

Date

Name

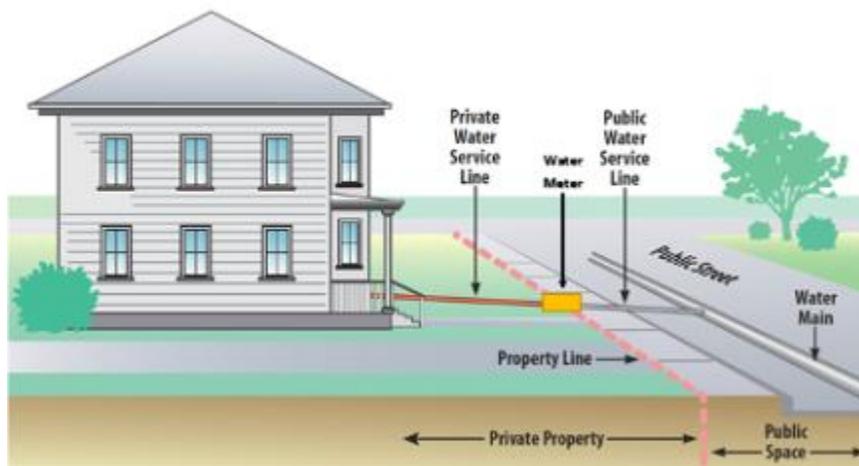
Address

City, State Zip

Service Address: Service Address

### **Notice of Service Line Made of Unknown Material**

New state and federal laws require us to inventory all water service lines in our service area. A service line is the underground pipe that carries water from the water main, likely in the street, into your home or building. Ownership of the water service line is split between BPW and the property owner. BPW owns the service line from the water main to the meter, and the property owner is responsible for the service line from the meter to the building. We are required to notify consumers annually if any portion of the service line material is unknown.



*Figure 1. Typical water service line configuration of a water service line connecting the water main in the street to the interior plumbing of a home. BPW owns the portion from the main to the meter and the property owner owns the portion from the meter to the house.*

**Our records indicate that all or a portion of your water service line material is unknown. Because your service line material is unknown, there is the potential that some or all of the service line could be made of lead or galvanized pipe that was previously connected to lead.**

## 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.

## What Can I do to Reduce Exposure to Lead in Drinking Water?

- **Run your water to flush out lead.** If the water hasn't been used for several hours, run the water for 15-30 seconds to flush lead from interior plumbing or run the water until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking. Only use cold water for drinking, cooking, and to make baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead.
- **Look for alternative sources or treatment of water**, such as use of a pitcher filter that is certified to remove lead and replace the cartridges on a routine frequency or use bottled water.
- **Identify and replace premise plumbing fixtures containing lead.** Brass faucets, fittings, and valves, including those advertised as "lead free" installed prior to 2014, may contribute lead to drinking water because the law allowed fixtures with up to 8% lead to be labeled as lead free.
- **Regularly clean your aerators/screens on plumbing fixtures.** Sediment, debris, and lead particles can collect in your aerator. If lead particles are caught in the aerator, lead can get into your water.

## We need to determine the material of your water service line to ensure safe drinking water.

BPW is continuing service line identification on our portion of the service line. To help with the inventory process, BPW has created a step-by-step process for property owners to use to help determine the material making up your side of the service line. Found on our website – <https://www.gbpw.com/lcr#Material%20Check> – the instructions provide an easy-to-use process to enable you to determine if your portion of the service line is lead, galvanized, or non-lead. On that page there is a QR code you can scan to submit the information to us. If you already know the service line material you can simply scan the QR code below or go to this web address:

(<https://www.cognitofrms.com/GaffneyBPW1/BPWServiceLineInventorySurvey>) to submit this information to us, or enter this link in your web browser to access

## Where can I get more information?

BPW thanks you for your consideration as we work together to remove possible exposure to lead from our water lines and your home or building plumbing. If you have any questions or concerns about your drinking water, please do not hesitate to contact us by calling 864-488-8800 or by emailing us at [lcr@gbpw.com](mailto:lcr@gbpw.com).

