



Dear Homeowner:

If you received a postcard from Berea Municipal Utilities regarding your water service line, then the service line leading to your residence is an unknown material (meaning we have yet to identify the waterline material). Service lines installed before 1988 were sometimes made of lead, so if your water service line was installed before January 1st, 1988, there is the potential that the service line is made of lead. We are working to identify the material of the waterline connected to your home.

On October 15th, 2024, BMU submitted an initial Water Service Line Inventory to the Kentucky Division of Water. Please visit <https://www.bereautilities.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Water-Service-Line-Inventory.pdf> to view the SL inventory. Berea Municipal Utilities has reviewed internal records to identify 1,826 customer-owned service lines as “non-lead” status. To achieve 100% material identification of our system's public and private waterlines, we will pursue Predictive Modeling (also known as Statistical Method). This process provides confidence that if lead is present in our drinking water system, it will be found.

Since 1991, Berea Municipal Utilities has been testing the lead and copper content throughout our water distribution system, as required by the US EPA / KY Division of Water. Since 1991, every test result has been favorable (all results for lead and copper content have been below EPA action levels).

There are other resources that can help you determine your service line material:

- Check Your Pipes Kentucky website: bit.ly/checkyourpipesky
- Contact a State Certified Laboratory to request a test for lead.
- EPA – Protect Your Tap: A Quick Check for Lead - <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/protect-your-tap-quick-check-lead-0>

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 people who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have an increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems.

Steps you can take to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water:

- Before drinking or cooking with water from a tap that has been unused for over 6 hours, let the water run at the maximum flow for 3-5 minutes.
- Do not cook with, or drink water from the hot water tap; lead is dissolved more easily in hot water. This also applies when preparing baby formula or mixing water with concentrated juices.
- Boiling water does not reduce lead levels – in fact, it may make lead levels more concentrated.

Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>. If you would like more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's website at www.epa.gov/lead or contact the National Lead Information Center (NLIC) at 1(800) 424-5323. If you have any questions or concerns about your drinking water, please do not hesitate to contact us at 859-986-4391.