrangements.

REVIEW THE PROPOSED PLANS AND EVENT DETAILS:

To view the Proposed Plans, cleanup documents, Fact Sheets, and Administrative Records, visit Site Documents & Data section for each site:

1. Furnace Creek: www.epa.gov/superfund/washingtoncountyfurnacecreek
2. Old Mines: www.epa.gov/superfund/washingtoncountyoldmines
3. Potosi: www.epa.gov/superfund/washingtoncountypotosi
4. Richwoods: www.epa.gov/superfund/washingtoncountyrichwoods

If you do not have internet access, the documents will also be available during normal business hours at the Washington County Library, 235 E. High St., Potosi, MO 63664 (573-438-4691); and the EPA Region 7 Records Center, 11201 Renner Blvd., Lenexa, KS 66219 (1-800-223-0425). Copies of the plan can be mailed upon request and can be available at the Washington County Library.

CONTACT EPA: Written comments, questions about the Proposed Plans, or requests for site information can be directed to: Elizabeth Kramer, Community Involvement Coordinator, Office of Public Affairs (ORA/OPA), EPA Region 7, 11201 Renner Blvd., Lenexa, KS 66201; email: kramer.elizabeth@epa.gov; phone: 913-551 7186; toll-free: 1-800-223-0425.

I had issues joining the meeting on Zoom today, so I'm sending this reminder via email. Thanks for understanding.

Thank you!
Elizabeth

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