

City of Ashburn Residents: Updates on Drinking Water Safety and Service Line Inventory

The City of Ashburn is dedicated to safeguarding the quality and safety of our drinking water. As part of a **federal mandate from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** under the Clean Water Act, we have completed an extensive inventory of water service lines throughout the city.

Soon, some residents will receive a notice regarding the findings of this inventory. Here's everything you need to know:

Key Highlights:

- **No lead service lines were found** in the City of Ashburn's water system.
- Under EPA regulations, certain galvanized iron/steel pipes are classified as "Galvanized Requiring Replacement" if their past contact with lead cannot be ruled out.
- These classifications are precautionary and based on historical records, which may not fully reflect the materials of older service lines.

Why This Matters:

This initiative is part of a nationwide effort to ensure safe drinking water. While the water leaving our wells is lead-free, pipes made from certain materials may absorb trace amounts of lead if they were ever in contact with lead pipes. By identifying and replacing these pipes, we're minimizing even the smallest potential risks to public health.

What to Expect:

1. **Notification:** If your property has a service line classified as "Galvanized Requiring Replacement," you will receive a detailed letter outlining the next steps.
2. **Responsibilities:**
 - The City of Ashburn will replace the portion of the service line we own (from the water main to your meter).
 - Property owners are responsible for replacing the portion of the service line from the meter to the building.
3. **Replacement Timeline:** A comprehensive replacement plan, including funding options for property owners, is being developed. This plan will be finalized by **October 2025**, with all replacements required to be completed within the next 10 years.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Is my water safe to drink?

Yes. We test the water regularly. While trace amounts of lead may be present in the City of Ashburn's water system, lead levels are consistently below the EPA's action level. This service line inventory and replacement initiative is being taken to ensure long-term safety and compliance with federal regulations.

What should I do in the meantime?

While waiting for replacement, follow these simple steps to minimize risk:

- Run your water for 15–30 seconds before use.
- Use cold water for cooking or drinking.
- Avoid boiling water to remove lead, as boiling does not eliminate it.

Can the City test my water for lead?

Yes! The City offers one free lead test per household. Visit our inventory website to request your test (<https://Ashburn-sunbeltga.hub.arcgis.com>).

Additional Resources:

- View the full service line inventory and learn more online at <https://Ashburn-sunbeltga.hub.arcgis.com>.
- For information about lead safety, visit the EPA's website at: <https://www.epa.gov/lead>

Our Commitment to You:

We understand that this process may raise questions or concerns. Please know that we are committed to protecting the health and well-being of all residents while adhering to federal guidelines.

If you have questions or need assistance, contact us at **(229) 567-2424**. Together, we are building a lead-safe future for our community.

Thank you for your cooperation and support.

City of Ashburn