



CITY OF FARMINGTON

Water Service Line Inventory

Pursuant to new requirements set forth by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the City of Farmington has taken measures to identify all customer-owned water service lines in the city that are made of an unknown material.

On November 30, 2023, the EPA announced the proposed Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI). Farmington City Light & Water Customers who have water service lines that are made of a material that has been deemed unknown, will be mailed a letter in accordance with LCRI requirements in November 2024. These requirements were put in place due to excessive lead being found in the drinking water of several communities across the United States.

Not every City Light & Water customer will receive this letter. For some properties, the service line material is known by date of construction, previous inspection, or other methods. It is our goal to be compliant with the most up-to-date standards to ensure the health and safety of residents, so we are notifying all customers whose water service line material is unknown.

Farmington Water Quality

Water from the City of Farmington meets or exceeds all standards set forth by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Missouri Department of Natural Resources. The water system must test for lead at 30 sample locations every three years, and we have always tested below the previous EPA action level of 15 parts per billion. All sample results have also been lower than the new EPA action level of 10 parts per billion.

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.

Lead in drinking water, although rarely a sole cause of lead poisoning, can significantly increase a person's total lead exposure. Infants who drink baby formulas and concentrates that are mixed with water containing lead are particularly at risk. The EPA estimates that drinking water can make up 20% or more of a person's total exposure to lead. Boiling water does not reduce lead levels. Please see the following link for additional information concerning the health effects of lead.

<https://dnr.mo.gov/document-search/lead-drinking-water-important-information-how-protect-your-health-pub2409/pub2409>

How to Reduce Lead in Drinking Water

Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

1. Run your water to flush out lead. If a faucet has not been used for several hours, allow the water to run at the tap for 15 to 30 seconds or until it becomes cold and reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking. This flushes lead-containing water from the pipes. The water you run from drinking water taps does not have to be wasted; you can use this water for cleaning purposes or watering plants. You may want to keep a container of drinking water in your refrigerator, so you don't have to run water every time you need it.
2. Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula. Do not drink or cook with water from the hot water tap, as lead dissolves more easily into hot water. Do not use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula.
3. Do not boil water to remove lead. Boiling water will not reduce the lead content.
4. Look for alternative sources or treatment of water. If water testing has shown you have elevated lead in your drinking water, you may want to consider purchasing bottled water or a water filter. Read the package to be sure the filter is approved to reduce lead, with NSF/ANSI 53-2021 labeling, or contact the National Sanitation Foundation at 800-NSF-8010 (800-673-8010) for information on performance standards for water filters. If you choose to install a lead-removal filter, be sure to maintain and replace the filter device according to the manufacturer's instructions to protect water quality.

How to ID Your Service Line

If your service line is classified as "Unknown: Possibly Lead," please see the links below that can help you to identify your service line material using visual inspection, along with a scratch and magnet test.

**Please provide the identification information to your water supplier at:
crasnick@farmington-mo.gov or 101 S Jefferson Street, Farmington, MO 63640.**

A video on identification of service line materials and picture identification guides are available at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1JUGIpuH9a4>

<https://dnr.mo.gov/document-search/do-you-have-lead-service-line-pub3046/pub3046>

<https://dnr.mo.gov/document-search/how-identify-your-water-service-line-material-pub3052>

Service Line Replacement Financial Opportunities

If your service line is confirmed as being made of lead or designated as Galvanized Requiring Replacement and you choose to replace it, as your water provider, we are required to offer financial options for replacement. To receive information about these financial options, please contact us at the address below. We are required to pay for replacing the portion of the service line that is water system owned. However, we are not required to pay for the portion of the service line that is customer owned.

As your water provider, we are required to replace our portion of a lead service line when you notify us you are replacing your portion of the lead service line. Replacement of both portions of the service line should be performed at the same time to avoid additional water service disruption and disturbance of lead in service line materials. There may also be low interest loan and grant funding assistance available to our water system customers for service line replacement using funding from the Infrastructure, Investment and Jobs Act, better known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. This funding can be used to replace both the water system-owned and customer-owned portions of the service line. In order to apply and receive this funding, we must know the number of service lines that need to be replaced. This is another reason why it is important for customers to help identify their service line materials.

Is Lead a Problem in My Drinking Water?

The City of Farmington will provide an in-home lead test kit free of charge for anyone who would like to test their drinking water. One free kit per address will be provided and can be picked up at the Development Services office at 101 South Jefferson Street, Farmington, MO.

Thank you for your cooperation as we work to implement the most current standards for drinking water and continue to eliminate the risk of lead exposure in our community.

For more information on water service line inventory, and to confirm if your property is on the list of unknown water service lines, visit www.farmington-mo.gov/public-works. If you have additional questions, please contact us at 573.756.0608.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry Lacy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Larry" and last name "Lacy" clearly distinguishable.

Larry Lacy, P.E.
Public Works Director
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