

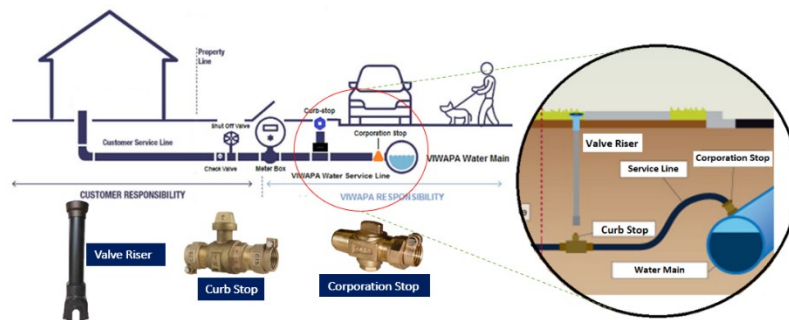


# THE VIRGIN ISLANDS WATER & POWER AUTHORITY CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS NEWS RELEASE

(340) 774-3552 • [communications@viwapa.vi](mailto:communications@viwapa.vi) / [www.viwapa.vi](http://www.viwapa.vi)

November 8, 2023

## TYPICAL WATER SERVICE LINE CONNECTION



13

Figure 1: Standard water service line connection.

### **Authority Completes Extended Water Sampling for Downtown Christiansted, Progress Continues Towards Ensuring Community Safety**

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS – The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority (“WAPA” or “Authority”) has successfully completed extended water sampling in collaboration with the Department of Planning and Natural Resources (DPNR) in downtown Christiansted, an additional step in ongoing efforts to ensure the safety of the Authority’s potable water supply. Today, sampling extended in the town of Frederiksted, where additional water sampling will be conducted followed by Clifton Hill on Thursday. Strawberry Hill, the first neighborhood to receive new waterline installations after testing positive for high levels of lead and copper, was resampled today to confirm if lead levels are undetectable and/or have returned to below action level.

To further engage with residents and address community concerns, WAPA will be attending the Lew Muckle PTA meeting scheduled for this evening and will provide an overview of the steps WAPA is taking to combat lead components and ensure safe and clean drinking water. The Authority remains steadfast in its commitment to working closely with its partners and the Joint Information Center (JIC) to provide immediate relief to St. Croix residents.

There are two Department of Health hotlines available for residents to call from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday with health concerns related to lead in potable water. Individuals may call 340-712-6299 or 340-776-1519. The Department of Planning and Natural Resources also operates a hotline number related to concerns on sampling, 340-514-3666, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Department of Health also advises the community that testing for lead exposure is available at the Clinical Laboratory Inc. at Sunny Isle Medical Center on St. Croix and the St. Thomas East End Medical Center at Tutu Park Mall on St. Thomas.

For more information please visit, [www.viwapa.vi/stxwater](http://www.viwapa.vi/stxwater).

###

**About WAPA:** The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority is an autonomous agency of the Virgin Islands Government which produces and distributes electricity and drinking water to residential and commercial customers in the territory. WAPA was created by the Fifth Legislature of the Virgin Islands in 1964 through Act No. 1248. Today, WAPA generates electrical power at production plants on St. Thomas and St. Croix and distributes electrical service through smart grids to customers on St. Thomas, St. Croix, St. John, Hassel Island, and Water Island. Potable water is distributed to almost 13,000 customers through water lines and standpipes. WAPA also has the responsibility of installing and maintaining streetlights.

(340) 774-3552 (STT/STJ) • (340) 773-2250 (STX) |  Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority |  @VIWAPA