

Notice of Unknown Service Line Material

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT LEAD IN YOUR DRINKING WATER

City of Lyons 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.

City of Lyons has determined that **a portion or all of the water pipe (called a service line) that connects your home or business to the water main is made from an unknown material but may be lead.** Because your service line material is unknown, there is the potential that a portion or all of the service line could be made of lead or galvanized material downstream of lead. People living in homes with a lead or galvanized service lines may have an increased risk of exposure to lead from their drinking water.

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 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 problems.

Sources of Lead in Drinking Water (Optional Information, not required by LCRR)

EPA estimates that 10 - 20% of a person's potential exposure to lead may come from drinking water. Infants who consume mostly formula mixed with lead-containing water can receive 40 - 60% of their exposure to lead from drinking water. The main sources of lead exposure are lead-based paint, lead-contaminated dust or soil, and some plumbing materials. When water is in contact for several hours with pipes (or service lines) or plumbing that contains lead, the lead may enter drinking water. Homes built before 1988 are more likely to have plumbing containing lead as Nebraska instituted a lead ban on July 1st, 1988, mandating all pipe, pipe fittings, solder, and flux installed by any public water systems be lead free.

Steps You Can Take to Reduce Your Exposure to Lead in Your Drinking Water

- **Run your water to flush out lead.** If the tap hasn't been used for several hours, run water for 15-30 seconds to flush lead from interior plumbing or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature.
- **Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula.** Lead dissolves more easily into hot water. Do not use water from the hot water tap to cook, drink, or make baby formula.
- **Do not boil your drinking water.** Boiling water will not remove lead from water.
- **Clean your aerator.** Regularly remove and clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator). Sediment and debris including lead particles from lead service lines can collect in your aerator and dissolve back into your drinking water.
- **Filtration.** Using a filtration system can reduce lead in drinking water if it is certified to remove lead. Filters must be properly installed, maintained, and replaced to ensure they remain effective at removing lead. For more information on home water filtration systems, visit EPA's website at <https://www.epa.gov/water-research/consumer-tool-identifying-point-use-and-pitcher-filters-certified-reduce-lead>.
- **Use alternative sources of water.** You may want to consider using bottled water or an in-home water dispenser.

Service Line Material Verification Opportunities

If you have not yet returned the Lead Pipe Survey, you can find it here: https://lyonsne.com/documents/490/Lead_Pipe_Survey_Update.pdf

If you are unsure of what material your service line is made of, please contact the Utility Department to schedule a visit for assistance.

The City of Lyons Lead Service Line Inventory is also available on our website at the link below:
https://lyonsne.com/documents/490/City_of_Lyons_Lead_Service_Line_Inventory_2024.pdf

If you as the owner of the service line from the curb stop to the water meter are planning on replacing your portion of the service line, please notify us at utilities@lyonsne.com, 402-870-7287 or 402-870-1361

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