

WHERE DOES MY WATER COME FROM?

Berkeley receives their water from the Hillside-Berkeley Water Commission. Hillside-Berkeley Water Commission purchases purified water from the City of Chicago and delivers safe, clean drinking water daily to Berkeley. When the water leaves Hillside-Berkeley Water Commission's water storage facility, there is no detectable lead in it. **Lead is NOT present in the City of Chicago's source water (Lake Michigan), nor is lead in the treated drinking water received by the Village of Berkeley.**

You receive your treated water through a water service line. The water service line runs from the Village water main into buildings and homes. The Village owns the service line up to the exterior shut-off valve or B-Box; from the exterior shut-off valve or B-Box into the home is the property owner's responsibility. Maintaining a water service line is therefore a shared responsibility between the Village and each customer.



WHAT IS A WATER SERVICE LINE INVENTORY?

Berkeley is committed to meeting the requirements of the Illinois Lead Service Line Replacement and Notification Act. As a part of the requirements, the Village is conducting a water service line material inventory; identifying the material type of each water service line connecting buildings and houses to the Village's water main, including lead water service lines. If you believe you have a lead service line, please contact Berkeley's Public Works.

CONTACT US

Village of Berkeley Public Works

5819 Electric Avenue

Berkeley, IL 60163

Monday through Friday

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

(708) 449-8840

To stay up to date with the Village's Lead Service Line Inventory and Replacement

Program, visit

www.berkeley.il.us/publicworks

Or scan the QR Code below:

QR Code
Placeholder

Stay connected with Berkeley!



BERKELEY

EST. MAY 20, 1924



WATER SERVICE LINE INVENTORY & REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

GET THE LEAD OUT!

WHAT IS LEAD AND LEAD EXPOSURE?

Lead is a naturally occurring mineral found in small amounts in the earth's crust. When consumed in high levels, it can be toxic to humans and animals. There is no safe exposure to lead. Fetuses, newborns, children under 6 and pregnant or breast-feeding mothers are most vulnerable to the harmful effects of lead poisoning.

For more information on lead exposure, visit the the Cook County Department of Public Health website at cookcountypublichealth.org/environmental-health/lead-poisoning/.

HOW DOES LEAD ENTER DRINKING WATER?

When water leaves the treatment plant and travels through underground public water mains, it does not contain lead. However, lead can enter treated drinking water when plumbing materials that contact lead corrode. The most common sources of lead in drinking water are lead pipes, faucets, and fixtures, with the most significant source of lead typically being from lead water service lines. Homes built prior to 1988 may have lead services lines.

HOW TO REDUCE LEAD IN YOUR WATER

The best way to remove lead from your drinking water is to remove all sources of lead. Filters certified for lead removal can also remove lead from your water. Running the tap prior to consumption and using cold water for cooking, drinking and making baby formula can reduce lead concentration. Aerators should be cleaned monthly. Do not boil water suspected to contain lead, as this can increase the lead concentration.

WATER SERVICE LINE MATERIALS

PVC 



WHITE, RIGID PLASTIC PIPE

COPPER  



THE COLOR OF A COPPER PENNY

GALVANIZED STEEL 



DULL, SILVER-GRAY COLOR. A STRONG MAGNET WILL TYPICALLY CLING TO GALVANIZED PIPES

LEAD 



DULL, SILVER-GRAY COLOR. IS EASILY SCRATCHED WITH A COIN REVEALING A BRIGHT SILVER COLOR

Image Created by Baxter & Woodman, Inc - Spatial Technology

HOW TO IDENTIFY A LEAD SERVICE LINE

A plastic or copper water service line can be easily identified by a visual inspection of the pipes color, as seen above. Distinguishing between galvanized steel and lead water service lines can be challenging at first. However, you can easily check at home using two different testing methods. First, find where the service line enters your home, which is near the shut-off valve and water meter – usually in the basement or a crawl space.

[SCRATCH TEST] Using a key, screwdriver, or coin, try to scratch your service line. If the service line is lead, it will scratch easily, revealing a bright silver color.

[MAGNET TEST] If the service line is galvanized steel, a strong magnet will typically cling to the service.

To report your water service line material or if you need additional assistance, contact the Village's Public Works.

