

Free Safety Check for Water Supply Line Hazards

By Brittney Waylen

BOROUGH OF EAST BANGOR - Northampton County announces a partnership with the Slate Belt Rising, Community Action Lehigh Valley, and the East Bangor Municipal Authority to conduct safety assessments of residents' interior home water supply lines for any hazards. Program participation is free for residents in the East Bangor Municipal Authority service area.

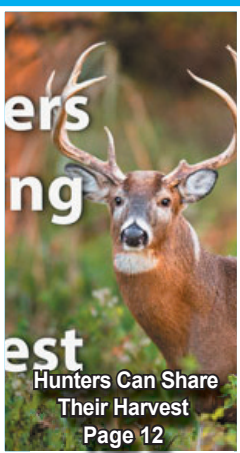
Northampton County will check for the presence of water line hazards, especially in any water line or fixture where lead may be an ingredient. "Here at Northampton County, we are concerned because lead exposure has been shown harmful to very young children and has been linked to affect brain development, contribute to learning-behavioral problems and lower IQs. This program allows us to work together to help remove these concerns," says Executive Lamont McClure.

Older homes are more likely to have some lead presence in service lines and possibly in some interior plumbing fixtures. Should any lead be detected, the program will look at replacing items, including goosenecks, water meters, and plumbing fixtures that still contain lead. The program will contract with a PA-licensed plumber for all replacements, and there will be no charge to the homeowners.

A notice of eligibility letter will be sent directly to the homes of residents in the East Bangor Municipal Authority service area. For more information on this program, or if you need assistance with applying, contact Brian Fenstermaker with Slate Belt Rising at 484-523-0900. Walk-in application assistance is available on Wednesday – Friday from 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Bangor Borough Building (197 Pennsylvania Avenue, Bangor, PA 18013). Northampton County will look to expand this program to other areas in the County.



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Greater Valley YMCA Launches 'Here for Our Community' Initiative

Providing Free In-Person and Virtual Wellness Opportunities

By Kate Cohen / Chief Development Officer

LEHIGH VALLEY - Through December 20, 2023, Greater Valley YMCA is opening its doors and inviting the community to use the Y for free. With open branches in Bethlehem, Catasauqua, Easton, Nazareth and Pen Argyl, the YMCA is in a unique position to impact community health and wellness.

From November 20 to December 20, 2023, the Y is providing free opportunities for everyone in the community to connect and engage with others to meet social, physical and mental well-being needs. Community members can work out in the Y's wellness centers, enjoy pick up sports and time in its pools with family and friends.

In addition to opening its doors to the community, the YMCA is providing free virtual wellness for the entire community during the same time. Y Wellness 24/7 is a virtual platform that provides thousands of weekly live and on-demand health and wellness programs for all abilities and interests. Everyone in the community is invited to create a free account, using keycode "HERE FOR YOU" to access www.YWellness247.org from their home, office or anywhere, anytime!

"We know that for many people, the holiday season can bring about additional stress, anxiety, and even loneliness," commented Zane Moore, Managing President/CEO of Greater Valley YMCA. "We are excited to invite the communities of Greater Valley YMCA to prioritize their health and well-being, and utilize the Y, both in-person and online. Our caring, knowledgeable staff will meet you where you are and help and support you along the way."

Community members wishing to learn more about trying the Y for free and accessing Y Wellness 24/7, the Y's virtual platform, are encouraged to visit <https://www.gv-ymca.org/here-for-our-community.html> for details and guest policies, including what to bring on your first visit.

About the Greater Valley YMCA

The Greater Valley YMCA is a volunteer-led, nonprofit community organization serving more than 10,000 members Valley-wide.

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State Farm
Debbie Pettinari, Agent
106 S Broadway
Wind Gap, PA 18091
610-881-4433
Debbie.pettinari.wz73@statefarm.com

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