

Fulton County, Georgia Department of Public Works Division of Water Resources

11575 Maxwell Rd, Alpharetta, GA 30009 404-612-7400 <u>ServiceLineInventory@fultoncountyga.gov</u> https://fultoncountyga.gov/lead-copper

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER SERVICE LINE

As required by U.S. Environmental Protection Administration ("EPA"), Fulton County has identified that your water service connection is considered a MATERIAL_STATUS service line.

Fulton County has recently created an inventory of all water service lines, which is the pipe that connects your home, building, or other structure to the water main. The County is required to create this inventory as a result of federal regulations, specifically 40 C.F.R. 141.84(a). The purpose of the inventory is to identify the material of these service lines and fittings, including the customer-owned side of the water service line.

The pipe that connects your home, building, or other structure to the water main was identified as a MATERIAL STATUS.

Fulton County routinely monitors for lead in the distribution system, and the most recent water sample results received on 9/25/2024 showed that the 90^{th} percentile of all lead levels measured in the distribution system was **1.60** micrograms per liter (μ g/L). The action level for lead in drinking water is 15 micrograms per liter (μ g/L).

Is my water affected?

Federal regulations require that water systems, including the water system operated by the County, inform people served who have a service connection with a lead service line, galvanized steel requiring replacement service line or a lead status unknown service line. C.F.R. § 141.85(e)(1)

* If you received a separate notice instructing you to not drink, boil, or avoid drinking your water, then please continue following those instructions until you are instructed to do otherwise.

If you **did not** receive a separate notice:

- This is not an emergency.
- Your water is safe to drink and meets federal and state safe drinking water standards.
- You do not need to use an alternative water supply (e.g., bottled water).

What is a service line?

- A service line is a portion of pipe that connects the water main to the building inlet.
- Ownership of the service line is split between Fulton County (system) and the property owner (customer) at the water meter.

What about my service line?

- If your service line is categorized as a lead status unknown composition, you can help your public water system identify your service line material.
 - EPA has developed an online step-by-step guide to help people identify lead pipes in their homes called Protect Your Tap: A Quick Check for Lead. (https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/protect-your-tap-quick-check-lead-0)
 - Other organizations have also provided tools to identify service line material, such as the LSLR Collaborative (https://www.lslr-collaborative.org/identifying-service-line-material.html)
- Please contact us immediately if you feel that we have incorrectly categorized the service line material.

Contact Fulton County at 404-612-7400 or <u>ServiceLineInventory@fultoncountyga.gov</u> to inform us if you believe your service line has been incorrectly categorized, to share any information you may have about your service line, or to inform us of your plans to alter or replace your service line. If you determine your service line material using the guides above, you can use our Self Reporting Form at https://fultoncountyga.gov/lead-copper.

What happens next?

- Fulton County has begun performing field investigations in order to determine the material of service lines with currently unknown materials.
- As we conduct these investigations and analyze our system further, we will update our service line inventory available on our public portal, which can be found on our

website, https://www.fultoncountyga.gov/lead-copper, along with any other information about our compliance program.

 If you are interested in signing up to be selected for compliance water sampling, please fill out our interest form found at https://www.fultoncountyga.gov/lead-copper or by scanning the QR code.



Lead Related Health Information

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, as well as parents served by childcare at this property.

- 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 cause 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.
- Fulton County conducts regular sampling throughout its water system, which you can elect to participate in using the link or QR code above. Alternatively, you may contact a certified laboratory to have your water tested for lead. The certified laboratories used by the County are Eurofins or the EPD lab. Note, a water sample may not adequately capture or represent all sources of lead that may be present. For information on sources of lead that include service lines and interior plumbing, please visit https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water#getinto.
- If you still have health concerns from potential lead exposure in your drinking water, there are point-of-use (POU) devices that can be used on your drinking water taps to provide an additional barrier of protection. For more information on facts and advice on home water filtration systems, see EPA's https://www.epa.gov/water-research/consumer-tool-identifying-point-use-and-pitcher-filters-certified-reduce-lead
- If you have other health issues concerning the consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your health care provider.

Other steps you can take to reduce lead in drinking water

Below are some recommended actions that you may take, separately or in combination, if you are concerned about 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.

- Clean your aerator. Regularly 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 water. The more time water has been sitting in the pipes providing water
 to your home, the more lead the water may contain. Before drinking, flush your
 home's pipes by running the tap, taking a shower, doing laundry, or doing a load
 of dishes. The amount of time to run the water will depend on whether your home
 has a lead service line or not, as well as the length and diameter of the service line
 and the amount of plumbing in your home.

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.