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# Final Recommendations of the National Drinking Water Advisory Council on the Lead and Copper Rule

advancing the science of water

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# Caught in a Trap, Can't Get Out

- Years of debate continued over the control of lead in water and the reduction of risks
- Health community is focused on paint and soil, not water
- Some water systems still have problems
- Research continues to raise more questions
- Lead is complicated
- Many lead services lines still exist

# Long Term Revision of the LCR

- Stakeholder process was re-opened by EPA to get better consensus on the most difficult issues
- 2014-15 NDWAC Working Group made recommendations to National Drinking Water Advisory Council in Fall 2015
- NDWAC then made its recommendations to the EPA Administrator
- EPA will take all of 2016 to formulate a proposed LTR-LCR

# The NDWAC Working Group

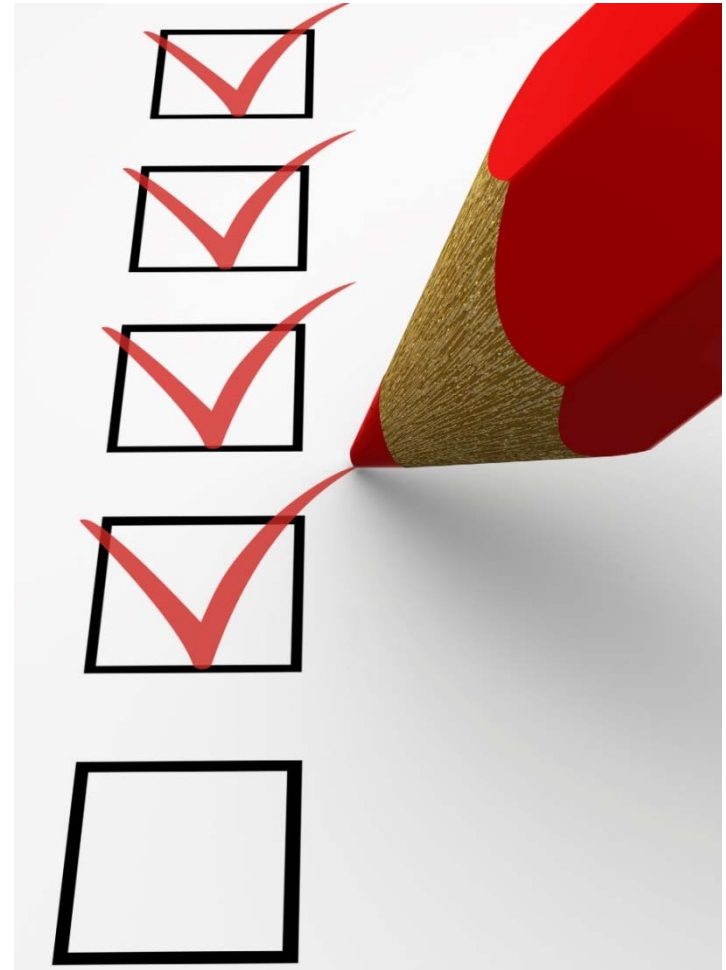
- EPA identified key issues of the Lead & Copper Rule (LCR) that would benefit from input from stakeholders
- LCR Working Group (LCRWG) was formed under the auspice of National Drinking Water Advisory Council (NDWAC)
- 15 working group members, with representation from:
  - State regulators
  - Local health departments
  - Drinking water utilities (small/large systems; public/private)
  - Public interest groups (community, children's health, national NGOs)
  - NDWAC members

# NDWAC WG Process

- Technical presentations on state of the science:
  - Corrosion control
  - Sample site selection
  - Lead sampling protocol
  - Copper public education
  - Lead service line replacement
- Seven, two-day, in-person meetings

# Issues Discussed by NDWAC Workgroup

- Sampling Procedures
- Sample Site Selection
- Corrosion Control Treatment
- Lead Service Line Replacement
- Lead Education
- Copper Corrosion
- State Enforcement

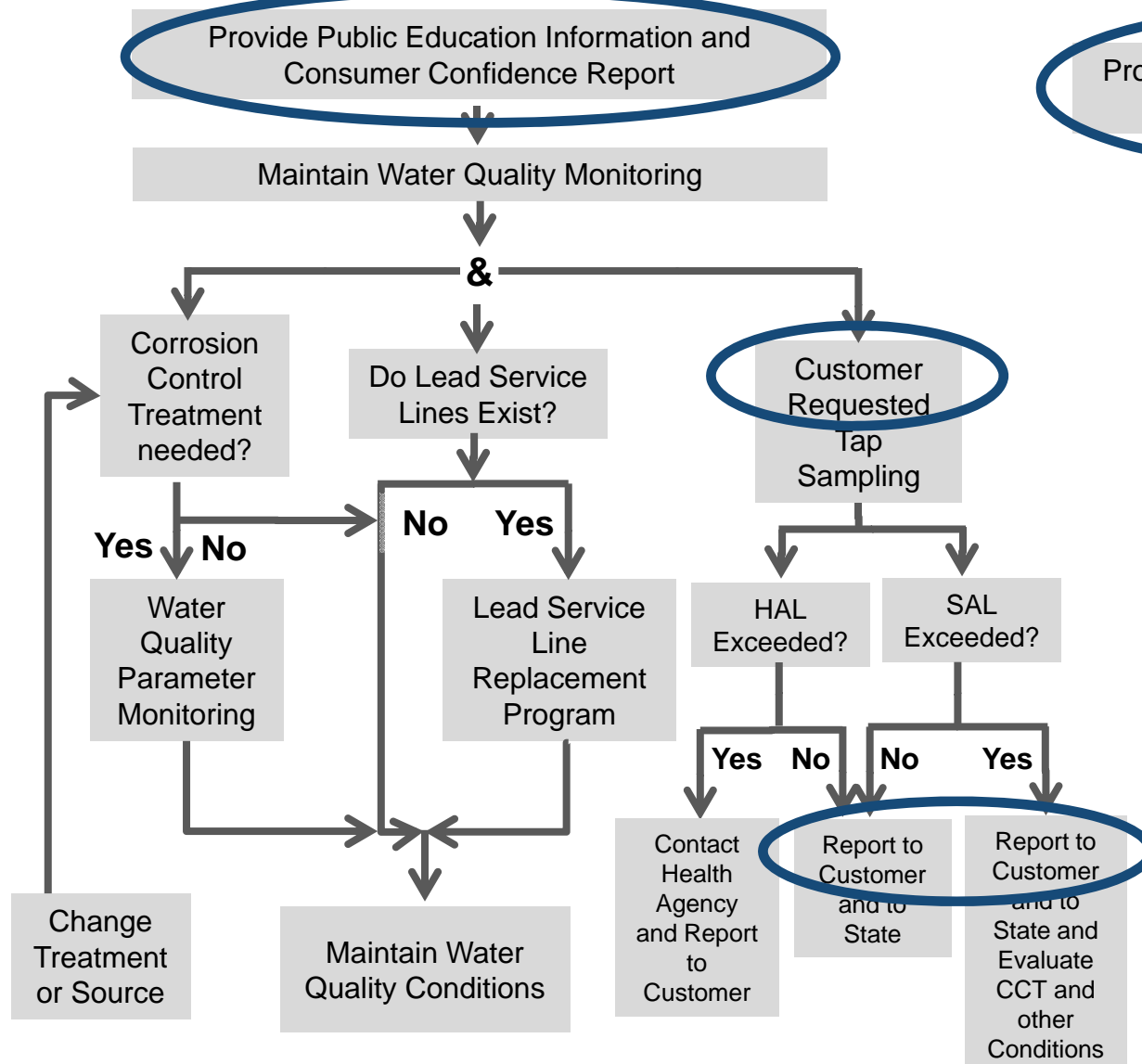


# Considerations

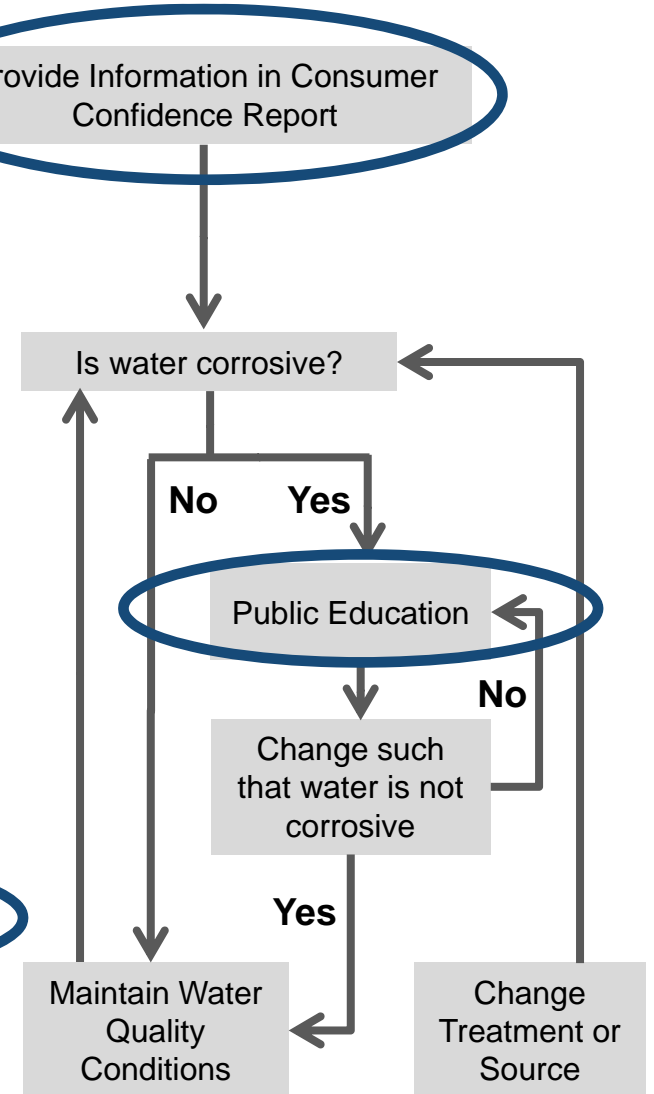
- The LCR should remain a treatment technique rule
- The issues associated with lead and copper are different
- CCT is complex, dynamic, and varies w/system conditions. Attention to unintended consequences is important.
- Attention to what systems can implement and States are able to oversee and enforce is important.
- PWS and state resources should be focused on actions that achieve the greatest health protection.

# Public Education is a Cornerstone

## Lead Control Program



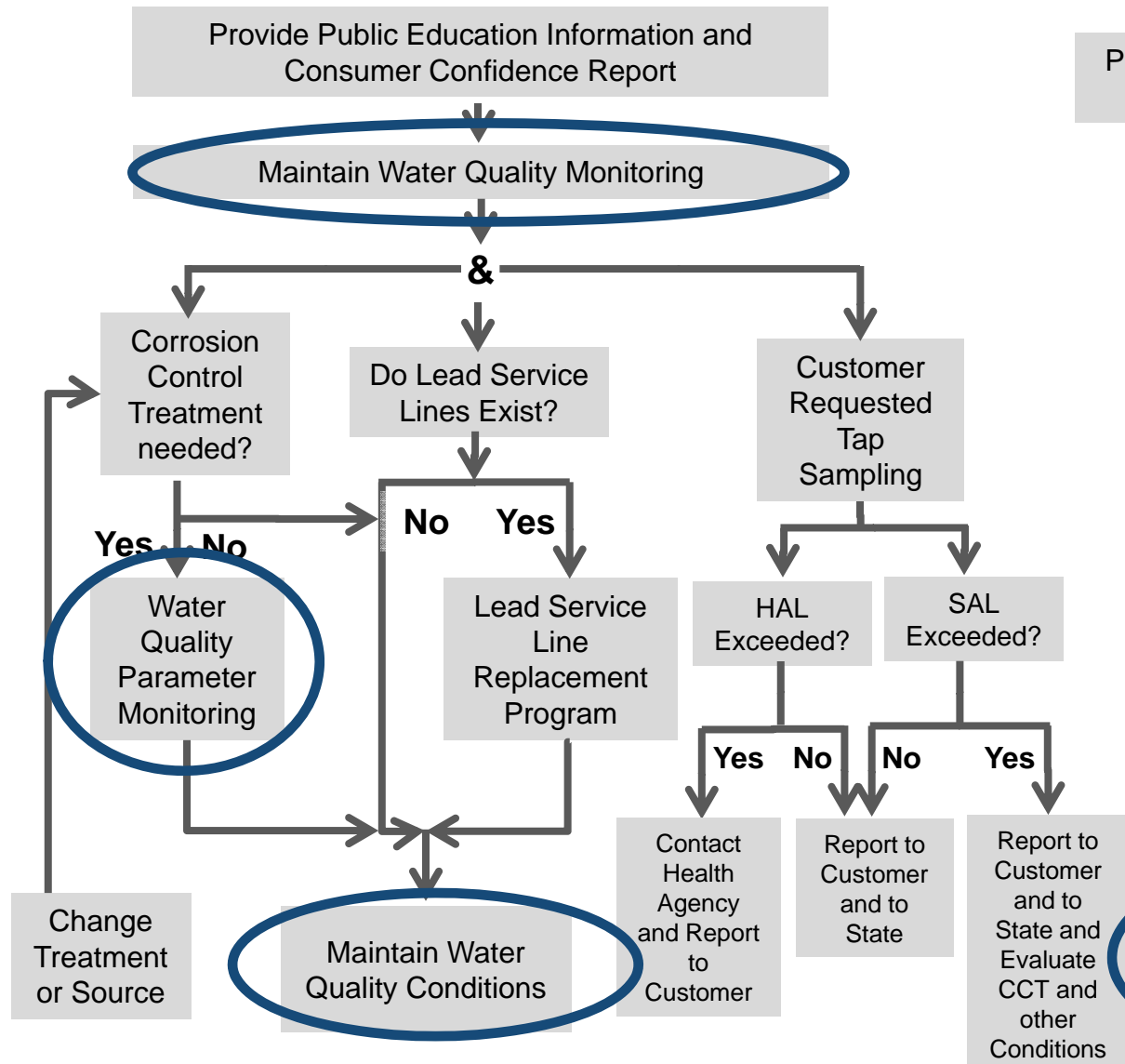
## Copper Control Program



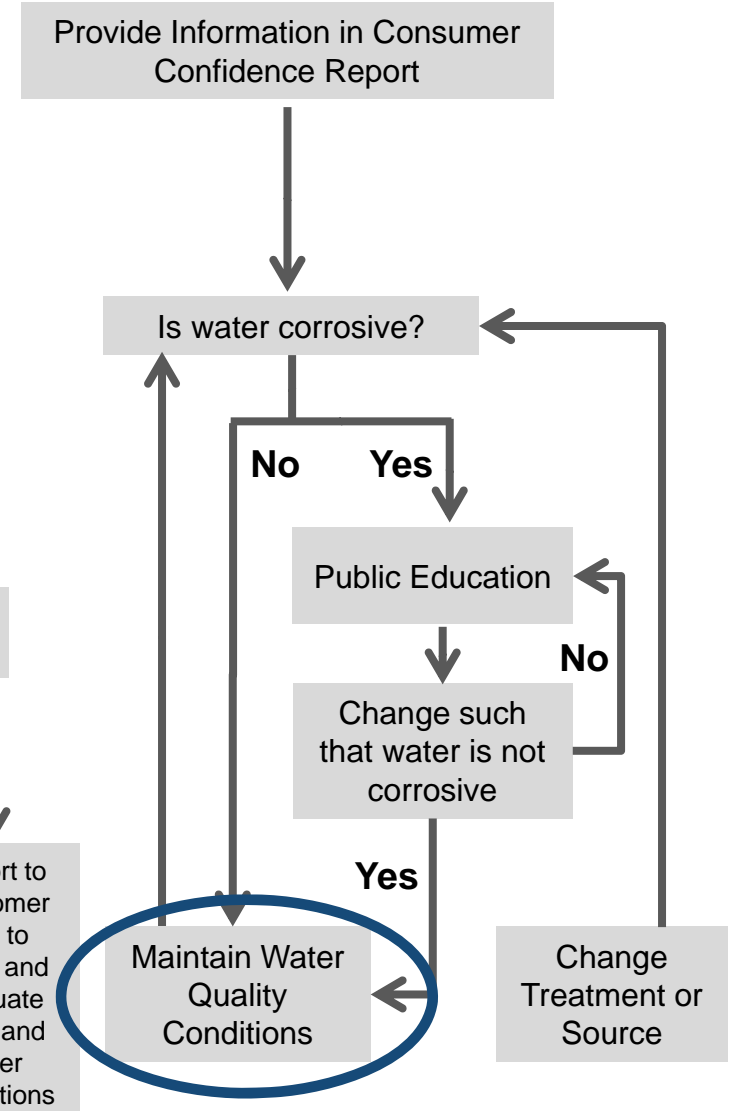


# Water Quality Monitoring is Expanded

## Lead Control Program

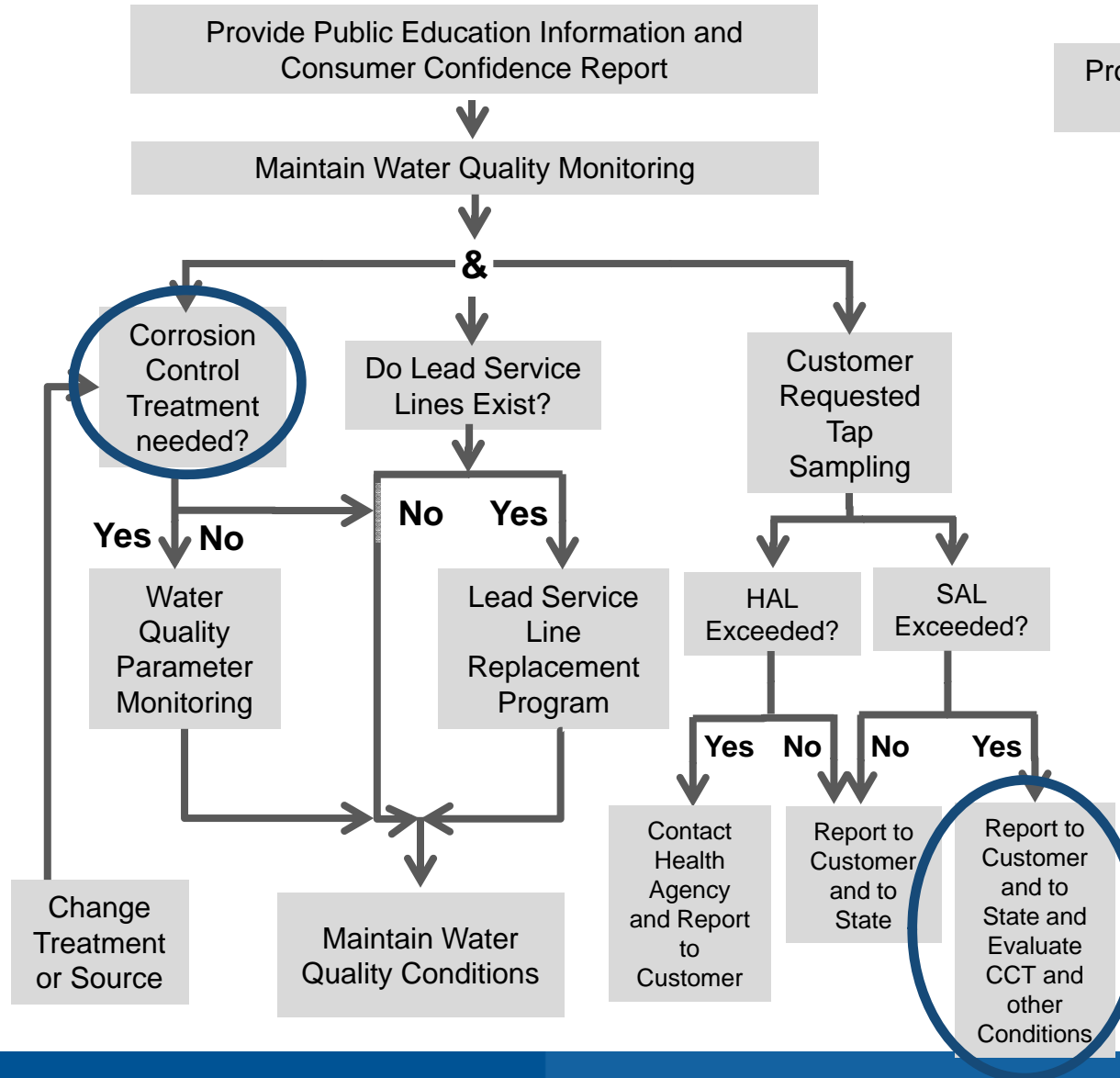


## Copper Control Program

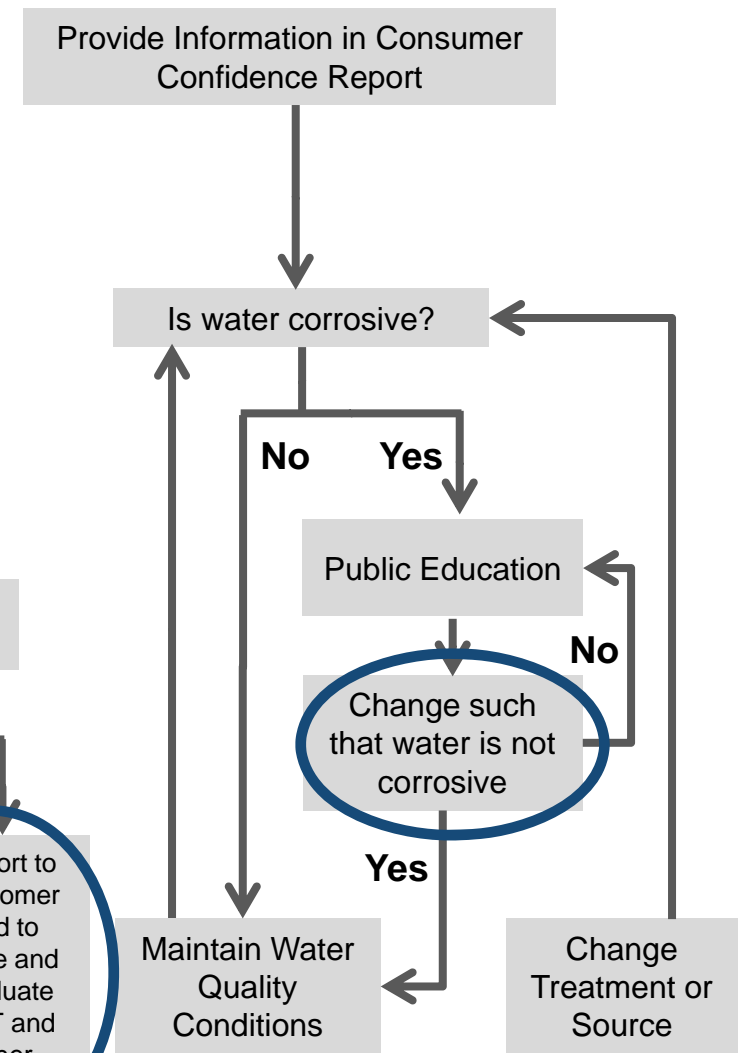


# Corrosion Control Treatment is Retained

## Lead Control Program



## Copper Control Program



# Corrosion Control Treatment

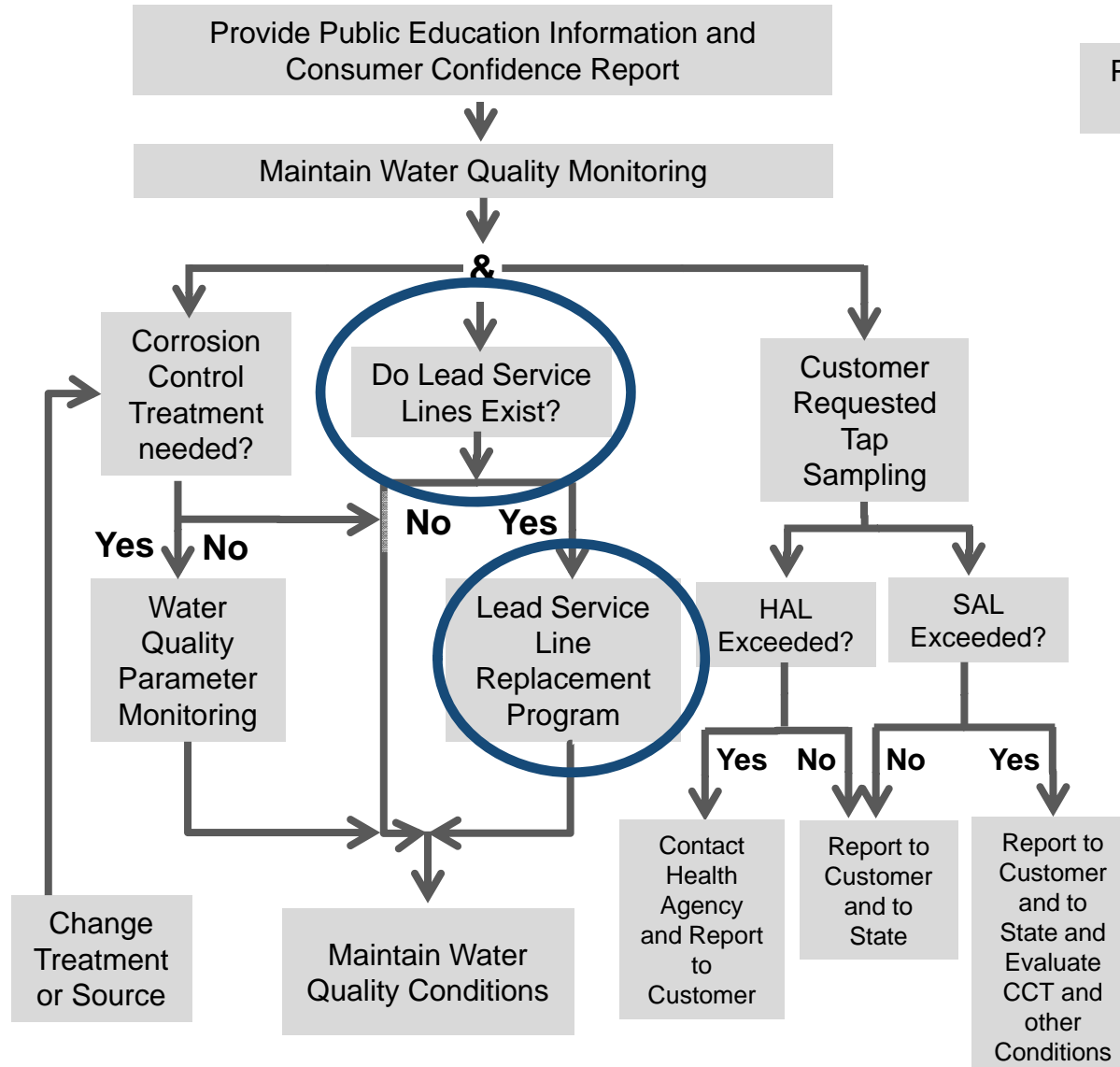
- Can we determine when CCT is “optimized”?
- Does WQP monitoring reflect the whole distribution system?
- Are we monitoring all the right WQ parameters?
- Are States being strict enough on WQP limits?

# Results from LSLs are Difficult to Interpret

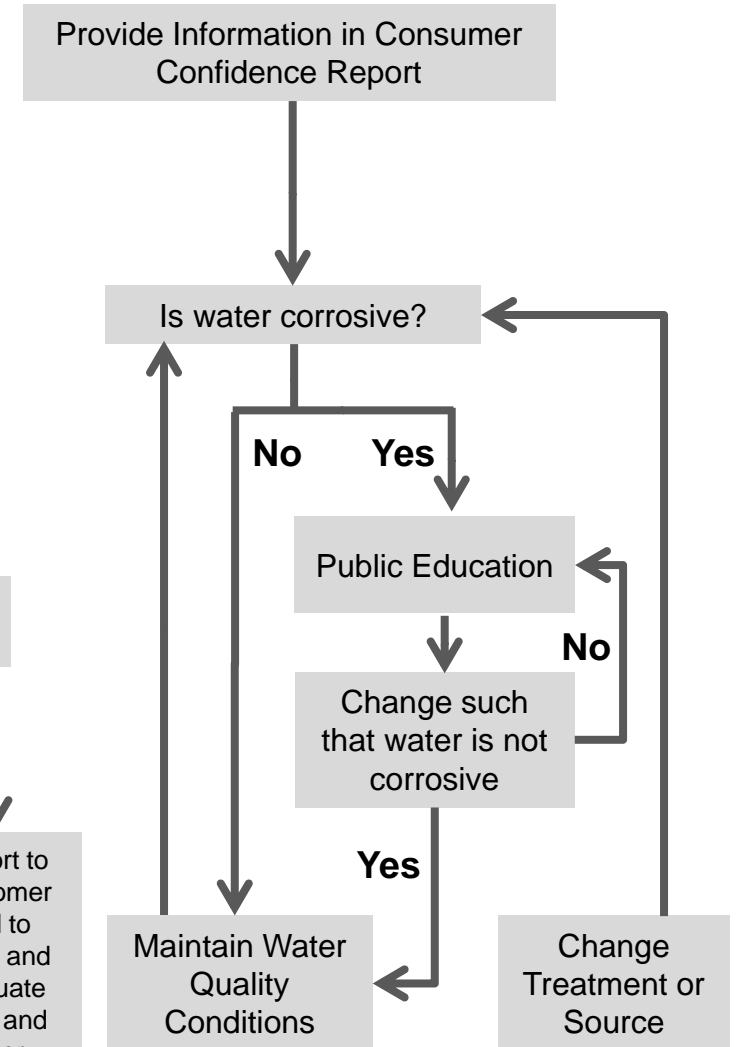
- Dissolved Lead
  - We have theoretical and practical experience with corrosion control
- Particulate Lead
  - Almost no theoretical or practical experience
- We don't know if it is possible to manage particulate lead release using centralized corrosion control treatment

# Find and Remove LSLs as Long-term Goal

## Lead Control Program



## Copper Control Program

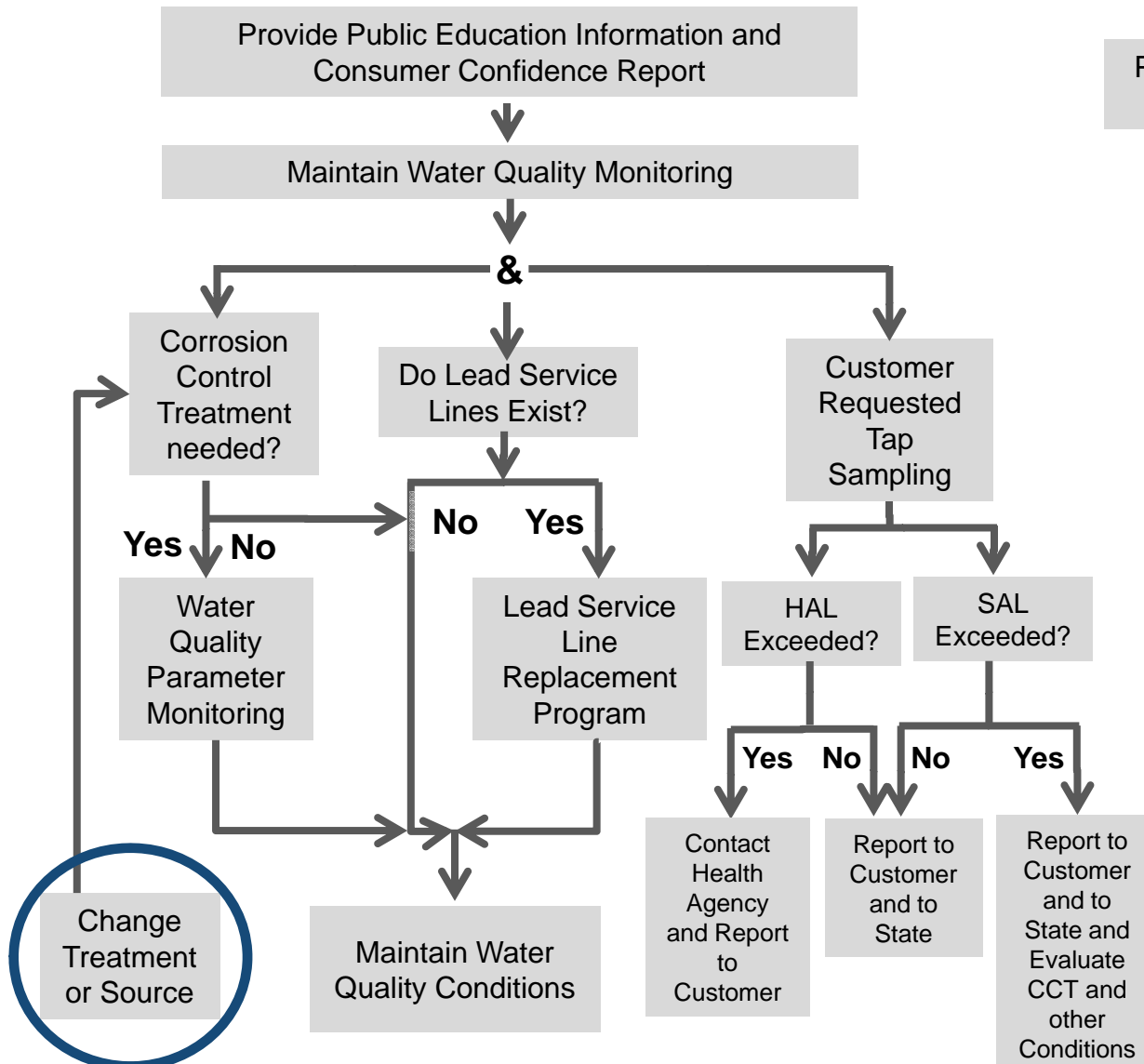


# Where are the LSLs?

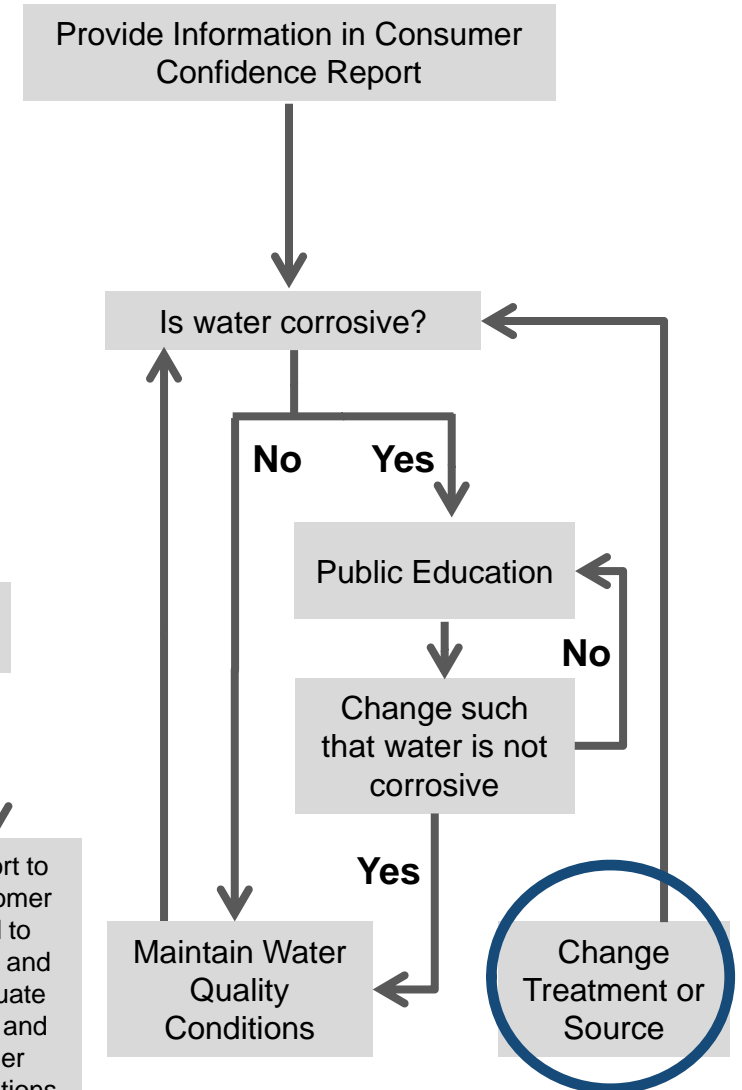
- Is there an inventory of service lines?
- How can lead service lines be located?
- Are there opportunities to engage real estate and home inspectors?
- How can the public gain access to where lead service lines exist in their communities?
- Who owns the LSLs?

# Re-evaluate when changes occur

## Lead Control Program

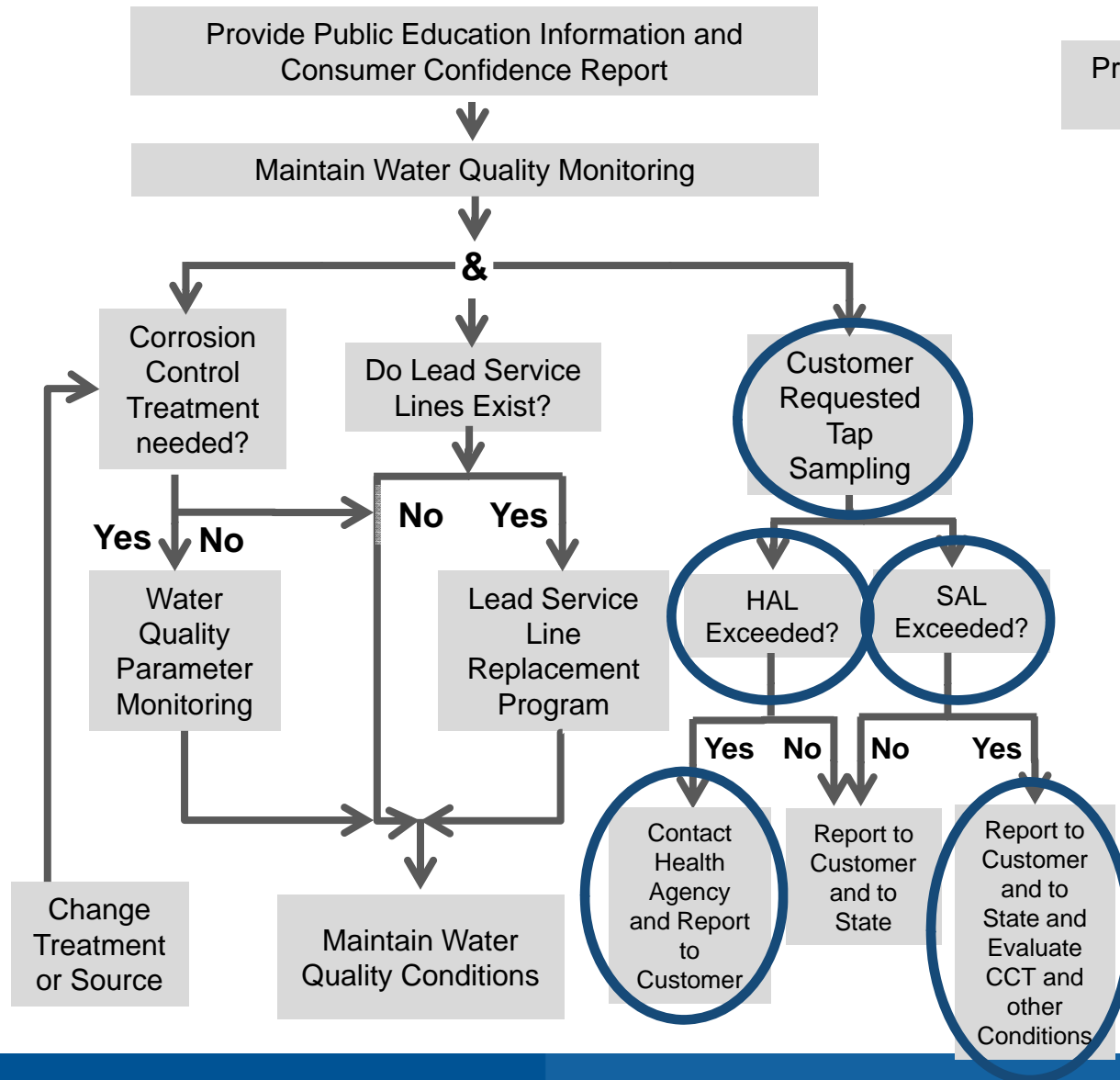


## Copper Control Program

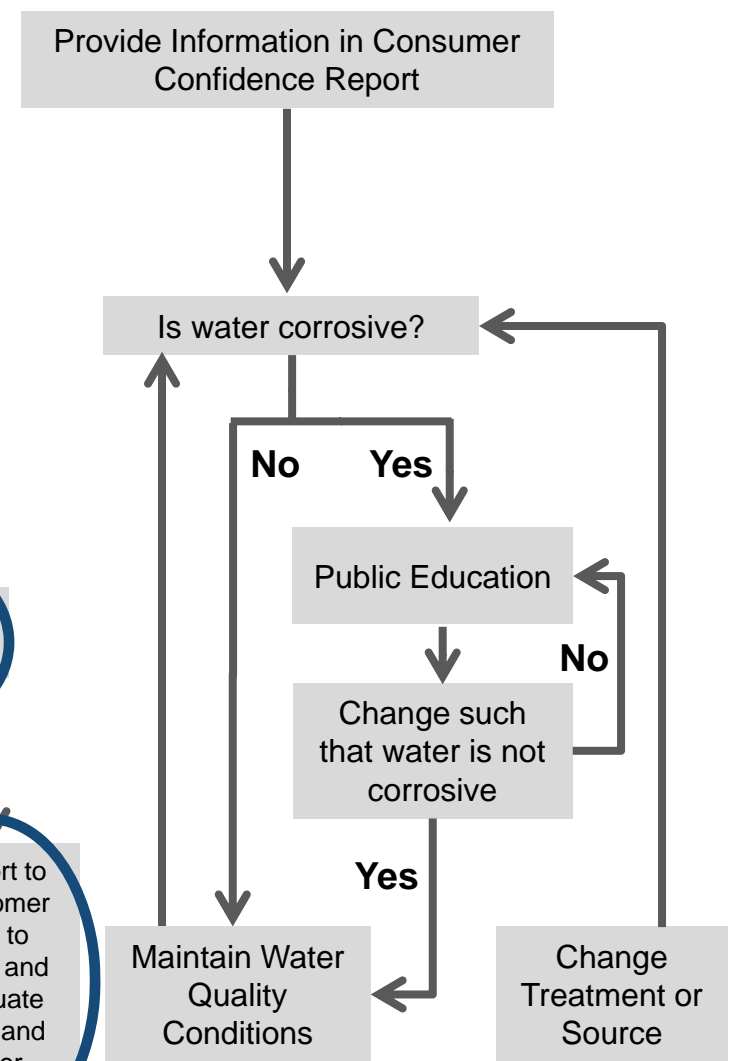


# Sampling: Continuous & Customer Initiated

## Lead Control Program



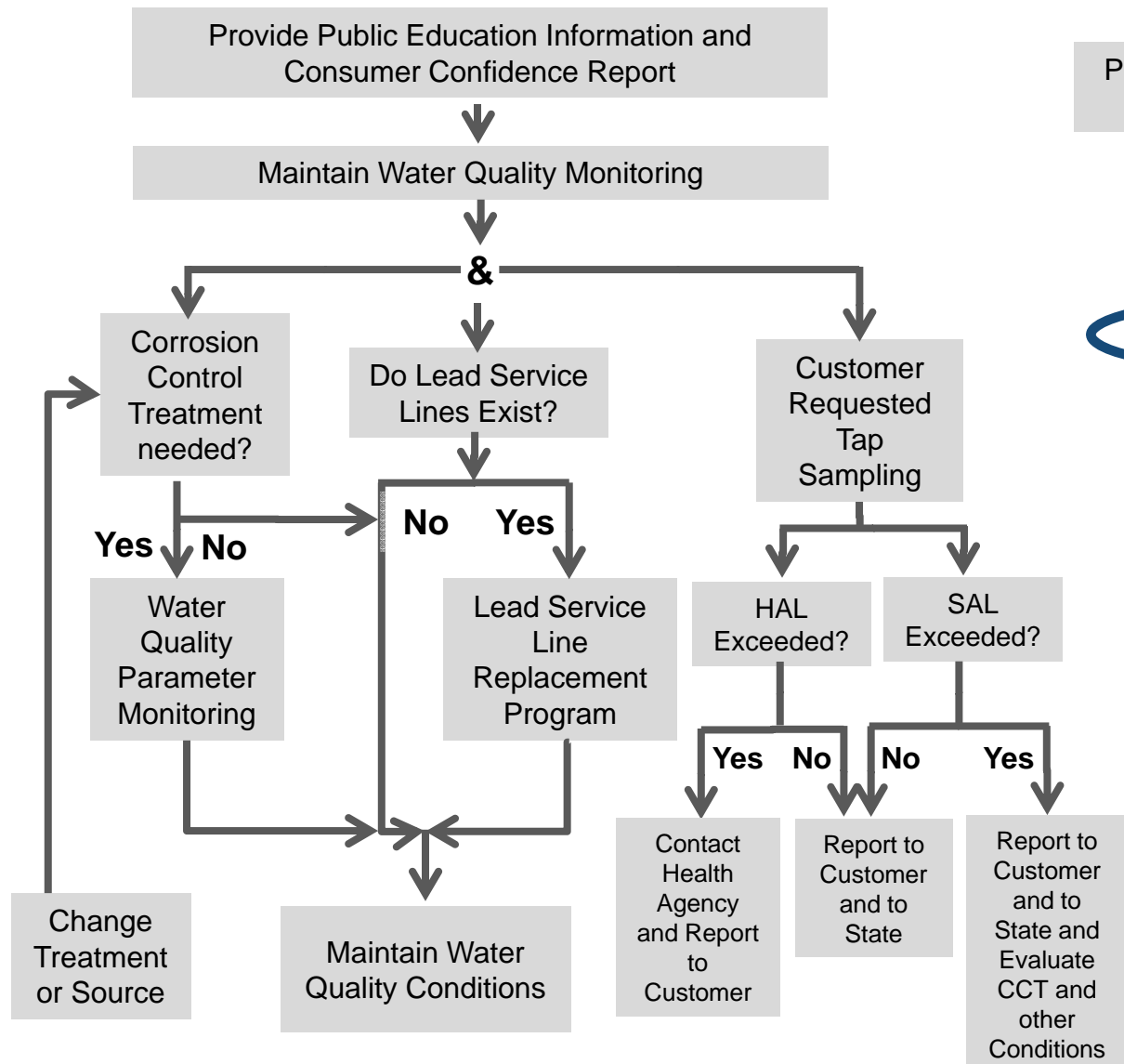
## Copper Control Program



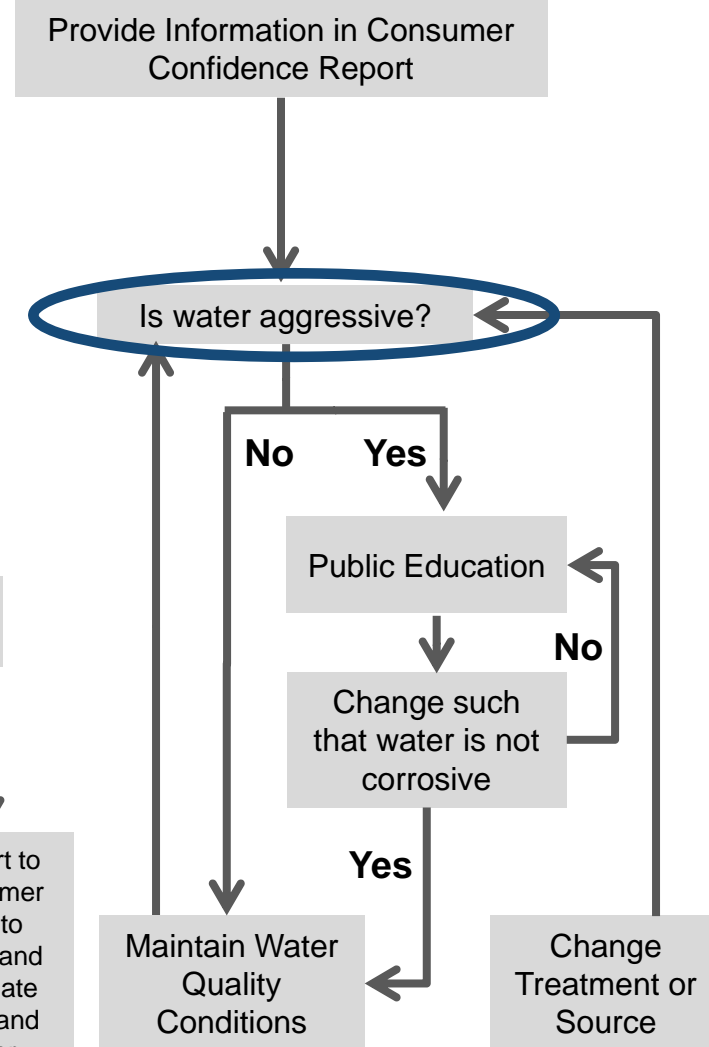


# Separate Copper Requirements

## Lead Control Program



## Copper Control Program



# A Conceptual Approach to Copper...

- Categorize systems by finished water aggressiveness (alkalinity, pH...)
- Monitor distribution system water quality
- Targeted outreach if water is aggressive
- Sample only if water is aggressive
- Apply corrosion control when needed



**THE CURRENT LCR WOULD KEEP  
US RUNNING IN A CIRCLE,  
FOREVER!**

The revised LCR can set a long-term goal to get us to a place where such a Rule may no longer be needed !



# Revisions to LCR are important but not sufficient

- EPA must play a leadership role in a national effort with other partners to reduce lead in drinking water that includes, but is not limited to:
  - Working across all offices and with other federal agencies on integrated approach to action and education (*HUD, CDC*)
  - State and local policies to support LSLR and to assist customers (*e.g. inspection/disclosure on sale of homes, building code requirements upon substantial renovation, priority in SRF funding*)
  - Enhanced cooperation among state and local health departments on childhood lead poisoning, screening and prevention that includes a focus on drinking water as a source

# Perhaps more importantly....

The NDWAC's recommendations to revise the LCR address:

- All the concerns about how and where to sample
- The greatest unresolved risk; LSLs
- The need for much better public outreach
- The difference between lead and copper
- The need to help customers take appropriate action



**And the NDWAC  
recommendations  
already addressed  
the various concerns  
that were raised in  
the many recent  
news reports!**

advancing the science of water