

WHAT CLEVELAND WATER DOES

Cleveland Water customers can be confident that the water delivered to your home is safe. While some homes and buildings in our service area have lead service lines or plumbing that contains lead, we take several actions to protect you and your family from the risk of lead in drinking water.



ADD ORTHOPHOSPHATE

We add orthophosphate during the water treatment process. It forms a protective coating on the inside of pipes and plumbing, reducing the likelihood of lead dissolving into the water.



CONTROL

We control corrosion by keeping the pH of water leaving our treatment plants above 7.



REPLACE

We replace lead service lines during main replacement and repair projects.



MONITOR

We regularly test the water in homes with lead in plumbing to ensure our efforts are effective.



RESEARCH

We are researching innovative and cost-saving ways to identify lead service lines in order to develop a complete and accurate inventory.



EDUCATE

We provide resources to educate customers on how to identify in-home sources of lead and reduce the risk of exposure to lead if present.

Learn more about what we do and what you can do at home at clevelandwater.com/lead or by calling 216.664.2882.



Cleveland Water

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Cleveland Water

LEAD AWARENESS



Check for Lead in your Plumbing System

To understand the potential of lead in your home's plumbing system follow these steps:



CHECK

Check the type of material your city-owned service line is made from using the Lead Lookup Tool on our website.



TEST

Use the magnet and penny test to determine what type of material your customer-owned service line is made from and record the results on our website or by contacting us.



DATE

Know the date of installation of plumbing components in your home to help you understand the risk of lead exposure from pipes, solder, faucets, and fixtures.



Magnet and Penny Test

To identify the type of material your water service line is made from, first, find where your service line enters your home. Then, see if a magnet sticks to it. If not, scratch the pipe with a penny to determine the color.



Lead Pipe

- A magnet will not stick to a lead pipe.
- Scratch the pipe with a coin. If the scraped area is shiny silver and flakes off, the service line is lead.



Copper Pipe

- A magnet will not stick to a copper pipe.
- Scratch the pipe with a penny. If the scraped area is copper in color, like a penny, your service line is copper.



Galvanized Steel Pipe

- If a magnet sticks to the surface, your service line is galvanized steel.
- A scratch test is not needed. If you scratch the pipe, it will remain a dull gray.

Report Your Lead Line

Once you identify what type of material your water service line is made of, record the results at clevelandwater.com/lead or by contacting us at LeadLookup@clevelandwater.com

Keep Your Home's Water Healthy

Clean, Flush and Consume Cold are the actions all customers should implement to help ensure the highest quality of water is coming out of your tap, especially if there is the possibility of lead in your plumbing system. In some situations, a water system repair/replacement may temporarily increase lead levels in water and/or cause discoloration. As a standard practice the USEPA recommends these actions (clean, flush, consume cold) which are important to take when water has been restored after a disruption of service.



CLEAN

Clean your faucet aerators screens regularly. Small particles of solder and other material can accumulate in faucet aerators and in some circumstances can release lead into the water. Aerators should be cleaned at least twice a year and after work on your plumbing.



FLUSH

Flush your cold water lines before consuming water when water has not been used for 6 or more hours. The goal is to have cold, fresh water from the main in the street come out of your tap before drinking the water. To flush the plumbing, run water until you feel a temperature change then run water for an additional 30 seconds to 3 minutes. The time depends on the length and diameter of your service line. The farther your home is from the street, the longer you need to flush. **When in doubt, flush it out.**



CONSUME COLD

Always use cold water for cooking, drinking and preparing baby formula. Hot water corrodes pipes faster and is more likely to contain lead. If you need hot water for food or drinks, get water from the cold water tap then heat the water.

For additional information about lead, visit drinktap.org or epa.gov/safewater/lead, or call the National Lead Center at **1.800.424.LEAD**.