

Notice of Confirmed Galvanized Service Line

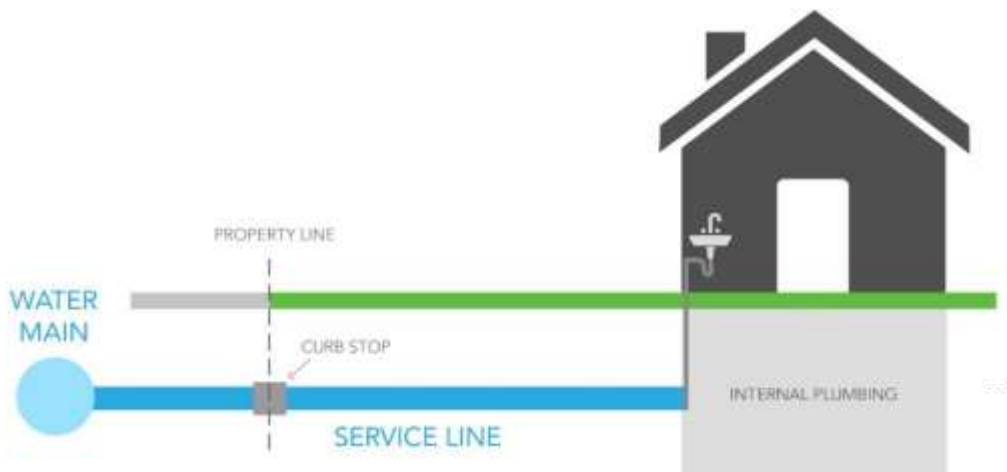
Following the WI DNR Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR), this is a formal notification to you in regards to the material of your water service line. More information on the LCRR can be found at this link: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/DrinkingWater/LSLInventoryRequirements.html>. We understand that this might be overwhelming to read. If you have questions, please contact the North Freedom Public Works Department at 608-522-4522 or nfreedomdpw@gmail.com.

North Freedom Waterworks (PWS ID 15700960) 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.

North Freedom Waterworks (PWS ID 15700960) has determined that a portion of water pipe (called a service line) that connects your property to the water main is made from **galvanized material** and may have absorbed lead. EPA has defined these service lines as “galvanized requiring replacement”. Our records either indicate that lead service line pipe may be present or might have been present in the past (at your property). If you have information that could help us better describe your service line, contact the North Freedom Public Works Department at 608-522-4522 or nfreedomdpw@gmail.com, and we will update our files.

Galvanized service lines that have absorbed lead can contribute to lead in drinking water. People living in homes with a galvanized service line that has absorbed lead may have an increased risk of exposure to lead from their drinking water.

Below is a figure that represents a typical service line scenario for a residence. Galvanized service lines are typically on the property owned section of the service line. Any lead that is, was, or may have been connected to the service line would be located upstream of the galvanized pipe on the other side of the curb stop. This does not represent all scenarios.



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 spans. 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 programs.

Steps you can take to reduce lead in drinking water

Below are some recommended actions that you make take, separately or in combination, if you are concerned about lead in your drinking water. The list also includes 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 your filter properly. 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, visit EPA's website at <http://www.epa.gov/water-research/consumer-tool-identifying-point-use-and-pitcher-filters-certified-reduce-lead>.

Clean your aerators. Regularly remove and cleaner your facet'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 608-522-4522 or nfreedomdpw@gmail.com for recommendations about flushing times in their community.

Learn about construction in your neighborhood. Please contact the North Freedom Public Works Department at 608-522-4522 or nfreedomdpw@gmail.com 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.

Have your water tested. Contact us, your water utility, at 608-522-4522 or nfreedomdpw@gmail.com to have your water tested and to learn more about the lead levels in your drinking water. Alternatively, you may contact a certified laboratory to have your water tested for lead. A certified laboratory in the area is CT Laboratories, 1230 Lange Court, Baraboo, WI 53913, 608-356-2760. There may be fees associated with this request. Please contact CT Laboratories to determine what the cost of such a test would be.

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 liens and interior plumbing, please visit <http://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water#getinto>.

Get your child tested to determine lead levels in their blood.

A family doctor or pediatrician can perform a blood test for lead and provide information about the health effects of lead. State, city, or county departments of health can also provide information about how you can have your child's blood tested for lead. The Centers of Disease Control and Prevention recommends public health actions 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 <http://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water>.

Replacing galvanized required replacement service lines

If you are planning on replacing the portion of the service line that you own, please notify us at 608-522-4522 or nfreedomdpw@gmail.com.

If you need financial assistance to replace your galvanized required replacement service line, an option available to the whole of Sauk County is the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. It provides funding to low to moderate income households for housing repairs. For more information on the Sauk County CBDG Program, please go to:

<https://www.co.sauk.wi.us/countyadministration/community-development-block-grant-housing-rehabilitation> or contact Kari Justmann at 1-800-552-6330 or her direct line at 920-392-5137.

For more information on reducing lead exposure from your drinking water and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's website at <http://www.epa.gov/lead>.