

# Utility Lead Pipe Letters



January 2025

## I Received A Letter, What Does It Mean?

Customers of regulated water utilities may have received a letter in the late Fall/early Winter of 2024. These letters identify whether the service line (the pipe between the water main at the street and the meter on/in the home) is made of lead.

The letter tells them they have one of the following line types:

- Non-Leaded
- Leaded
- Galvanized (which may contain lead)
- Unknown

Many utilities have already begun replacing leaded and galvanized lines. All utilities must start replacing lines in 2027 and be done with all replacements by 2037. Utilities must also confirm whether "Unknown" lines are leaded or not by 2034.

**NOTE: These letters do not mean you have a new lead issue. They are simply showing you what type of pipe you currently have.**

Starting in 2024, utilities are required to send letters each year to customers with leaded, galvanized, or unknown lines. Future letters may stop if your line is replaced with a non-leaded pipe.

## Can I Get Rid of the Lead On My Own?

Customers should contact their utility if they'd like their water tested. Test kits available at hardware stores can be hit-or-miss and lab testing is far more reliable.

Lead can be removed using a filter, but it's important to make sure the filter is rated to remove lead. A full [list of filters rated to remove lead](#) can be found at NSF.

## What Should I Do If I Have Concerns?

1. If you're worried about lead poisoning for yourself or your children, contact your doctor or local health department to get your blood tested.
2. Use cold water for drinking, cooking and making baby formula. Boiling water does not get rid of lead.
3. Lead levels are highest when water sits in pipes over time. Running a tap, taking a shower, or doing laundry can help flush out lead that may have accumulated in water overnight or while away from home.

## Fast Facts

- Utilities had to inventory all of their service lines by November and issue letters
- Utilities have until 2037 to replace all leaded or galvanized service lines
- This does not affect residents on well water
- Boiling water will not get rid of lead
- If you're concerned about lead poisoning, call your health department for a blood test
- For questions about replacement of your waterline, call your utility

For additional information from EPA on the Lead and Copper Rule:  
[www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/lcri-questions-and-answers](https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/lcri-questions-and-answers)

