Greater Cincinnati Water Works
Filter Distribution Program

Dawn Webb, Chemist

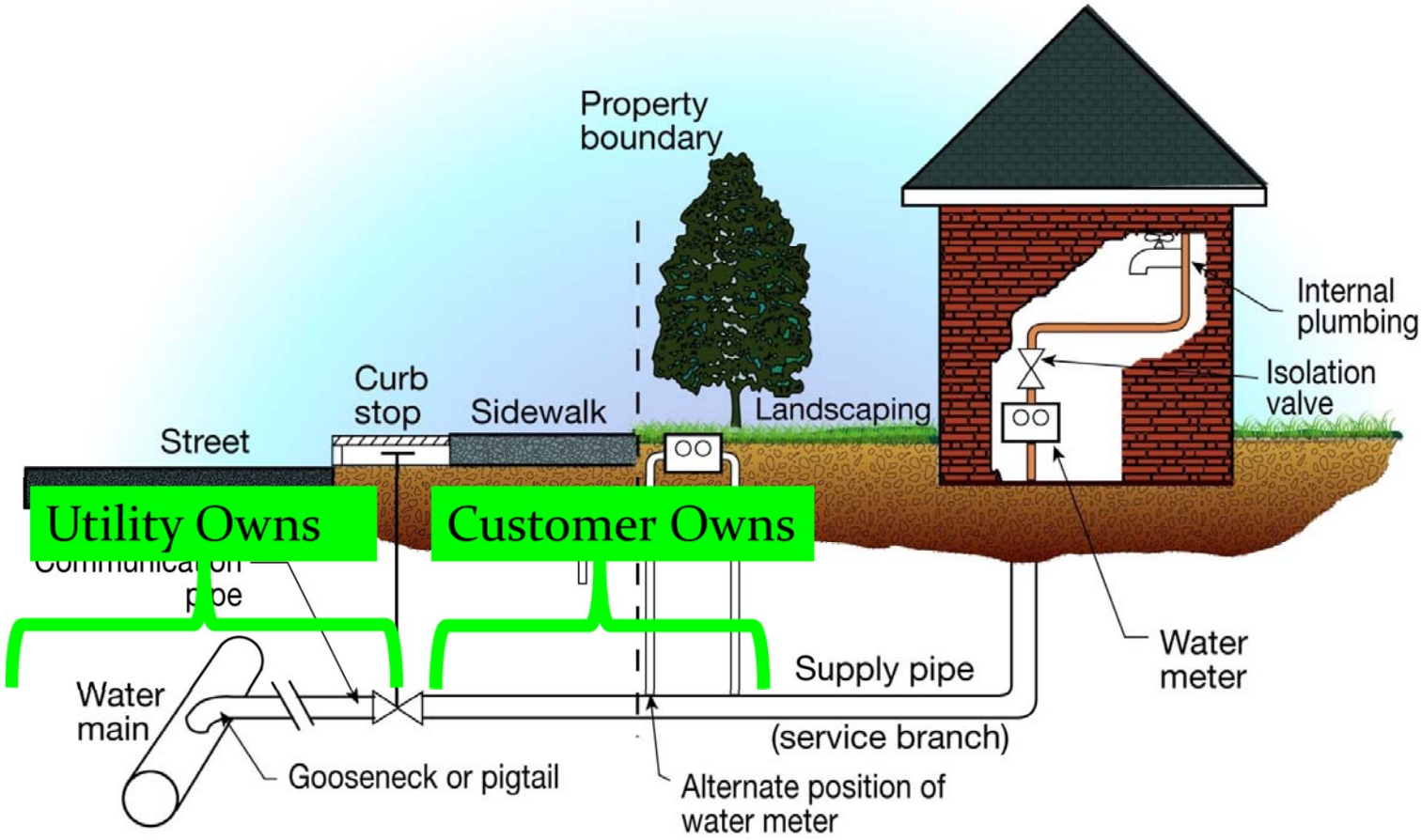
Why?

- American Pediatrics Association Letter
- EPA Science Advisory Board
- GCWW Data
  - Lead causes brain damage to children and pregnant women
  - Partial Lead Service Line Changeovers should stop

GCWW Characteristics

- 240,000 service connections
- ~20,000 lead lines
- 90th percentile—3.3 ppb
- Old Infrastructure

GCWW LSL Changeovers



GCWW LSL Changeovers

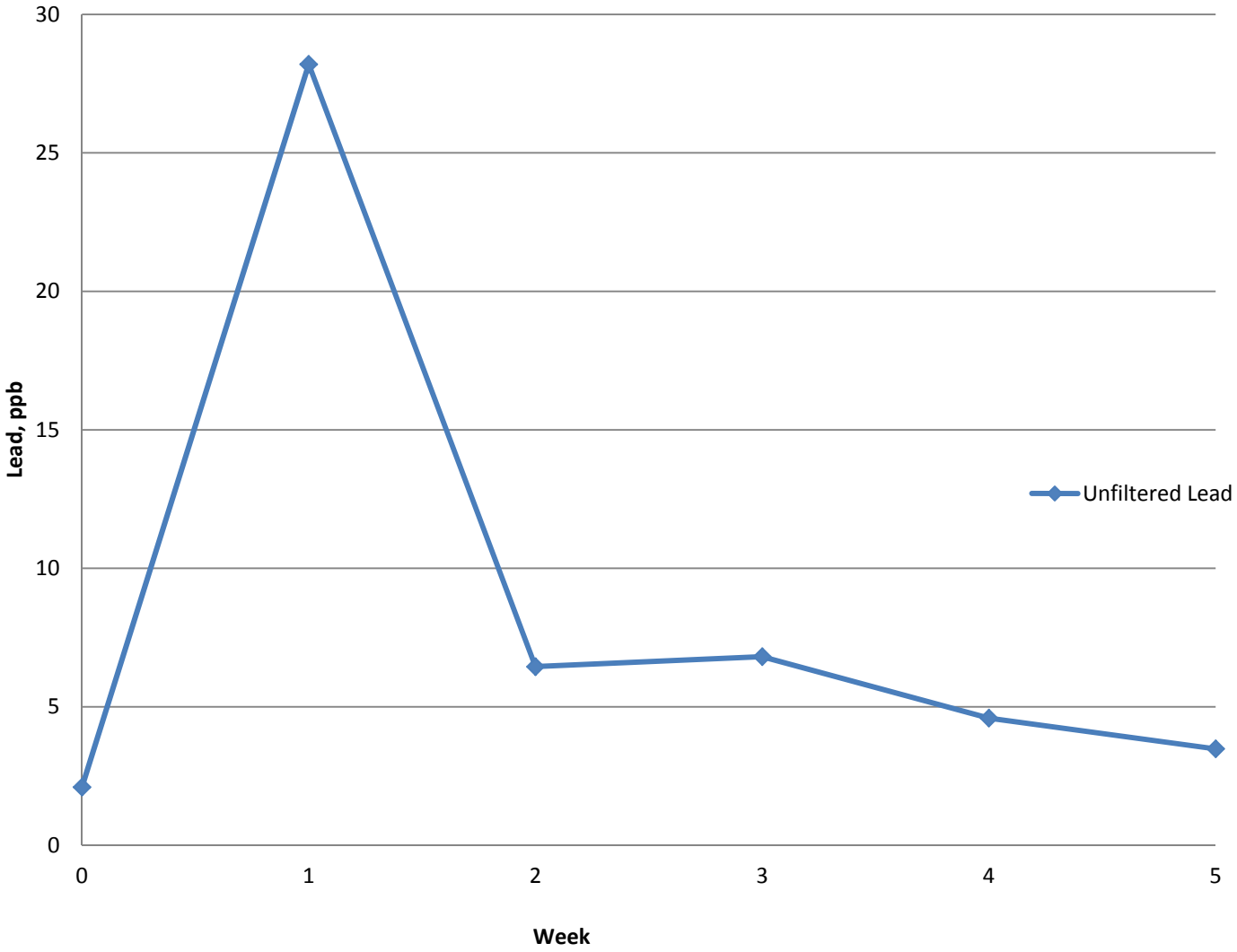
- Cannot go onto private property
- Results in cutting of the service branch
- Lead can potentially increase for a short time period

Photos of sbc

Photos of sbc

Photos of sbc

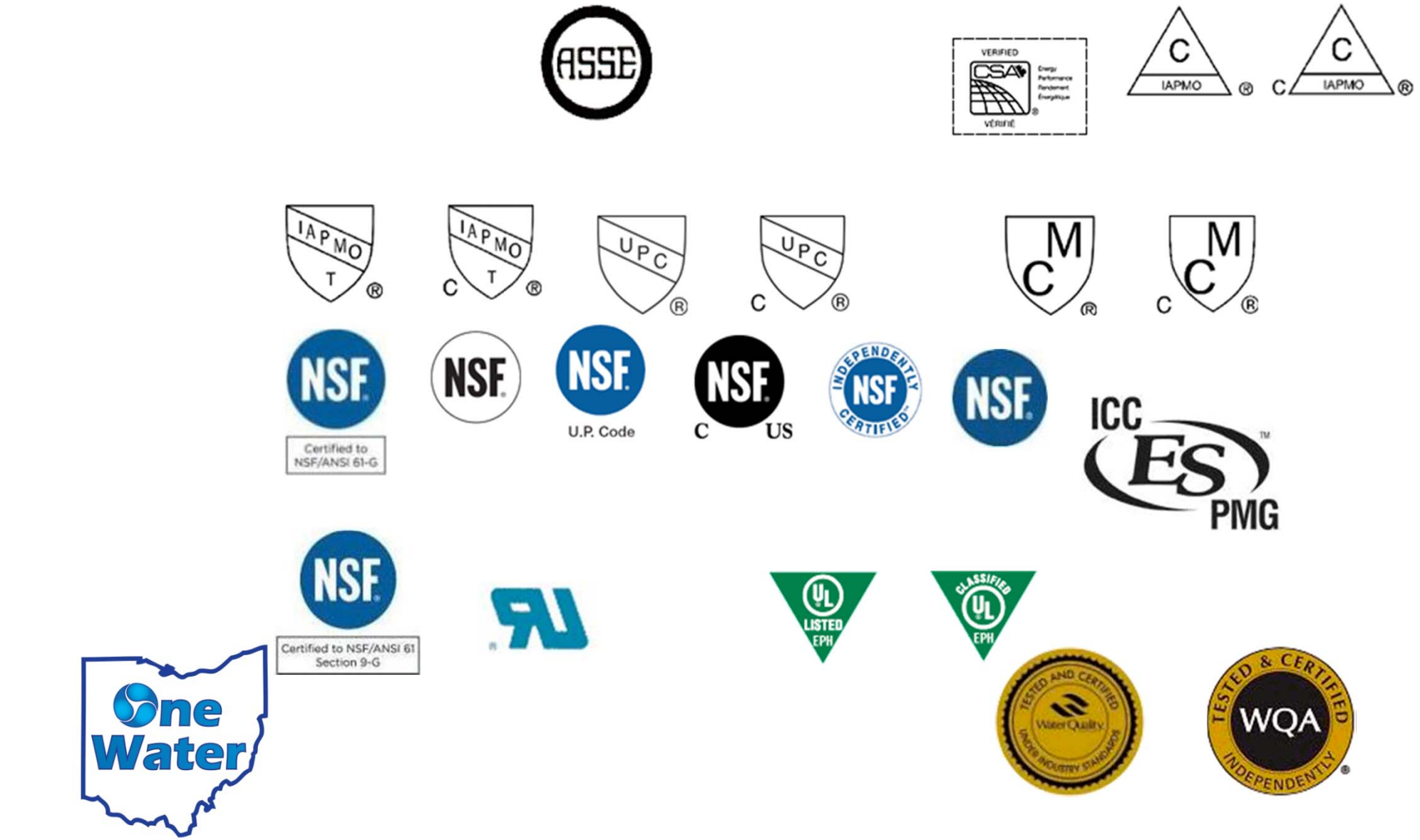
PLSLR Data



What's Going On?

- Lead does increase for a period of time
- LCR requirements
- Unknown if target groups are in affected properties
- Public Health
- No known construction practices to reduce Pb

Filters, Filters Everywhere!!



Making a Choice

- Easy to use filter
- Needed to be certified
- Purchased in bulk
- Inexpensive
- NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR COMPLIANCE

Making a Choice

- Chose Dupont WF-PT100
- Other utilities using same filter
- Certified to remove dissolved and particulate lead
- Available through vendors already under contract

Making a Choice

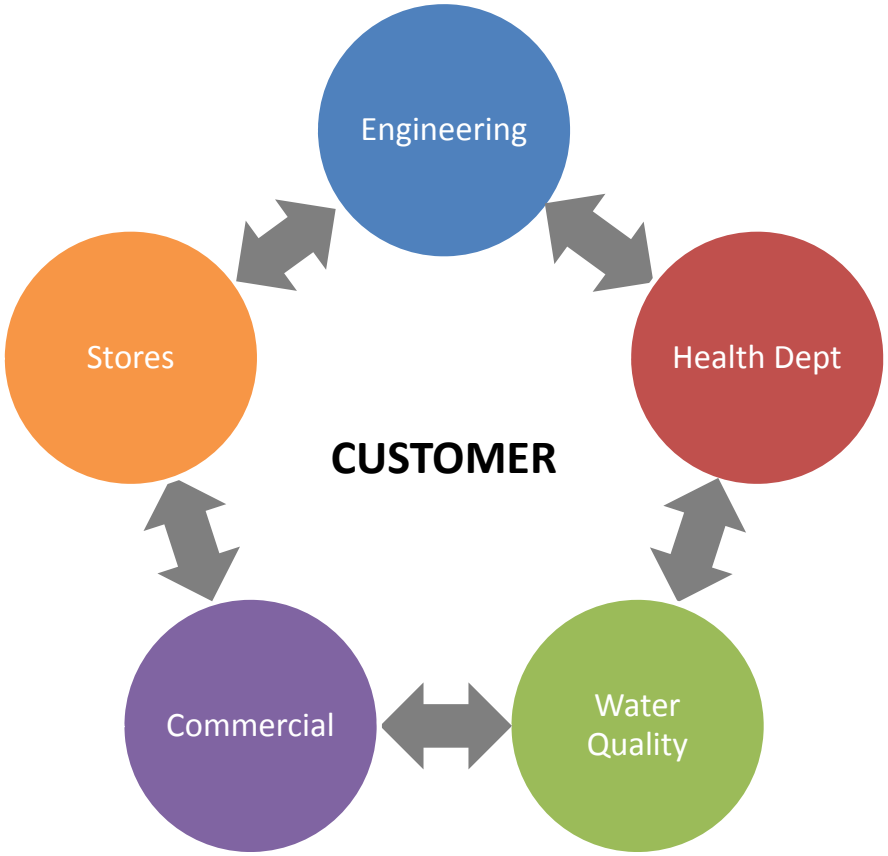
- Available through vendors already under contract
- 1 pitcher and 5 replacement cartridges cost about $33
- Available at local retailers for customers to purchase their own replacement cartridges

Dupont WF-PT100

Dupont WF-PT100

Logistics

Cooperation



Making it Work

- Letter sent out ~ 30 days before construction to identified customers
- Offer free lead testing to customer
- IVR call one week prior to construction
- Pre-construction door hanger day of work

Making it Work

- Post construction door hanger after branch verification
- Filters delivered to customers with verified lead on customer owned side after construction
- Follow up IVR call to remind to use filter
- Offer free lead testing again

*Filters are also handed out to non-lead customers who ask for one

Making it Work

FILTER YOUR TAP WATER FOR COOKING AND DRINKING FOR 2 MONTHS

GCWW is providing a water pitcher filter certified for lead removal, along with replacement cartridges filters to customers with privately owned lead water pipes that may have been affected by this project. Please read the important health information provided with your water filter.

Important Recommendations:

Thoroughly Flush Your Taps Immediately Following Construction
Flush water throughout the house by opening cold water faucets one at a time, working from the lowest level (basement) of your home or business to the highest level. Do not open a hot water faucet until the system is completely flushed.

Flush Taps Daily for Next 30 Days
Each day, for the next 30 days, flush your plumbing for 10 minutes by opening at least one cold water faucet. This flushing can also be accomplished by showering or watering lawns. After flushing, it is recommended to remove and clean faucet screens. Please be sure to use filtered water for drinking and cooking.

It is Especially Important for Pregnant Women and Children to use Filtered Tap Water Following a Pipe Replacement
Pregnant women and children under the age of six should use filtered tap water for drinking and cooking following a pipe replacement. This includes water used for making ice, beverages and infant formula.

For important lead information, please visit: www2.epa.gov/lead or call GCWW's Water Quality Division at 513-624-5600.

Lessons Learned

- Keeping stock
  - Manufactured in China
  - Not many distributors in our part of the country
  - Most vendors buy from one distributor
  - We are not the only large customer

Lessons Learned

- All customers are not equal
  - Not just single family residences
  - Not all lead lines are residential
  - Bilingual Customers

Lessons Learned

- Customer Feedback
  - Not much so far
  - Look for more in the future

Lessons Learned

- Interdepartmental Challenges
  - Time and Effort
  - Resistance by utility staff
  - Storage and unit age
  - Distribute replacements upon request

Thanks!!

- All GCWW Departments
  - Engineering
  - Storeroom
  - Water Quality
  - Commercial

- Cincinnati Health Department
- Dupont Filter Distributors
- Washington DC Water

One Water

Questions?

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