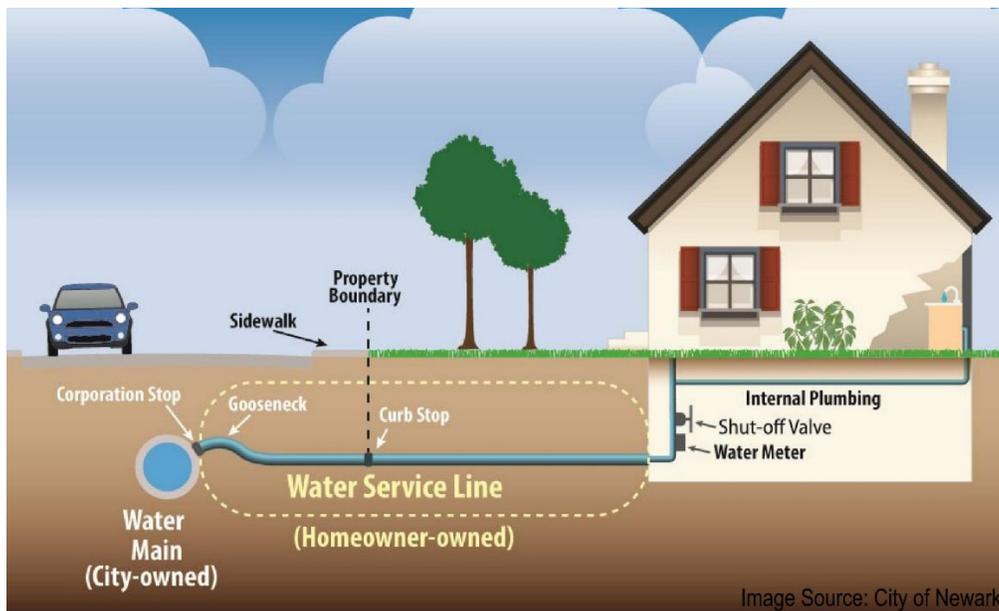




Notice to Individuals Served by a Service Line of Unknown Material

The Brooklyn Center Utility Department is focused on protecting the health of every household in our community. This notice contains important information about your drinking water. 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, this can include people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, businesses, as well as parents served by childcare at this property.

Brooklyn Center is working to identify service line materials throughout the water system and has determined that as of October 21, 2024, a portion of water pipe (called a service line) that connects your home, building, or other structure to the water main is made from **unknown material** but may be lead. In some cases, a portion of the service line may have been identified as non-lead but it is still classified as unknown until the entire length of the service line has been identified. 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.



Individuals can find information on service line material information on addresses located in Minnesota at: [Minnesota Service Line Material Tool \(umn.edu\)](https://maps.umn.edu/LSL/) (<https://maps.umn.edu/LSL/>) or the Brooklyn Center website at www.BrooklynCenterMN.gov/LSL.

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Identifying service line material

To help determine the material of your service line, please fill out the survey at www.BrooklynCenterMN.gov/LSL or scan the QR code. EPA has developed an online step-by-step guide to help people identify lead pipes in their homes called Protect Your Tap: A Quick Check for Lead. It is available at: <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/protect-your-tap-quick-check-lead>.



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 links 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 a filter. 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 into 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. Residents may contact us at 763-585-7100 or PublicWorks@BrooklynCenterMN.gov for recommendations about flushing times in their community.

Learn what your service line material is. Contact us, your water system, at 763-585-7100 or PublicWorks@BrooklynCenterMN.gov or a licensed plumber to determine if the pipe that connects your home to the water main (called a service line) is made from lead, galvanized, or other materials. Alternatively, you can also follow this link: [Protect Your Tap: A quick check for lead](https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/protect-your-tap-quick-check-lead) to find lead pipes in your home (<https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/protect-your-tap-quick-check-lead>).

Learn about construction in your neighborhood. Contact us, your water system, at 763-585-7100 or PublicWorks@BrooklynCenterMN.gov 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.

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Have your water tested. Contact us, your water system, at 763-585-7100 or PublicWorks@BrooklynCenterMN.gov to learn more about the lead levels in your drinking water. Alternatively, you can contact a [Minnesota Department of Health accredited laboratory](https://eldo.web.health.state.mn.us/public/accreditedlabs/labsearch.seam) (<https://eldo.web.health.state.mn.us/public/accreditedlabs/labsearch.seam>) to purchase a sample container and instructions on how to submit a sample. Note, a water sample may not adequately capture or represent all sources of lead that may be present. 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>

Understand Blood Lead Testing

In Minnesota, elevated blood lead levels are most associated with lead exposure from lead paint and dust. Water is rarely the cause of elevated blood lead levels. If you have concerns about childhood lead exposure, check with your family doctor, pediatrician, or health care provider to determine if a blood test for lead is recommended. State, city, or county departments of health can also provide information about health effects of lead and how you can have your child's blood tested for lead. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that public health actions be initiated when the level of lead in a child's blood is 3.5 micrograms per deciliter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$) or more. For more information and links to CDC's website, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water>. MDH also has [Lead Information for Families](https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/lead/families.html) (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/lead/families.html>).

For information on the Lead Service Line Replacement Program, please visit:

[Lead Service Line Replacement Program Facts - MN Dept. of Health \(state.mn.us\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/lsrprogram.html)
(<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/lsrprogram.html>)

For information about potential financing solutions to assist property owners with replacement of lead service lines, please contact us at 763-585-7100 or PublicWorks@BrooklynCenterMN.gov.

For more information about lead in drinking water visit the Minnesota Department of Health webpage at:

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/contaminants/lead.html>

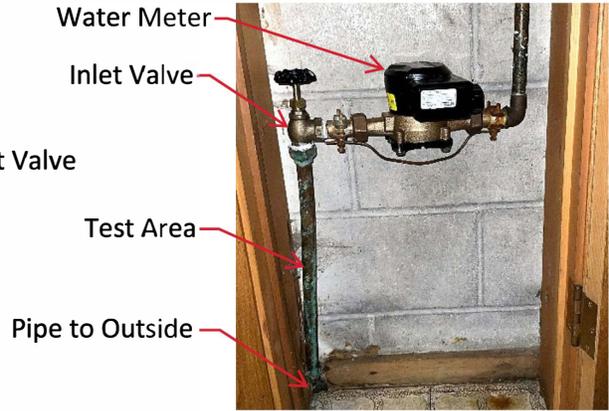
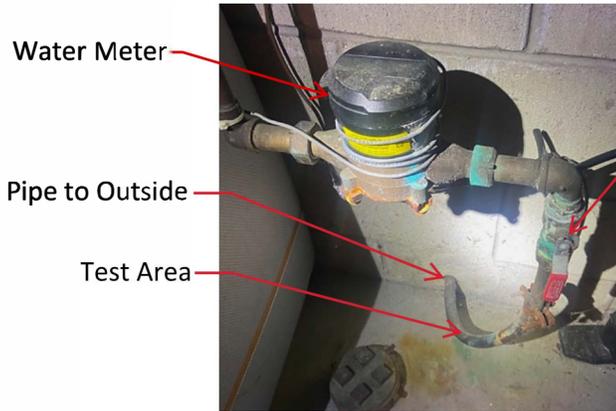
Si necesita traducir esta carta, comuníquese con la Ciudad de Brooklyn Center 763-585-7100 o PublicWorks@BrooklynCenterMN.gov.

Haddii aad u baahan tahay macluumaadkan in lagu turjumo fadlan nagala soo xidhiidh 763-585-7100 ama PublicWorks@BrooklynCenterMN.gov.

Yog tias koj xav tau tsab ntawv no txhais, thov hu rau Lub Nroog Brooklyn Center ntawm 763-585-7100 los sis PublicWorks@brooklyncentermn.gov.

How to Verify Your Water Service Material

- 1. Find your water meter.** For most buildings, the water meter is located in the basement or lower level and on the front wall that faces the street.



- 2. Locate the water service line pipe as it enters the building.** The pipe usually enters the building from the floor or lower foundation wall.
- 3. Identify the test area on the inlet pipe** between the point it enters the wall or floor and the inlet valve. Expose a small area of the pipe if it is covered or wrapped with insulation or other material.
- 4. You will need a flat head screwdriver and refrigerator magnet.** Use the flat edge of the screwdriver to scratch the pipe. Remove any corrosion that may have built up on the outside of the pipe.
- 5. Identify the pipe inlet material.** The color at the test area will indicate the material.

Most common pipe materials	Pipe color when scratched	Does a magnet stick
Copper	Orange like a penny (may have green or white oxidation before scratched)	No
Galvanized Steel	Dull gray	Yes
Lead	Shiny silver	No
Plastic	Black or blue	No



- 6. Submit your service line material.** Use the QR code to submit your information or go to the City website at www.BrooklynCenterMN.gov/LSL. If you need assistance, contact the Public Works Department at 763-585-7100 or PublicWorks@BrooklynCenterMN.gov.

