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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SERVICE LINE LETTERS SENT TO WATER CUSTOMERS

(Lamar, Colorado; November 20, 2024) New state and federal laws now require the City of Lamar to inventory all water service lines in our service area. A service line is an underground pipe that carries water from the main, likely in the street, into the customer's home or building. The City must notify consumers annually if their service line material is unknown, lead, galvanized requiring replacement, or copper.

The City of Lamar is required to send "Notice of Possible Lead Service Line Material" letters annually to all commercial and residential water customers where the City has not verified what type of service line was used for either a property's City supply line and/or the customer's water line. Of the City's 3,617 water customers, it has confirmed that 1,540 customers have non-lead service lines. The remaining 2,077 City water customers are "unknown." In many cases, service line materials merely need to be documented. Also, original service lines may have been replaced with newer materials, but the City does not have documentation to verify this. Municipal governments will begin the replacement of City-owned lead service lines once inventories have been completed and funding sources have been identified.

The Colorado Department of Health & Environment (CDPHE)-mandated letter explains the new notification requirement, what it means to Lamar recipients, health effects of lead, and how to reduce your potential exposure to lead.

This aligns with the City's parallel grant project to sample 250 commercial and residential properties and establish a baseline inventory. A contractor is currently performing this sampling in Lamar.

For more information on reducing lead exposure around homes and buildings and the health effects of lead, visit the Environmental Protection Agency's website at www.epa.gov/lead. Contact the City's Public Works Department at 719-336-2002 or LamarPublicWorks@ci.lamar.co.us for more information about the annual notices.

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NOTICE OF POSSIBLE LEAD SERVICE LINE MATERIAL

City of Lamar
Public Water System ID:CO 00150700
102 E Parmenter

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

New state and federal laws require us to inventory all water service lines in our service area. A service line is the underground pipe that carries water from the water main, likely in the street, into your home or building. We are required to notify consumers annually if their service line material is unknown.

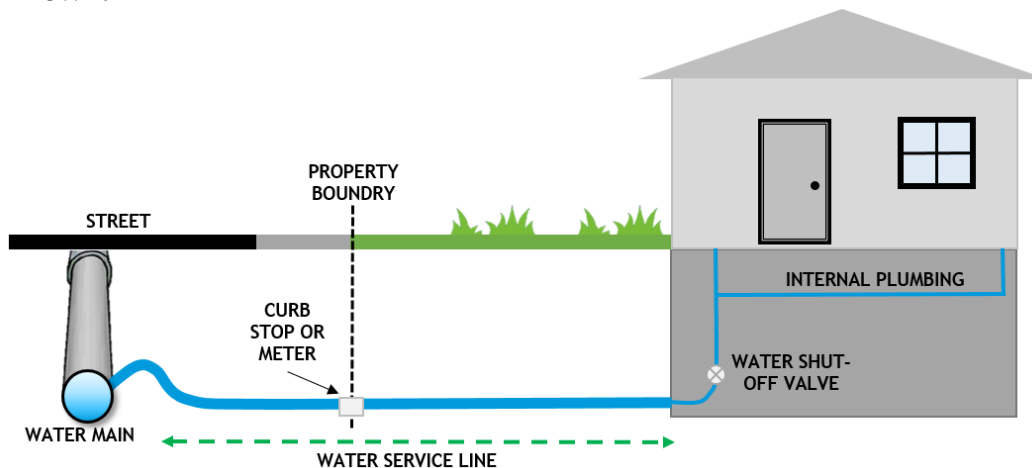


Figure 1. Typical water service line configuration of a water service line connecting the water main in the street to the interior plumbing of a home.

Our records indicate that all or a portion of your water service line material is unknown, but could be made of lead.

What does this mean? What is being done?

- **We need to determine the material of your water service line to ensure safe drinking water.** Please contact us to confirm the material of your service line. It is important and easy to do. If you are unsure how to locate your service line or identify the material, we can assist you. Lamar Public Works Water Dept. (719)336-2002.
- **If your water service line contains lead, we will contact you to discuss replacement options.** Water systems are required to replace all system-owned lead service lines. Property owners are encouraged to replace their portion of the service line if it is made of lead. We are required to replace our portion of lead service line when the property owner notifies us they are replacing their portion of lead service line. If you are planning to replace your lead service line, contact us at 719-336-2002 prior to replacement so that we can coordinate our efforts.

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 exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The

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

What can I do to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water?

In addition to your service line, plumbing or faucets in your home may contain lead and could increase lead levels in your drinking water. See below for a list of steps you can take to minimize lead in your water:

1. **Run your water to flush out lead.** If it hasn't been used for several hours, run the cold water tap until the temperature is noticeably colder. This flushes lead-containing water from the pipes. To conserve water, remember to catch the flushed tap water for plants or some other household use (e.g. cleaning).
2. **Always use cold water for drinking, cooking, and preparing baby formula.** Never cook with or drink water from the hot water tap. Never use water from the hot water tap to make formula.
3. **Do not boil water to remove lead.** Boiling water will not reduce lead.
4. **You may consider investing in a home water treatment device or alternative water source.** When purchasing a water treatment device, make sure it is certified under Standard 53 by NSF International to remove lead. Contact NSF at 1-800-NSF-8010 or visit the [NSF website](#). You may also visit the [Water Quality Association's website](#).
5. **Get your child's blood tested.** Contact your local health department or healthcare provider to find out how you can get your child tested for lead if you are concerned about exposure.
6. For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit [EPA's website](#) or contact your health care provider.

For more information about this notice, contact us at:

- 719-336-2002
- LamarPublicWorks@ci.lamar.co.us