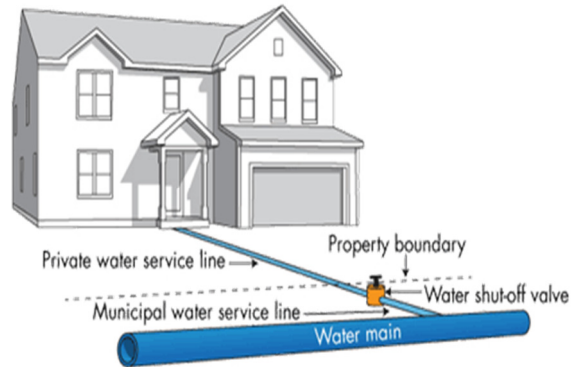




# Lead Water Service Lines

*The line that connects your home with the Village's water system is referred to as the water service, or service. The service is comprised of two distinct parts: the municipal service and the private service.*

- The **municipal service** is the section located in the area from the water main to and through the curb stop (the property's shut-off valve). This section is owned and maintained by the Village of Shorewood.
- The second section, the **private service**, is from the curb stop into the building. This section is owned and maintained by the property owner as outlined in §415-20.C.



*Lead is NOT found in our source water, Lake Michigan, and it is NOT found in our treated drinking water.*

- Shorewood's water is supplied by Milwaukee Water Works, a recognized national leader in the supply of high quality drinking water.

*Structures built prior to 1951, including most homes in Shorewood, likely have service lines made of lead. Lead service lines can increase the risk of exposure to lead from drinking water.*

- When water stands unused for several hours, lead can dissolve into the water from the service line or lead plumbing. The amount of lead will vary depending on how much water is used in your home and how often it is used. To control this, the Milwaukee Water Works (MWW) treats our water with a compound that forms a protective coating inside pipes to control lead dissolving into the water. MWW has provided this corrosion control since 1996.

*There are steps you can take to protect yourself and your family from lead in tap water, regardless of whether you have a lead service line.*

- You can reduce the risk of lead in tap water by flushing your home plumbing before consuming water. Running cold water from faucets you use for drinking can improve water quality by drawing fresh water into the home, particularly after long periods of time when water has not been used, like early morning, after work or upon returning from vacation.
- Even if you do not have a lead service line, plumbing fixtures like faucets, valves and solder can contain small amounts of lead, so flushing can still help reduce lead exposure.
- You can purchase a home treatment device to reduce your exposure to lead. Be sure it is NSF/ANSI-53 certified and properly maintained.

***Routine water main work and broken service lines present ideal time to replace lead service lines.***

- It is the Village of Shorewood's policy to replace the municipal portion of the lead services with copper or PVC lines whenever new water main is installed or a broken service line requires repair.
- All infrastructure improvement programs, including road reconstruction or sewer projects, will include municipal water service replacements in water main replacement areas.

***When lead services lines are disturbed, either by the utility or the homeowner, lead can be released and may end up in the tap water.***

- Studies have shown that when lead service lines are disturbed, they can release lead for weeks after the disturbance. Regular flushing of the plumbing during this time can significantly reduce the risk of lead exposure.
- Customers are strongly encouraged to replace, rather than repair, broken private water service lines. The Shorewood Water Utility will replace the municipal service at the time of a private service replacement.
- The Water Utility will communicate, coordinate and work closely with customers during all service replacements.

***The Village of Shorewood's first commitment is to the health and safety of our residents.***

- Prior to the replacement of the municipal service, the Shorewood Water Utility will request a water sample to establish a baseline lead level in each affected home.
- Partial service replacement customers will be strongly encouraged to follow the established flushing protocol and will receive a credit on the quarterly utility bill to encourage flushing.
- A water pitcher certified for lead removal will be provided to affected homes to filter tap water for cooking and drinking for the two months following the partial service replacement.
- The water sample request will be repeated 30 days following the service replacement to verify that lead levels have returned to baseline. All test results will be shared with the customer.

***Questions?***

- Please call the Shorewood Water Utility/Department of Public Works 414-847-2650.

***Resources for additional information:***

- Shorewood Water Utility [www.villageofshorewood.org/water](http://www.villageofshorewood.org/water)
- Milwaukee Water Works [www.milwaukee.gov/water](http://www.milwaukee.gov/water)
- U.S. EPA [www2.epa.gov/lead](http://www2.epa.gov/lead)
- Wisconsin DNR <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/DrinkingWater/lead.html>

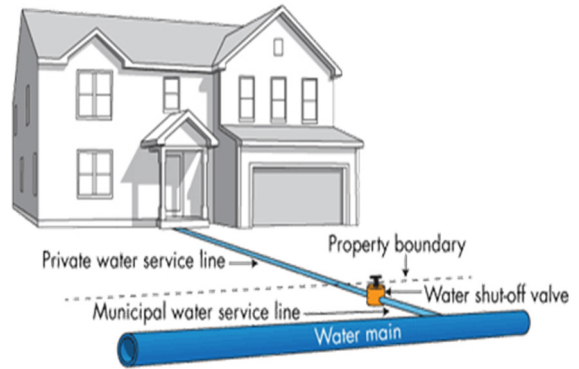




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- Wisconsin DNR <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/DrinkingWater/lead.html>

