



St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission

23121 Camden Way, California, MD 20619

Serving our customers since 1964

www.metcom.org

Potable Water Distribution - Wastewater Collection / Treatment

Phone: 301-737-7400
FAX: 301-737-7459

Notice of unknown service line material

The St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission (MetCom) is focused on protecting the health of every household in our community. 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, and parents served by childcare at this property.

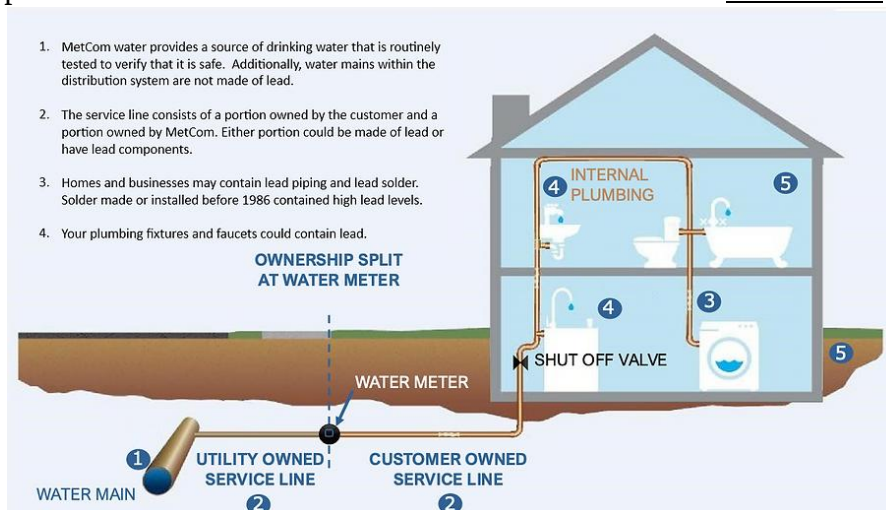


Identifying service line materials

At MetCom, we have a long history of proactively protecting our customers from lead. Because of this, the drinking water we produce for our 28 water systems is well below the maximum lead levels set forth by the EPA. The EPA's Lead and Copper Rule now requires all community water systems, such as MetCom, to develop an inventory to identify the material(s) of service lines connected to the public water distribution system. Both the publicly owned and the privately owned sides of the service lines must be included in the inventory. All service lines, regardless of the usage of the water and activity status, must be identified.

As such, MetCom is currently working to inventory and identify service line materials throughout the water system and has determined that the private water pipe (called a "service line") that connects your residence to the public water main is made from an unknown material. Because the material of your service line is unknown, there is the potential that some or all of the service line could be made of lead or galvanized pipe that was previously connected to lead.

People living in homes with a lead or galvanized pipe previously connected to a lead service line have an increased risk of exposure to lead from their drinking water. The **illustration (at right)**



contains more information on these potential lead sources and where these sources may be located in your home and plumbing system.

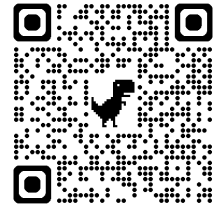
October 10, 2024

Water Line Inventory Map

Do you have lead pipes? Let us help you find out. MetCom has developed an online GIS platform on our website to help customers identify the material of their service line and report this information to update our service line inventory. You will be able to use our service line map to see if your property has or might have a lead service line. We are in the process of performing additional evaluations to help us identify what material your service line is made of, and we will keep this map updated.

Replacement of service lines

If your private service line is determined to contain lead or lead components, please scan the QR code (**at right**) to learn about resources that may be of help to you such as our: Lead Pipe Replacement Assistance Program (LPRAP) for low-income customers; plumbing contract(s) you can utilize; and our HomeServe Warranty Program.



Health effects of lead

According to the EPA, 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 an increased risk of these negative health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, and kidney or nervous system problems.

If you are concerned about your family's risk of being exposed to lead, the EPA recommends using a pitcher filter or point-of-contact water filter certified by an American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accredited certified to reduce lead and getting your tap water tested for lead. A list of certified drinking water laboratories is located here. You can also get your water tested for lead by contacting Customer Service at (703) 737-7400 extension (102). Test kits cost \$15-\$20 for the first kit and may be less for every following kit should you wish to do additional sampling. Once your order is processed, you will receive a test kit with instructions for screening your water.

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>.

For more information about lead from the St. Mary's County Health Department and Center for Disease Control and Prevention at <https://smchd.org/lead/>.

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For any additional questions or concerns, please contact us at (301)737-7400 extension 101.

October 10, 2024