

# How You Can Help

The EPA is requiring the nation's water providers to conduct inventories of the water service lines they're responsible for, as well as the lines on private properties. The goal? To find lead lines wherever they may still exist. **We need your help!** Please help the Town of Jefferson identify your water line material by completing our online survey.



**Scan the QR code to share your service line material with us now!**  
(instructions available to determine material type)

- ★ If your home was built in or after 1988, you do not have a lead water service line.
- ★ If your home was built before 1988, you could have a lead service line.

## How to Confirm Your Service Line Material

- 1. Locate your drinking water line.** If you have easy access to the basement/crawl space, look for a pipe that enters the house through than outside wall or dig near your shutoff valve outside - this is your water line!
- 2. Determine if the pipe is plastic or metal by looking at or tapping it.**
- 3. If the pipe is metal, use a refrigerator magnet to check if it is magnetic.** If a magnet sticks, the pipe is galvanized iron or steel!
- 4. If it's NOT magnetic, use a coin to gently scratch the pipe.** If it scratches very easily and turns a shiny silver color, it is lead. If the pipe doesn't scratch easily, has a copper color, and is not magnetic, it's made of copper.

**For more information on reducing lead exposure** from your drinking water and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's website at <http://www.epa.gov/lead>.

### Service Line Material Notice Certification

The public water system named above hereby certifies that the Notice of Service Line Material has been provided to its consumers in accordance with all delivery, content, format and deadline requirements specified in 15A NCAC 18C .1507 [141.85(e)].

Owner/  
Operator:

Tim Church  
(Signature)  
Tim Church  
(Print Name)  
11/7/2024  
(Date)



## NOTICE OF SERVICE LINE MATERIAL

Water System Name: Town of Jefferson  
Water System Number: NC0105015

### System Contact Info

Name: Tim Church  
Phone Number: 336-846-9368  
Distribution Method: USPS Mailing  
Date Notice Distributed:  
11/8/2024

## YOUR SERVICE LINE IS CONFIRMED GALVANIZED REQUIRING REPLACEMENT SERVICE LINE

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.

The Town of Jefferson as determined that some or all water pipe (called a service line) that connects your home, building, or structure to the water main is made from **GALVANIZED MATERIAL AND MAY HAVE ABSORBED LEAD**. EPA has defined these service lines as "galvanized requiring replacement." If you have information that could help us better describe your service line, contact us at the Town of Jefferson.

Galvanized service lines that have absorbed lead can contribute to lead in drinking water. People living in homes with a galvanized service line that has absorbed lead may have an increased risk of exposure to lead from their drinking water.



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## 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.

## Identifying service line material

To help determine the material of your service line, please contact the Town of Jefferson at 336-846-9368 or visit our website at [www.townofjefferson.org](http://www.townofjefferson.org). EPA has developed an online step-by-step guide to help people identify lead pipes in their homes called Protect Your Tap: A Quick Check for Lead. It is available at: <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/protect-your-tap-quick-check-lead>.

**For information about potential financing solutions** to assist property owners with replacement of lead service lines, please contact us at the Town of Jefferson.

## Get your child tested to determine lead levels in their blood.

Although there is no confirmation of having a lead service line, you may wish to speak with a healthcare provider to see if your child's blood lead level is elevated and/or if there is a need for blood testing, if you are concerned about potential exposure. Please visit [https://www.cdc.gov/lead-prevention/hcp/clinical-guidance/?CDC\\_AAref\\_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/advisory/acclpp/actions-blls.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/lead-prevention/hcp/clinical-guidance/?CDC_AAref_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/advisory/acclpp/actions-blls.htm) for information on these actions.

## Replacing galvanized requiring replacement service lines

The Town of Jefferson is in the process of developing a lead service line replacement program in accordance with the Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI). This plan will be made available to the public by the LCRI compliance deadline in 2027. For more information, visit the EPA website: <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/planning-and-conducting-lead-service-line-replacement>.

## Steps you can take to reduce lead in drinking water

Below are recommended actions that you may take, separately or in combination, if you are concerned about lead in your drinking water. The list also includes where you may find more information and is not intended to be a complete list or to imply that all actions equally reduce lead in drinking water.

**Use filters properly.** Using a filter can reduce lead in drinking water. If you use a filter, it should be certified to remove lead. Read any directions provided with the filter to learn how to properly install, maintain, and use your cartridge and when to replace it. Using the cartridge after it has expired can make it less effective at removing lead. Do not run hot water through the filter. For more information on facts and advice on home water filtration systems, see EPA's <https://www.epa.gov/water-research/consumer-tool-identifying-point-use-and-pitcher-filters-certified-reduce-lead>.

**Clean your aerator.** Regularly clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator). Sediment, debris, and lead particles can collect in your aerator. If lead particles are caught in the aerator, lead can get into your water.

**Run your water.** The more time water has been sitting in pipes providing water to your home, the more lead it may contain. Before drinking, flush your home's pipes by running the tap, taking a shower, doing laundry, or doing a load of dishes. The amount of time to run the water will depend on whether your home has a lead service line or not, as well as the length and diameter of the service line and the amount of plumbing in your home. Residents may contact us at the Town of Jefferson for recommendations about flushing times in their community.

**Use cold water.** Do not use hot water from the tap for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula as lead dissolves more easily into hot water. Boiling water does not remove lead from water.

### Learn about construction in your neighborhood.

Contact us at the Town of Jefferson to find out about any construction or maintenance work that could disturb your service line. Construction may cause more lead to be released from a lead service line or galvanized service line if present.

### Have your water tested.

Contact us, your water utility, at the Town of Jefferson to have your water tested and to learn more about the lead levels in your drinking water. Alternatively, you may contact a certified laboratory to have your water tested for lead. A list of certified laboratories is available at <https://www.deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-resources/water-sciences/chemistry-laboratory/laboratory-certification-branch/certified-laboratory-listings>. Note, a water sample may not adequately capture or represent all sources of lead that may be present. For information on sources of lead that include service lines and interior plumbing, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water#getinto>.

Take our Service Line Material Survey  
at [www.townofjefferson.org](http://www.townofjefferson.org)  
OR  
fill out a form at Town Hall  
(instructions available to determine material type)