

I HAVE A LEAD OR GALVANIZED WATER SERVICE LINE. WHAT SHOULD I DO?

Having a lead or galvanized service line does not mean your drinking water has high levels of lead. The City of Lancaster uses corrosion control treatment to help prevent corrosion of pipes, which helps prevent lead from leaching into drinking water. The City also closely controls pH, which helps prevent lead from leaching.

Lead was a commonly used plumbing material in the early 1900s. In July 1989, Pennsylvania passed The Plumbing System Lead Ban and Notification Act (PA Lead Ban). The law became effective on Jan. 6, 1991, and applies to plumbing construction or repairs done after that date. As part of our normal operations, the City replaces lead and galvanized service lines when they are discovered during replacements and repairs to the water distribution system.

Lead and Copper Testing is conducted every 3 years at 50 houses within our distribution system. The 50 houses that are selected are either serviced by lead service lines or copper plumbing with lead solder. The results for the last three rounds of testing have all been below EPA's Action Level of 15 ppb. The City's drinking water is in compliance with USEPA and PADEP standards.

The City of Lancaster will be replacing the lead or galvanized service lines in accordance with state regulatory requirements.

STEPS YOU CAN TAKE

Start using a water filter. Contact the Water Laboratory at **717-291-4818** to get a free Point of Use water filter that is certified to remove lead. The City of Lancaster will provide new filter cartridges free of charge until your service line is replaced. The filter and cartridges will be delivered to your home, along with easy installation instructions. If you need help with installation or replacement of the cartridge, contact the Water Laboratory for assistance.

If you have a lead or galvanized line and you are concerned about lead in your drinking water, the city will test your water. Please call the Water Laboratory at **717-291-4818** to schedule sample collection.

Follow these steps to reduce the risk of 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 2-5 minutes or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature. This flushes out any stagnant water in your home plumbing and replaces it with fresh water from the water main in your street.
- **Only use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula.** Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap. Do not use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula.
- **Do not boil water to remove lead.** Boiling water will not reduce lead.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT LEAD EXPOSURE

In Lancaster, the greatest risk of lead poisoning is through lead-based paint. When the paint peels and cracks, it makes lead dust. Children can be exposed to lead when they swallow or breathe in lead dust. **If you are concerned about lead exposure, ask your healthcare provider about testing children to determine levels of lead in their blood.** To learn more visit cityoflanasterpa.gov/lead-safe, visit EPA's website at: epa.gov/lead, call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider. Learn about the City's Lead Hazard Control Program at cityoflanasterpa.gov/lead or call 717-291-4730.

For more information about Lancaster's Lead Service Line Replacement Program, visit cityoflanasterpa.gov/lead-service-line