

IMPORTANT REQUEST FROM YOUR WATER SUPPLIER

Dear Water Customer,

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently announced changes to drinking water regulations requiring water suppliers to identify all materials used in the construction of the water system. The goal of these changes is to identify and remove all lead pipes in the drinking water system. The water supplier must identify all construction materials used on both the supplier's AND the customer's side of the water meter, which means we will need your help!

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) is mandating water suppliers to submit the completed information before October 16, 2024. If the required information cannot be gathered from the homeowner, KDHE may require the water supplier to excavate private lines to identify them. This would be time-consuming, expensive, and damaging to the customer's lawn and landscaping. To avoid this, we need your help to complete this requirement. Please complete the attached survey and return it to us as soon as possible.

Thank you for your participation!

SERVICE ADDRESS:

CUSTOMER NAME:

SIGNATURE/DATE:

If you would like to 'Opt-Out' and not provide the information on the following page, please sign and date for confirmation and return this letter to the city.

SIGNATURE/DATE:

The following information is needed about your home's plumbing. If you are unsure of what materials you have in your home, please get in touch with City Hall at (785) 2258-2271 for assistance.

For help identifying plumbing material: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g8f81oDGTAU>

Water service line (water line from the meter to the house) construction material

- Lead Copper Galvanized Steel PVC HDPE
 PEX Asbestos-Cement Other Non-Lead

Water service line size (inches)

- 1/2" 3/4" 1" Other ____

Water service line installation date

____ Year

Building Type

- Single-Family Multi-Family Building Other

Water softener, filter or other treatment

- Yes No

Home internal plumbing material (primary material in the home)

- Lead Copper Copper w/Lead Solder PVC
 HDPE PEX Galvanized Steel Other Non-Lead

Secondary internal plumbing material (secondary material in the home)

- Lead Copper Copper w/Lead Solder PVC
 HDPE PEX Galvanized Steel Other Non-Lead

Year internal plumbing was installed

- Before 1989 Between 1989 & 2014 After 2014

*Note: A magnet will stick to Galvanized Steel pipe



(L-R) Galvanized, Copper, Lead Pipe



Different sizes/colors of PEX



Asbestos-Cement



PVC



HDPE



Copper w/Lead Solder

Lead Service Line Inventory Q&A

Q: How much Lead is in our system?

A: The public water supplier is collecting this inventory information to determine this. Assistance from the public is greatly appreciated and to the public's advantage.

Q: Is my yard going to be dug up?

A: The public water supplier is actively searching through our documentation and requesting documentation from the public to prevent this from happening. Some yards will have minimal excavation to help determine what pipes are in the ground.

Q: How can I tell what my plumbing is made of?

A: A customer can look at the service line entering the residence. Look where it comes through the foundation or basement wall. Once the service entry is located, a visual inspection can be done to determine what types of material is used throughout the home. The public water supplier can also send someone to assist the customer in determining what material you have.

Q: What does a lead service line look like?

A: Lead is a dull, soft, non-magnetic material that turns a shiny silver color when scratched. A scratch test can be a simple, quick method for identifying the service line material entering a home or building. If the scratched area turns yellow orange, it is likely copper. Lead will shine. A magnet can also determine the material. If it sticks, it is steel.

Q: Do I have to fill this out if I am a renter of the property?

A: The landlord or owner of the property will be responsible for filling out the requested paperwork and returning it to the city.

Q: Does the inventory require the material identification of both the public water supply and the customer-owned portion of the service line?

A: Yes, the public water supply and the customer-owned portion of the service must be identified.

Q: Is the public water supplier responsible for replacing the privately owned part of a service line?

A: The public water supplier is not responsible for replacing the privately owned service line. The property or homeowner will have the freedom to make their decisions on what actions to take.

Q: Where is the physical boundary between the publicly owned and the privately owned section of the service line?

A: The most common transition between the public and private components is at the water meter.

Q: Is visual confirmation required for all service lines?

A: No. Dependable records can verify lead service lines or verify that the line is not lead. In the absence of documents, a visual confirmation will then be needed.

Q: Will the lead service line inventory need to be updated?

A: Yes. The inventory must be updated annually.

Q: What is premise plumbing?

A: Premise plumbing is the pipes inside a home that convey water to usage points, such as kitchens, bathrooms, sinks, laundry, etc.

Q: What is the point at which it switches from a service line to premise plumbing?

A: The point at which it switches from a service line coming into the residence and premise plumbing going throughout the residence is the shut-off valve immediately after the service line enters the structure. Often in basements or crawl spaces, just inside an exterior wall and usually an outer wall toward the street side of the house.

Q: What happens if I don't complete the paperwork and return it to the public water supplier?

A: You will be notified several times for this information or until you 'Opt-Out' with a signature given to the public water supplier.

Q: Does the public water system's personnel have the authority to enter homes to verify a customer-owned service line?

A: The public water system personnel need to have the authority to access your home with permission from the resident. If you need assistance determining the type of pipes you have, our personnel will be happy to assist you.

Q: Can I change my mind later?

A: If you agree to participate and decide not to later, an 'Opt-Out' signature is required to no longer participate.

Q: Can I use my hot water tap for drinking or cooking?

A: Heating of water changes the water's chemistry, making it more likely to dissolve any lead or copper from household plumbing lines. It is not recommended to use hot water unless you know your pipes are lead free.

Q: Does boiling cold tap water reduce lead?

A: No.

Q: What are you putting in the water to control the lead level?

A: Since the plant's water has no lead, we use the Langelier Saturation Index Model to keep the lead from leaching into the water from the piping by maintaining the stability of the water.