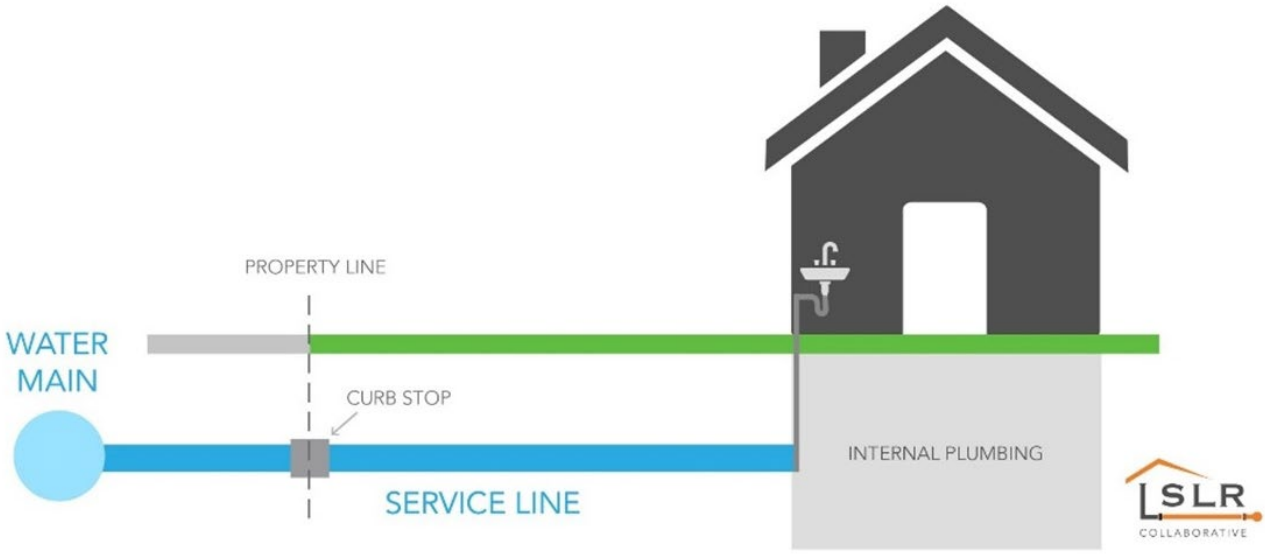
Notice of unknown service line material

Your water utility is focused on protecting the health of every household in the community. This notice contains important information about your drinking water.

Your water utility is working to identify service line materials throughout the water system and has determined that the water pipe (called a service line) that connects your home or building to the water main is made from an **unknown material but** may be lead. Because your service line material is unknown, there is the potential that some or all of the service line could be made of lead or galvanized pipe that was previously connected to lead. People living in homes with a lead or galvanized pipe previously connected to a lead service line have an increased risk of exposure to lead from their drinking water.



The service line connects your home or building to the water main.

Please share this information with anyone who drinks and/or cooks using water at this property, in addition to people directly served at this property, including people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses, as well as parents served by childcare at this property.

Identifying service line material

To help determine the material of your service line, please contact your water utility. Additionally, a step-by-step guide to help people identify lead pipes in their homes is available at: https://apps.npr.org/find-lead-pipes-in-your-home/en/#.

Health effects of lead

Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or worsen existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these negative health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, and kidney, or nervous system problems.

Steps you can take to reduce lead in drinking water

Below are recommended actions that you may take, separately or in combination, if you are concerned about lead in your drinking water. The list also includes where you may find more information and is not intended to be a complete list or to imply that all actions equally reduce lead in drinking water.

Use filters properly. Using a filter can reduce lead in drinking water. If you use a filter, it should be certified to remove lead. Read any directions provided with the filter to learn how to properly install, maintain, and use your cartridge and when to replace it. Using the cartridge after it has expired can make it less effective at removing lead. Do not run hot water through the filter. For more information on facts and advice on home water filtration systems, see EPA's https://www.epa.gov/water-research/consumer-tool-identifying-point-use-and-pitcher-filters-certified-reduce-lead.

Clean your aerator. Regularly clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator). Sediment, debris, and lead particles can collect in your aerator. If lead particles are caught in the aerator, lead can get into your water.

Use cold water. Do not use hot water from the tap for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, as lead dissolves more easily in hot water. Boiling water does not remove lead from water.

Run your water. The more time water has been sitting in pipes providing water to your home, the more lead it may contain. Before drinking, flush your home's pipes by running the tap, taking a shower, doing laundry, or doing a load of dishes. The amount of time to run the water will depend on whether your home has a lead service line or not, as well as the length and diameter of the service line and the amount of plumbing in your home. Contact your water utility for recommendations about flushing times in your community.

Learn about construction in your neighborhood. Contact your water utility to find out about any construction or maintenance work that could disturb your service line. Construction may cause more lead to be released from a lead service line or galvanized service line if present.

Have your water tested. Contact your water utility to have your water tested and learn more about your drinking water's lead levels. To find certified labs for water testing, please visit https://www.epa.gov/dwlabcert/contact-information-certification-programs-and-certified-laboratories-drinking-water. Note, a water sample may not adequately capture or represent all potential lead sources**.** For information on sources of lead that include service lines and interior plumbing, please visit https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water#getinto.

Get your child tested to determine lead levels in their blood

Although there is no confirmation of having a lead service line, you may wish to speak with a healthcare provider to see if your child's blood lead level is elevated and/or if there is a need for blood testing, if you are concerned about potential exposure. Please visit https://www.cdc.gov/lead-prevention/hcp/clinical-guidance for information on these actions.

For information about potential financing solutions to assist property owners with lead service line replacement, please contact your water utility.

For more information on reducing lead exposure from your drinking water and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's website at http://www.epa.gov/lead.