

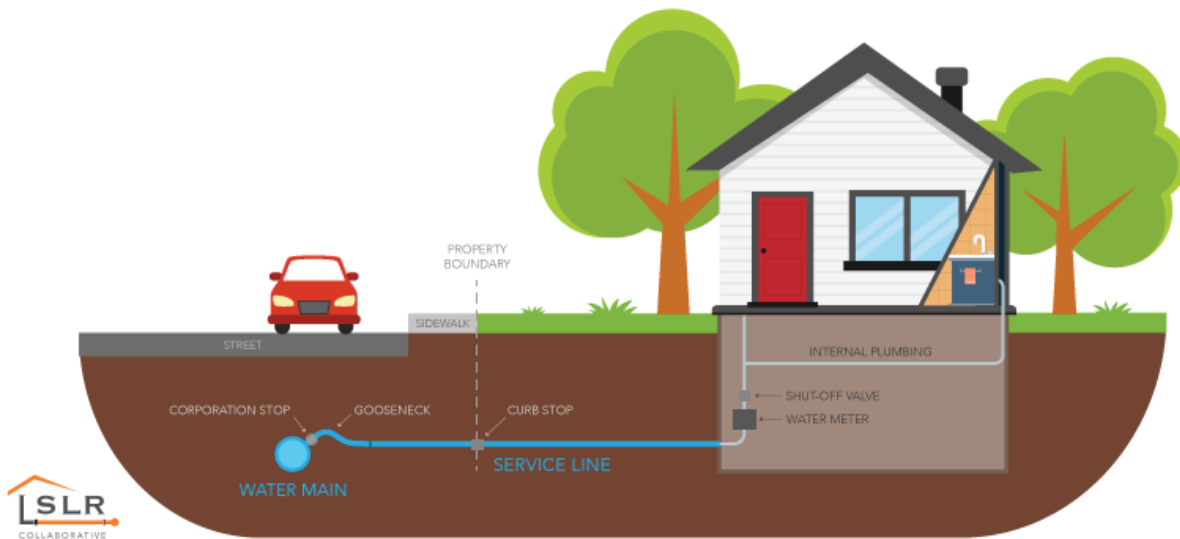
Lead Service Line Inventory

BACKGROUND

In compliance with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) requirements, the Municipal Authority of the Borough of Derry (MABD) is conducting an inventory of all drinking water service lines in its system. As part of this inventory, MABD is working to identify the location and material of all drinking water service lines in its system by October 16, 2024. By inventorying all drinking water service lines in its system, MABD will be able to identify which of these service lines were installed using lead materials and then target those specific lead service lines for replacement. To limit disturbances to homeowners, MABD staff have been identifying the material of the service line as it enters a house when they are completing interior work, such as reading water meters, performing routine maintenance, or responding to service order calls.

What is a service line and who owns it?

A water service line is the small diameter pipe that connects the water main in the street to your home or building. Service lines can be made of copper, galvanized steel, iron, plastic, or lead. The owner of the property owns the water service line from the home to the curb stop. MABD owns the rest of the water service line (i.e., from the curb stop to the water main).



WHAT DOES A WATER SERVICE LINE LOOK LIKE?

Lead	
A dull, silver-gray color that is easily scratched with a coin. Use a magnet- strong magnets will not cling to lead pipes.	
Galvanized	
A dull, silver-gray color Use a magnet- strong magnets will cling to galvanized pipes.	
Copper	
The color of a copper penny.	
Plastic	
White rigid pipe that is joined to water supply piping with a clamp.	

The picture below shows the most common material types used for water service lines.

Source: DC Water.

HELP US IDENTIFY SERVICE LINES

We need your help to access and look at your service line.:

1. In addition to the outside verification of your water service line, DEP may also require that we look at the part of the water service line inside your home where it first enters your building. Two of our employees have started collecting the customer side water service line inventory – this is inside the home so we need your help to access and look at that line). Our employees will be making their way around your neighborhood. Our employees have identification badges; additionally, you can call the Borough at (724) 694-2305 to confirm the name (s) of the employees.
2. If our staff are unable to find you at home to conduct the interior water service line investigation, we will leave a door hanger behind (see example to the right) requesting that you call the Borough to schedule an appointment. Please contact us if you find one of these on your door, or at any time with questions.
3. Our personnel may also have to verify the MABD/public side water service line at two locations along the service line outside your home, also known as ‘potholing’. Potholing uses hydro-excavation, high-pressure water and a vacuum, to remove soil without breaking manmade structures to create two 6-inch by 10-inch holes to look at service lines and determine what the material (s) are.
4. In addition, you have the option to self-identify the material of your water service line.

Water Service Line Material Self-Identification

To complete this process, you may need:

- A Smartphone or Tablet
- A Strong Magnet
- A Key
- A Lead Test Kit

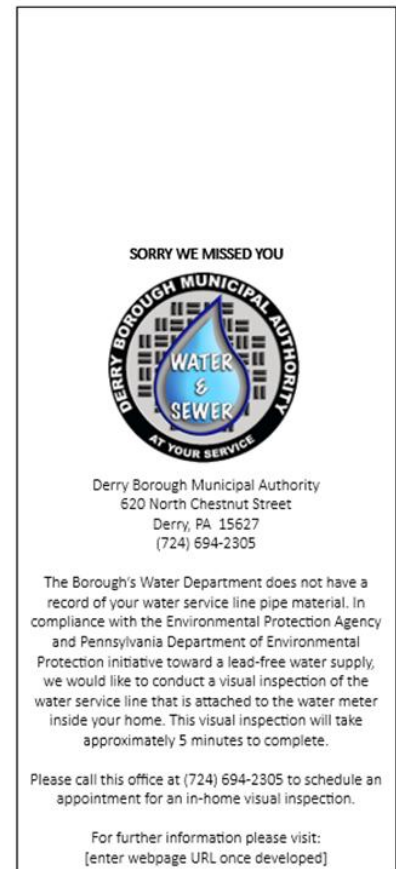
1. Locate your water meter

Your water meter may be located inside or outside of the building.

- Typical inside locations include the basement, crawl space, or garage.
- Typical outside locations are between the main and the house, on the sidewalk, or in the yard.

2. Locate your service line

- If your meter is inside, the service line is near the meter, on the same wall.
- If your meter is outside, the service line most likely enters the home closest to the meter.
- If your service line is not visible, contact your utility for guidance.



3. Identify your service line material

Plastic



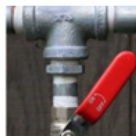
Plastic. The pipe is typically white or gray but can also be other colors. Although plastic does not contribute to lead in drinking water, lead may be present in other parts of the plumbing system.

Metal

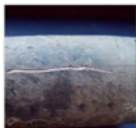
Metal pipes are copper, silver, or gray. Conduct a scratch and magnet test on metal pipe by using a key or coin to gently scratch the pipe close to where it comes in through the wall or floor.



Copper. The pipe is orange or pale orange.



Galvanized steel. If the pipe is hard to scratch and a magnet sticks to the pipe, you may have galvanized steel pipes. Galvanized steel pipe can pose a risk if it has ever been connected to lead plumbing, as lead can attach to the inner surface of galvanized steel and be released into drinking water over time.



Lead. If the pipe is soft and a magnet does not stick to the pipe, your pipe is likely made of lead.

You are encouraged to provide 'photo attachments' at the conclusion of this process. Please use a smartphone/tablet to prepare digital photos of your service line.

Once you have completed the above steps, please complete the downloadable form an email it (along with the photos) to the Municipal Authority of the Borough of Derry at:

_____.

Downloadable Form:

Customer Name: _____

Address: _____

Location of Water Meter: _____

Location of Service Line: _____

Service Line Material: _____

Customer Contact Information:

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

Lead and Drinking Water

MABD conducts routine testing to ensure that our water meets all state and federal water quality requirements. Lead is not detected in MABD's source of water, and there is no current concern at large in our system, but lead can enter drinking water when plumbing materials (i.e., pipes, faucets, fixtures) that contain lead corrode.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Young children, infants, and fetuses are particularly vulnerable to lead because the physical and behavioral effects of lead occur at lower exposure levels in children than in adults. A dose of lead that would have little effect on an adult can have a significant effect on a child. In children, low levels of exposure

have been linked to damage to the central and peripheral nervous system, learning disabilities, shorter stature, impaired hearing, and impaired formation and function of blood cells.¹

How do I reduce my lead exposure?

Regardless of whether you have a lead service line, you can take the following steps to protect yourself and your family from lead in tap water:



Run your water from the cold faucet you use for drinking water before consuming it to flush out lead and copper for 15-30 seconds or until it becomes cold, especially after long periods of no use.

at the



Routinely clean faucet screens/aerators. Sediment and metals can collect in the faucet screen located at the tip of your faucets. Replace screens that are in poor condition.



Identify if your plumbing fixtures contain lead. When purchasing replacement plumbing products, make sure the products have been tested and certified to “lead-free” standards.

If you



use a home treatment device, make sure it is independently certified to reduce lead according to the NSF/ANSI-53 standard.



Always use cold water for drinking, cooking, and preparing baby formula. Boiling water will not remove lead or copper.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

The MABD is undertaking an Initial Service Line investigation to determine the type of plumbing material utilized for the water service lines connected to its system. This initial investigation program is a requirement of both the EPA and the Pennsylvania DEP.

1. Will there be a fee to the property owner for this service?
There is no fee for the Authority and/or its contractor to perform this investigation.
2. What is involved in the potholing process?
The Authority will utilize a hydro-excavator to excavate (6 inch by 10 inch hole) down to the point where your water service line is exposed. We are required to confirm the materials in two (2) locations along the exterior of your service line.
3. Who will repair the grass or yard areas where the holes have been excavated?
Either the Authority or its contractor will make the yard repairs; this most likely will be done on a separate day from the investigation in order to repair multiple yards at a time.
4. Do you need to enter my home for any reason?
Our investigation also requires us to look at the water service line where it first enters your house. We will provide each property owner with instructions on how to determine the materials of that line. We may still request to enter your house. All Authority staff assigned to this work carry identification badges; additionally, you may call the office at (724) 694-2305 to confirm the name of an employee or verify that they are scheduled to be at your house.
5. Will I receive the results of the investigation for my property?
The Authority will provide you with the outcome of their investigation of your water service line, if requested.
6. Will I be contacted to schedule an appointment for this investigation?

¹ [Basic Information about Lead in Drinking Water | US EPA.](#)

You will be notified with information on when the work will be conducted in your neighborhood. You will be contacted to schedule the date for this work to occur.

7. Do I need to be home when you are doing the work in my yard?

You do not need to be home when the outdoor investigation occurs at your property.

8. Why is The Municipal Authority of the Borough of Derry doing this?

The Authority is following the schedule and requirements established by the PA DEP and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The U.S. EPA's Lead and Copper Rule Revision requires us to inventory all service lines by October 16, 2024.

Questions and/or Concerns

You may email your questions to: manager@derrywater.com or call (724) 694-2305.

Additional Resources

- [Strategies to Reduce Lead Exposures and Disparities in US Communities](#) (EPA)
- [Lead and Copper Rule: Service Line Inventories](#) (PA DEP)
- [Lead in Drinking Water](#) (PA DEP)

EPA's Lead Service Line Replacement Accelerator Initiative

MABD has been selected to participate in EPA's Lead Service Line Replacement Accelerator initiative, which provides direct technical assistance to water systems – at no cost to the water systems, to facilitate support in developing the required water service line inventory and planning for the removal of any lead water service lines identified. For more information about this initiative visit: <https://www.epa.gov/water-infrastructure/lead-service-line-replacement-accelerators>.