

NOTICE OF UNKNOWN SERVICE LINE MATERIAL
IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT LEAD IN YOUR DRINKING WATER



PWS Name: _____ PWSID: _____

Your property, _____, is being served by a service line of **unknown** material. Although unlikely, it is possible it may be lead; so, it is important to understand that lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Please read this information closely to see what you can do to identify your service line material and reduce lead in your drinking water. In addition, it is important to determine what the service line material is.

What are the 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 exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems.

Where does lead come from? Lead is a toxic heavy metal that occurs naturally. Though lead can be found in all parts of our environment, much of our exposure comes from human activities including the use of fossil fuels, some types of industrial facilities, and past use of lead-based paint in homes. Lead enters drinking water primarily through the corrosion, or wearing away, of materials containing lead in household plumbing and the water distribution system, such as the pipes that connect your house to the water main (service lines). Lead solder and plumbing fixtures, such as faucets, within your home/building may also contribute to lead in your drinking water.

Steps you can take to reduce your exposure to lead in your drinking water: Although we, as the public water system, are taking action to reduce lead levels, elevated lead level may also be due to conditions unique to your home, such as the presence of lead solder or brass faucets, fittings, and valves that may contain lead. There are actions you can take to reduce exposure. We strongly urge you to take the steps below to reduce your exposure to lead in drinking water.

- **Run your water to flush out lead.** If water hasn't been used for several hours, run water for 30 seconds to 2 minutes until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking.
- **Use cold or bottled water for drinking, cooking, and preparing baby formula.**
- **Do not boil water to remove lead.**
- **Identify and replace your plumbing fixtures that contain lead and/or lead solder.**
- **Install a point of use or point of entry treatment device certified to remove lead, such as a reverse osmosis filter.**

How to identify your service line material: The EPA and Alaska Drinking Water Program have developed materials to assist you in determining the material of your service line, located at <https://dec.alaska.gov/eh/dw/lcrr/>. Once you have determined the material of your service line, **report the material to us** at _____ to assist with the completion of the lead service line inventory.

If you would like us to assist in determining your service line material, please contact us at _____.

For more information, **contact us** at _____, or visit our website at _____.

Visit EPA's Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/lead> or contact your health care provider for more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead.

TYPES OF SERVICE LINE MATERIAL

LEAD



A dull, silver colored pipe that can be easily scratched with a coin or key. Scratching leaves a shiny silver color. Magnets WILL NOT stick to lead pipes. Lead pipes are bendable and commonly have a "bulb"

GALVANIZED

IRON



A dull, silver colored pipe that is hard to scratch with a coin or key. Scratching leaves a dull gray color. A magnet WILL stick to a galvanized iron pipe.

COPPER



Brown colored pipe that can be easily scratched with a coin or key. Scratching leaves a copper color. Magnets WILL NOT stick to copper pipes.

PLASTIC



Generally, white, black or blue piping. Plastic piping is rigid. A magnet WILL NOT stick to plastic pipe.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

State of Alaska Drinking Water Program: <https://dec.alaska.gov/eh/dw/lcrr/>

EPA LCRR Guidance: <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/revised-lead-and-copper-rule>

LCRR Collaborative Guidance: <https://www.lslr-collaborative.org/identifying-service-line-material.html>