

David L. Gadis, Chief Executive Officer

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY | 1385 CANAL STREET, SE | WASHINGTON, DC 20003

Date

[Address]

Washington, DC [Zip]

## Notice of Water Service Line Containing Lead

Dear Customer:

The water service line that connects your home or building at [House Address Ave QD] has galvanized iron pipe containing lead according to DC Water's information. On [DATE], DC Water replaced lead pipe between the water main and the property line and connected to galvanized iron pipe at the property line. Before the lead pipe was replaced, the galvanized iron pipe likely absorbed the lead in the water that was released from the lead pipe. If you have documentation that your service line was replaced, please email [leadtest@dcwater.com](mailto:leadtest@dcwater.com) so we can work with you to update our records.

If you need this letter in a different language, please call Lead Free DC at 202-787-4044 or find translated versions of the letter online at [www.dewater.com/SL-material-notice](http://www.dewater.com/SL-material-notice) or by scanning the QR code to the right.



Si vous avez besoin de cette lettre dans une autre langue, veuillez appeler la Lead Free DC au 202-787-4044 ou trouver des versions traduites de la lettre en ligne à [www.dewater.com/SL-material-notice](http://www.dewater.com/SL-material-notice) ou en scannant le code QR à droite.

이 서한을 다른 언어로 받아보려면 202-787-4044로 Lead Free DC에 전화하시거나, [www.dewater.com/SL-material-notice](http://www.dewater.com/SL-material-notice) 에서 온라인으로 번역본을 찾아보거나, 오른쪽에 있는 QR 코드를 스캔하세요.

Nếu bạn cần thư này bằng ngôn ngữ khác, vui lòng gọi cho Lead Free DC theo số 202-787-4044 hoặc tìm phiên bản dịch của thư này trực tuyến tại [www.dewater.com/SL-material-notice](http://www.dewater.com/SL-material-notice) hoặc quét mã QR bên phải.

ይህን ደብዳቤ በሌላ ቋንቋ ከፈለጉ፣ እባክዎን ወደ Lead Free DC (ከሌድ ነጻ ዲ.ሲ) ግኛ መስመር በ 202-787-4044 ይደውሉ ወይም የተተረጎሙትን የደብዳቤውን ስሪቶች በመስመር ላይ በ [www.dewater.com/SL-material-notice](http://www.dewater.com/SL-material-notice) ወይም በቀኝ በኩል ያለውን የQR ኮድ ስኬትን በማድረግ ያግኙ።

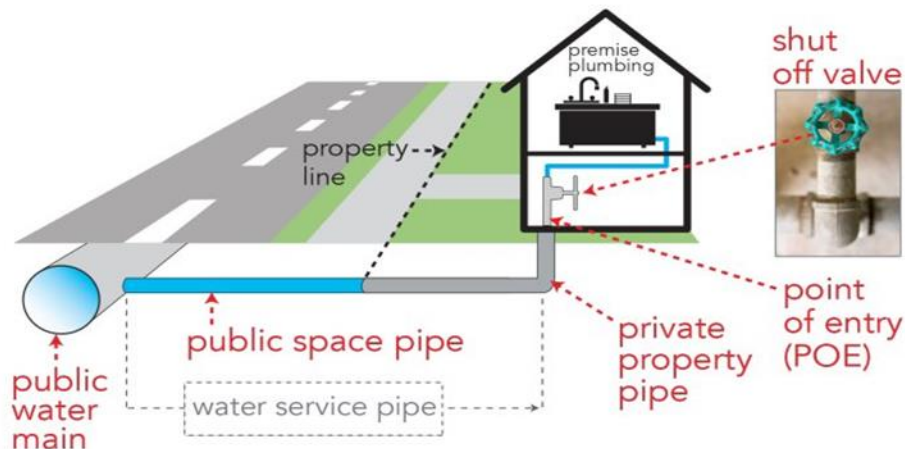
如果您需要本函的其他語言版本，請撥打「Lead Free DC」熱線202-787-4044，或造訪網站 [www.dewater.com/SL-material-notice](http://www.dewater.com/SL-material-notice) 查看翻譯版本，或掃描上面的2D正確的程式碼。

如果您需要其他语言版本的这封信，请致电 Lead Free DC，电话：202-787-4044，或访问 [www.dewater.com/SL-material-notice](http://www.dewater.com/SL-material-notice)，或扫描右侧的 2D 表格，在线查看翻译版本。

## 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.

### Understanding Your Water Service Pipe



## Replacing Lead Service Lines

DC Water operates several programs for lead service line replacement. The programs are either initiated by DC Water or by the customer.

### DC Water Initiated Lead Replacements - FREE full lead service line replacements

DC Water replaces lead service lines in conjunction with planned capital improvement projects including small diameter water main replacements, By-Block water service line replacements, and District Department of Transportation (DDOT) projects. DC Water also replaces lead service lines during unplanned emergency water service line repair projects. These service line replacements are free.

The property owner/authorized person (resident or other party) must review, complete, sign and return a Right of Entry Authorization form for DC Water to replace the water service line on your private property. The authorized person must submit a notarized letter from the property owner or other legal documentation authorizing them to represent the owner. The authorization form is located at [www.dwater.com/lead-auth](http://www.dwater.com/lead-auth).

Visit our Construction Dashboard to search for your address and see if there are projects planned for your neighborhood and the projected timeline to complete those projects. The Construction Dashboard is located at: [www.dwater.com/lead-construction-dashboard](http://www.dwater.com/lead-construction-dashboard).

## Customer Initiated Private-Side-Only\* Lead Water Service Line Replacements - FREE through DOEE

For property owners with lead water service line on private property and non-lead water service line in public space, the District's Lead Pipe Replacement Assistance Program (LPRAP) uses a combination of District and DC Water Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funds to pay for the replacement.

Property owners should fill out and sign the District Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE) application found at: [www.doe.dc.gov/service/lead-pipe-replacement-assistance-program](http://www.doe.dc.gov/service/lead-pipe-replacement-assistance-program).

## Customer Initiated Full Lead Service Line Replacements

If both the public and private portions of the water service line are lead and no capital improvement projects are planned for the neighborhood, customers can enroll in the Voluntary Full Replacement Program. DC Water will replace the portion of the lead water service line in public space if the property owner voluntarily chooses to replace the portion of the lead water service line on their private property at their cost. Similar to replacement during DC Water initiated construction projects, DC Water will pay for all work in public space and coordinate work so both portions are replaced at the same time. The property owner pays for work on private property.

Visit [www.dwater.com/lead](http://www.dwater.com/lead), email [lead@dwater.com](mailto:lead@dwater.com), or call 202-787-4044 to discuss which replacement program is right for your property.

Note, the service line replacement work can cause lead to release into the water from the in-home plumbing. DC Water provides a water filter and instructions to reduce your exposure to lead after the construction.

## Steps you can take to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water

Below are recommended actions that you may take, separately or in combination, to reduce you or your family's exposure to lead in your drinking water. The list also includes where you may find more information and is not intended to be a complete list or to imply that all actions equally reduce lead in drinking water.

- **Filter your water for drinking and cooking**

Plumbing that has lead can contaminate your water and can be found in almost all buildings, including older buildings without lead service lines and even in some newer buildings. If you want to protect yourself and your family from lead in your water, we recommend regularly using a point-of-use (POU) water filter. These filters are installed or used at the kitchen faucet or the point where you draw water for drinking and cooking. POU filters can be faucet-mounted, pitcher-style, countertop, refrigerator, and water bottle filters. For lead removal, they must be certified under **NSF/ANSI 42 standard** for particulate Class I reduction and **NSF/ANSI 53 standard** for the reduction of soluble and particulate lead. **The NSF/ANSI 53 standard certification must specify that the filter is certified to reduce lead.** The filter must be used properly to be effective. Read the directions provided with the filter to learn how to properly install, maintain, and replace your cartridge. Using the cartridge after it has expired can make it less effective at removing lead. Do not run hot water through the filter. For more information on facts and advice on home water filtration systems, visit EPA's website at [www.epa.gov/water-research/consumer-tool-identifying-point-use-and-pitcher-filters-certified-reduce-lead](http://www.epa.gov/water-research/consumer-tool-identifying-point-use-and-pitcher-filters-certified-reduce-lead).

- **Clean your aerator**

Regularly remove and clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator). Sediment, debris, and lead particles can collect in your aerator. If lead particles are caught in the aerator, lead can get 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 cold water before drinking or cooking**

The more time water has been sitting in contact with your pipes, the more lead it may contain. Before drinking, flush your home's pipes by flushing the toilet, taking a shower, and running the cold water from the kitchen faucet. DC Water recommends running cold water until you feel a change in temperature and run for two additional minutes.

- **Have your water tested for lead**

Email [leadtest@dcwater.com](mailto:leadtest@dcwater.com) or call our Water Quality Division at 202-612-3440 for a free lead test kit and to learn more about the lead levels in your drinking water. Note, the lead test is a snapshot of lead levels at the time samples are taken and can indicate if a lead source is present from the sample faucet to within the service line. For information on sources of lead that include service lines and interior plumbing, please visit [www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water#getinto](http://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water#getinto).

## Get your child tested to determine lead levels in their blood

A simple blood test is the only way to know if your child has been exposed to lead. Please make sure your doctor follows District law, which requires lead testing of all young children at least twice. Ask your doctor to test your child for lead at age 6–14 months, and again at age 22–26 months. An easy way to remember: Test every child twice-by-two: [www.doe.dc.gov/es/service/every-child-twice-two](http://www.doe.dc.gov/es/service/every-child-twice-two). The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends public health actions when the level of lead in a child's blood is 3.5 micrograms per deciliter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ ) or more. CDC also provides information about blood testing and reducing exposure to lead at [www.cdc.gov/lead-prevention/hcp/clinical-guidance/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/lead-prevention/hcp/clinical-guidance/index.html)

The District Department of Health (DC Health) provides more information on blood lead testing for children and lead poisoning prevention. For more information, contact DC Health's Environmental Health Administration at 202-442-5955 or visit [www.dchealth.dc.gov](http://www.dchealth.dc.gov)

For more information on reducing lead exposure from your drinking water and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's website at [www.epa.gov/lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead)

Thank you for your continued cooperation as we work in partnership with our customers and partners to replace lead water pipes and improve water service and quality in your neighborhood.

Sincerely,



David L. Gadis  
Chief Executive Officer and General Manager  
DC Water