



NOTICE OF LEAD STATUS UNKNOWN WATER SERVICE LINE

November 1, 2024

Dear Water Customer,

Walker County Water and Sewerage Authority (WCWSA) would like to inform you that the material of the water service line at certain addresses has yet to be determined. Subsequently, the service line has been classified as **Lead Status Unknown**. This means that all or a portion of the service line may be made of lead or galvanized piping requiring replacement. Water supplied through a service line of unknown material has the potential to increase your risk of exposure to lead. For further information regarding your service line, our service line inventory is accessible at <https://walkercountywaterwsa.com>.

What is a Service Line?

A service line is the piping that runs from the water main to the building inlet. Ownership varies by water system but is typically split between the water system and the customer. WCWSA owns the section of the service line from the water main to the meter, while the section from the meter to the home or building inlet is owned by the customer.

How Can I Determine My Service Line Material?

WCWSA is continuing service line identification and replacement. If your service line is found to contain lead or galvanized piping requiring replacement, you will receive a separate notice with information about service line replacement and financing opportunities. If you know your service line material and size, please contact WCWSA. If you don't know the material and size, WCWSA will continue working to make a visual determination of each service line as required by the USEPA Lead and Copper Rule. This will be done in order by the existing meter read routes. To aid in the verification of the customer-owned portion of the line, please visit www.epa.gov/protectyourtap for instructions on identifying your service line material. Information and photos can be submitted by email to info@walkercountywsa.com.

What are the 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 exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney, or nervous system problems.

What Can I do to Reduce Exposure to Lead in Drinking Water?

- **Run your water to flush out lead.** If the water hasn't been used for several hours, run the water for 15-30 seconds to flush lead from interior plumbing or run it until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking.
- **Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula.**
- **Do NOT boil water to attempt to remove lead.**
- **Look for alternative sources or treatment of water (such as bottled water or water filters).**
- **Re-test your water for lead periodically.**
- **Identify and replace plumbing fixtures containing lead.**

For more information, call us at 706-820-1455, or visit our website at <https://walkercountywsa.com>. For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's website at <http://www.epa.gov/lead> or contact your health care provider.

Sincerely,

Walker County Water and Sewerage Authority