GILA BEND AFAF LEAD SERVICE LINE PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

Dear Resident,

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Lead and Copper Rule was first introduced in 1991 to identify and reduce lead and copper in drinking water through corrosion control techniques and routine monitoring. The EPA recently revised the Lead and Copper Rule to further reduce the risk of lead in drinking water. The revision requires water systems to: 1) identify drinking water service lines that are either lead or galvanized downstream of a lead line, and 2) implement a replacement plan for such service lines.

Gila Bend Air Force Auxiliary Field (AFAF) has completed our inspection of all drinking water service lines that impact our facilities and military housing. Service lines are smaller water lines that carry water from the main water line (typically running under the street) through your yard and into your home.

Based on the preliminary results of the drinking water service line inspection, the composition of the water line servicing **Buildings; 18, 28, 45, 314, 2003, 2099, 2360** could not be determined. This situation is defined in the Lead and Copper Rule as "lead status unknown," meaning the service line may be lead but efforts thus far have been unable to confirm the material makeup. **Gila Bend AFAF** routinely monitors for lead in drinking water, and recent analytical results indicate concentrations of lead remain below the associated regulatory thresholds established by the EPA. While evaluation is ongoing to determine the exact composition, drinking water service lines identified as "unknown" are managed as though they are lead pending further investigation. Any service line where, following further investigation, the material make-up cannot be definitively determined will be replaced in accordance with the installation drinking water service line replacement program.

The Department of the Air Force and your **Gila Bend AFAF** leadership are committed to the health and safety of you and your family. Reliable access to quality water is a priority for the Department of the Air Force – it impacts our people, our missions, and the communities we call home.

The installation inventory can be found at https://www.luke.af.mil/News/Press-Releases/. For more information on the installation lead service line inventory, call Mr. Thomas Rushton at 856-1758, RMO/COR office at 856-5262, or Tunista Logistics Solutions LLC at 856-1707. To learn more about the installation drinking water sampling program, call Stephen Carr at 856-1707.

GILA BEND AFAF LEAD SERVICE LINE PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

If you are concerned, there are steps you can take to further reduce your risk. Information on reducing the risk of lead exposure in drinking water and the health effects of lead are provided here, and additional information can be found on EPA's Website at *http://www.epa.gov/lead*.

Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Please read this information closely to see what you can do to reduce the risk of lead in your drinking water.

What is Lead? Lead is a common metal found in the environment. The main sources of lead exposure are lead-based paint and lead-contaminated dust or soil, and some plumbing materials. In addition, lead can be found in certain types of pottery, pewter, brass fixtures, food, and cosmetics. Other sources include exposure in the workplace and exposure from certain hobbies (lead can be carried on clothing and shoes). Brass faucets, fittings, and valves, including those advertised as "lead-free," may contribute lead to drinking water. Environmental Protection Agency estimates that 10 to 20 percent of a person's potential exposure to lead may come from drinking water. Infants who consume mostly formula mixed with lead service can receive 40 to 60 percent of their exposure to lead from drinking water.

What are the Potential Health Impacts? Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems.

How Can I Reduce Exposure Risk?

Run your water to flush out stagnate water where lead may have accumulated. Run water for 15 - 30 seconds to flush lead from interior plumbing or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking if it hasn't been used for several hours.

Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula. Lead dissolves more easily into hot water.

Do not boil water to remove lead. Boiling water will not reduce lead.