



# Let's Get the Lead Out! Help Us Protect Your Health

## Check Your Water Pipes

New state and federal laws require water providers to inventory all of their water service lines. A service line is the underground pipe that carries water from the water main, likely in the street, into your home or building. Your water provider needs to determine the material that your service line is made of.

Service lines are often copper, lead, plastic, or galvanized iron or steel. Older homes and buildings may have a lead service line. Water can absorb lead as it travels through lead pipes on its way to your faucet. If you have a lead service line, your water provider needs to take steps to reduce your lead exposure risk. Knowing your service line material is very important for your health and safety.

## How You Can Help

Your water provider may contact you about your service line. Your answers to their questions can help them determine what your service line is made of. They may provide step-by-step instructions on how to identify and report the material of the service line coming into your home. In some cases, your water provider may request access to see your main water shutoff valve or to dig a small hole on your property to inspect your service line. Working with your water provider to provide this information helps your family and community.

If you have questions related to your service line, your water provider should be able to help guide you in answering them.

## Lead and Your Health

Working with your water provider to identify your service line material will help determine if you or your family have a lead exposure risk from lead pipes. Pipes containing lead are a potential health risk in drinking water. Young children, infants, and fetuses are especially vulnerable to lead. This is because health effects of lead can occur at lower exposure levels in children than in adults.

If your service line is made of lead, your water provider will provide information about ways you can reduce your exposure to lead and opportunities for replacing the service line.

## Learn More

To learn more about lead in drinking water, visit the Colorado Department of Health & Environment's webpage at <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/lead-in-drinking-water>.

Contact your Water Treatment Plant Superintendent at 970.837.7218 or [lsli@cortezco.gov](mailto:lsli@cortezco.gov).

Thank you for your cooperation and together, Let's Get the Lead Out!

Colorado Department of Health & Environment  
Water Quality Control Division  
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South  
Denver, CO 80246