

# 3. RECOMMENDATIONS

## from Beyond Plastics, Environmental Health Sciences, and Plastic Pollution Coalition

As local and state officials and the public move forward with replacing their lead service lines, there are some **important questions that need answers, including:**

**1. What is the replacement pipe you're considering made of?**

Have you considered alternatives to PVC/CPVC?

**2. What data is available**

about the identities and levels of chemicals that have been found leaching from the pipes in certification testing?

**3. Will the pipe you're considering using include a liner?**

*(Note: We recommend avoiding liners as they may contain bisphenols or plastic materials, which often are endocrine disruptors.)*

**4.** Other research on safer alternatives indicates that copper can be a good choice.

**If you're planning to use copper piping, is recycled copper available?**

*(Note: There are environmental impacts associated with copper mining and smelting, so we recommend considering recycled copper piping if it's available.)*

**5. What is the breakdown of your project costs?**

Review the fees for machinery, labor, and other construction costs, as well as the cost of various replacement piping options. The cost of replacement piping, regardless of the type of piping used, tends to be one of the smaller costs of most lead service line replacement projects.