

Williamstown Water Department

675 Simonds Road, Williamstown, MA 01267

MA Public Water Supply ID #1341000

Date

Re: Town Water System Service Inventory

Dear public water user:

We need your help! The Town is asking users to help with identifying what material their water service is made of as part of a new federal mandate.

The EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) and Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) are requiring that all public water suppliers in the country develop and submit a water service material inventory by October 2024 as part of the federal "Lead and Copper Rule Revisions," otherwise known as the LCRR. The primary purpose of this inventory is to identify lead or lead related materials in water lines extending from public water mains to the water meter inside the home.

As a public water system, the Williamstown Water Department is required to develop a service line inventory. This requirement is NOT driven by a violation of the Williamstown water system's water quality. A combination of the Town water's natural properties and water treatment practices prevent lead and lead related components from transferring from water carrying materials into the water supply. The Town is committed to providing clean drinking water to its users and maintains compliance with the original version of the EPA's Lead and Copper Rule, which has been in place since 1991. Service information is being gathered now to comply with new water system requirements of the state and federal government.

Users can help the Town by performing a simple test on their water service just before the water meter to determine what the service material is. Please follow steps 1 and 2 on the next page to learn more and to send your service information to the Town through the online application developed by MassDEP.

We are hoping for submissions from all water system users by January 1st, 2024.

Step 1: IDENTIFICATION



Use EPA's Protect Your Tap: A Quick Check for Lead (<https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/protect-your-tap-quick-check-lead-0> or scan the QR code to the left) to help you determine if your service line is made of lead. This guide uses pictures and step-by-step directions to identify lead service lines and provides resources to learn more. Within the guide, choose Municipal Water and go to the section: "Find Your Water Line/Service Line." You may need something to scratch a pipe, like a key or coin and a magnet (any magnet will work) to test your pipes. These tools will be used to determine if your metal pipes are made from galvanized steel, copper or lead.

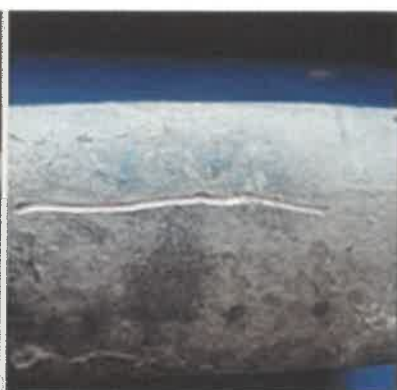
Your water service line will be located near your water meter, likely in your basement. We are interested in the pipe material between the water meter and your home's foundation. EPA recognized lead test kits may be available for purchase at local hardware stores if you are interested in additional confirmation of the presence of lead, but following the above linked guidelines are sufficient for identification.



Magnets will only stick to galvanized pipes. Lead pipes will turn a shiny silver color when scratched.



Plastic



Scratched Lead



Copper



Galvanized Steel & valve

Step 2: SNAP A PICTURE OF YOUR SERVICE LINE and UPLOAD



Use the MassDEP sponsored -web application for consumers, the **Mass Lead Service Line Identification (MA-LSLI) Web App** (<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/f9ee39b7972f443ca63e8b936cd7f92b> or scan the QR code to the left). The app may be accessed on your mobile device or any computer online. **Please note you do not need to download anything to your mobile device or computer.** All you need to do is take a photo, upload it to the 'app' website and answer a few basic questions, such as name and address). EPA's Protect Your Tap: A Quick Check for Lead guide document will help you know where to take the photo and preliminarily identify the material.

WHAT WILL OUR SYSTEM DO WHEN WE GET YOUR SUBMISSION?

Once we receive your submission, we will take the following actions:

- A. If your service is preliminarily determined to be lead or a lead related material, we will contact you, confirm your service line material and provide you with information on how to replace the service line, if it is lead.
- B. If not lead or a lead-related material, we will record the material for compliance with the federal requirement.

If the Town receives no response and has no record of your home's service material that is acceptable to EPA as verification, the Town may contact you to have a Town representative verify your service material.

We look forward to your interest and participation in this program. Thank you for your important contribution to maintaining safe drinking water in your community's water system! For more information on lead in drinking water and the LCRR please visit MassDEP's website located here: <https://www.mass.gov/lead-in-drinking-water> .

If you have any questions, please contact the Town's Water Superintendent David Caron at (413)458-3383 or dcaron@williamstownma.gov

Sincerely,

David Caron, Water and Sewer Superintendent

The Williamstown Water Dept.

The Williamstown Water Department tests for lead annually at 24 sample sites throughout the town. Sampling completed in August 2021 resulted in non-detection or 0.00 parts per billion (ppb or ug/L) of lead at all sites. The action level for lead in drinking water is 15 ppb. Lead sampling occurs every three (3) years. The next round of lead sampling is planned to be completed during the third quarter of 2024.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Williamstown Water Department is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested.

Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

For more information on Lead see <https://www.mass.gov/lead-in-drinking-water>