



City of Tampa

Jane Castor, Mayor

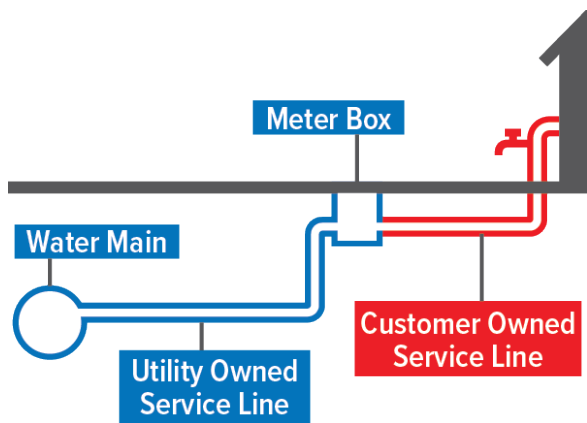
Water Department

711 E. Henderson Avenue
Tampa, FL 33602

Call Line: (813) 272-8300

SUBJECT: Your water service line material needs to be identified

Please carefully read this notification for information regarding the Tampa Water Department's new federally required public service line inventory.



As part of new regulations from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Tampa Water Department is improving our inventory of the service lines in our community. This inventory is now publicly available at tampa.gov/KnowYourPipes. You are receiving this notification because our historical records cannot confirm the material type of the utility-owned portion of your service line (shown in blue). **Because the service line material on the utility side is unknown, there is the potential that it could be made of lead.**

Next steps

The Tampa Water Department is actively working to determine the service line material type for all properties in our service area. As part of this effort, we have a team of workers who are dedicated to identifying service line material in our community and continuously updating our inventory, which can be found at tampa.gov/KnowYourPipes.

Should I be concerned?

Historically, Tampa Water Department has not used lead piping as a standard material type. Additionally, we have taken steps, for decades, to produce water that is less likely to interact with metals found in pipes and other plumbing fixtures. These steps help reduce the risk of metals, like lead, from leaching into your 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.

Below are several actions that you may take if you are concerned about your drinking water quality.

Use a water filter. Your filter 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. Do not run hot water through the filter.

Clean your aerator. Regularly remove and clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator) to prevent contaminants from getting into your water.

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.

Run your water. Before drinking, flush your home's pipes by running the tap for three-to-five minutes, taking a shower, doing laundry, or doing a load of dishes.

Don't hesitate to call us at (813) 272-8300 if you have any questions.

For more information on reducing lead exposure and the health effects of lead, visit epa.gov/lead. You can also call the National Lead Information Center at 1-800-424-LEAD (5323) or contact your health care provider.

**Tampa Water Department
711 E. Henderson Ave.
Tampa, FL 33602
PWSID: FL6290327**