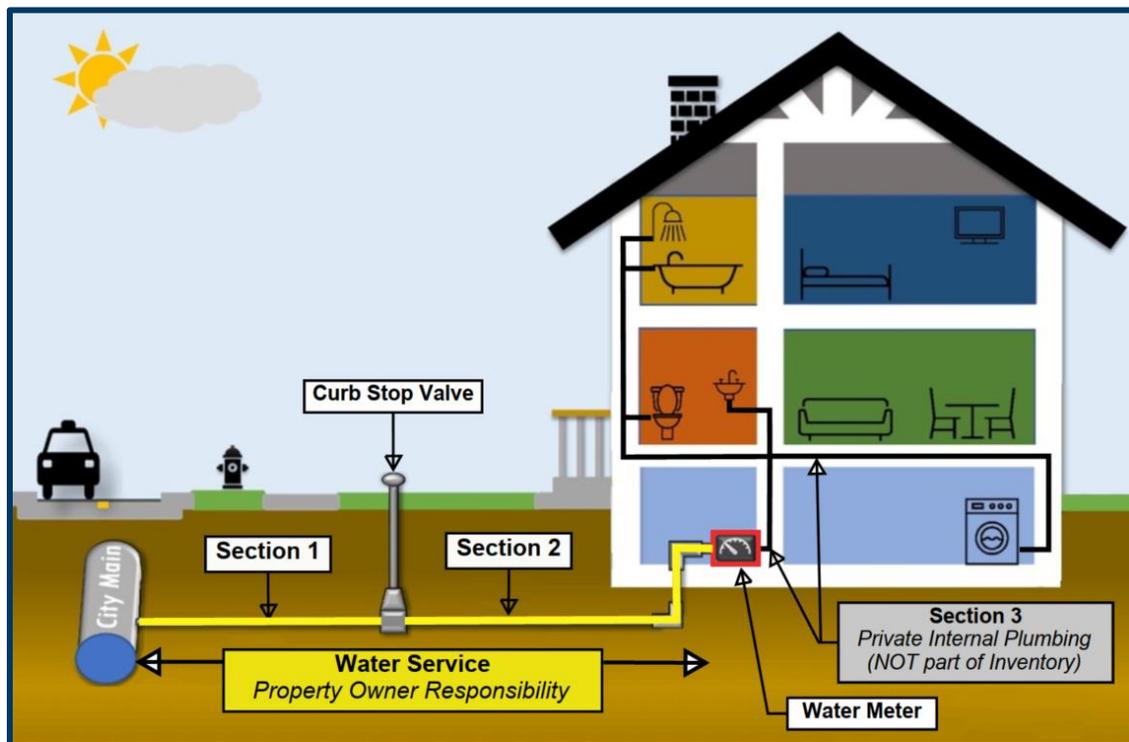


## Notice to Individuals Served by a Service Line of Unknown Material

The City of Hastings is focused on protecting the health of every household in our community. This notice contains important information about your drinking water. 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.

As part of new requirements from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) required all public water systems in the State to complete a comprehensive inventory of water service lines to identify lead or galvanized service lines needing replacement.

The City of Hastings has determined that as of 10/11/2024, the material in **Section 1 and Section 2** of your service line that connects your property to the City water main could not be identified through our initial inventory process. Because at least one section of 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. People living in homes with a lead or galvanized pipe previously connected to a lead service line have an increased risk of exposure to lead from their drinking water.



As part of the water service line inventory, City staff and consultants used a variety of methods to determine the material of Section 1 and Section 2 of your water service in the diagram above. It is important to note that Section 3, which is the internal plumbing of your home after the water meter, was not part of the inventory efforts mandated by the EPA and MDH. **All three sections of the water service are owned by the private property owner in the City of Hastings.**

## Report your Service Line Material

Section 2 of your water service can be inspected simply by locating the water meter at your property and documenting the material of the line connecting to it. If you have not done so previously, please fill out the survey linked below through the QR code to report the material of your service line. The link includes instructions on how to submit your service to our inventory and be removed from the unknown material list. If you cannot perform this inspection yourself, please call us at 651-480-6185 and the City can provide assistance to complete this for you.

Link to reporting form: <https://lslhastings-wsbeng.hub.arcgis.com/>



## How likely is it that your service line is lead or galvanized material?

To date, 5,829 of the 7,252 total water services in Hastings have been inventoried. **Only 5 service lines have been identified as lead.** A majority of lead lines identified have been in homes built prior to 1920.

As for galvanized material services identified so far, the following data has been collected:

- **11 galvanized service lines** from homes built in **1960 or later**– *0.2% of inventory to date*
- **138 galvanized service lines** from homes built **prior to 1960** – *2.4% of inventory to date*

The full results of our inventory work thus far may be viewed online at: <https://www.hastingsmn.gov/LSL>

## What is being done to identify the material of your water service?

The City of Hastings is continuing to review our historic records for all water service lines that are yet to be identified. Additionally, the City is awaiting funding from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) that can be used to enhance our inventory efforts to the next level. MDH has shared with us that funding is being discussed for City's to investigate the material of service lines within Section 1 (see diagram page 1). This next level effort would most likely entail hydro-excavating a small area within the public right-of-way to expose unknown service lines so that their material type may be identified.

## Map of Service Line Inventory – State of Minnesota

Individuals can find information on service line material information on addresses located in Minnesota at: [Minnesota Service Line Material Tool \(umn.edu\) \(https://maps.umn.edu/LSL/\)](https://maps.umn.edu/LSL/)

## Steps you can take to reduce lead in drinking water.

Below are recommended actions that you may take, separately or in combination, if you are concerned about lead in your drinking water. The list also includes links 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.

- **Use a filter.** Using a filter can reduce lead in drinking water. If you use a filter, it should be certified to remove lead. Read any directions provided with the filter to learn how to properly install, maintain, and use your cartridge and when to replace it. Using the cartridge after it has expired can make it less effective at removing lead. Do not run hot water through the filter. For more information on facts and advice on home water filtration systems, visit EPA's website at <https://www.epa.gov/water-research/consumer-tool-identifying-point-use-and-pitcher-filters-certified-reduce-lead>.

- **Clean your aerator.** Regularly remove and 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 pipes providing water to your home, the more lead it 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. City of Hastings Public Works staff completes routine flushing in the spring of all water main lines at public fire hydrant locations. These flushing activities are intended to remove buildup and clean main lines, and likely have minimal impact on cleaning individual service lines.
- **Have your water tested.** You can contact a Minnesota Department of Health accredited laboratory (<https://eldo.web.health.state.mn.us/public/accreditedlabs/labsearch.seam>) to purchase a sample container and instructions on how to submit a sample. 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>

## 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 worsen existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these negative health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, and kidney, or nervous system problems.

## Understand Blood Lead Testing

In Minnesota, elevated blood lead levels are most associated with lead exposure from lead paint and dust. Water is rarely the cause of elevated blood lead levels. If you have concerns about childhood lead exposure, check with your family doctor, pediatrician, or health care provider to determine if a blood test for lead is recommended. State, city, or county departments of health can also provide information about health effects of lead and how you can have your child's blood tested for lead. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that public health actions be initiated when the level of lead in a child's blood is 3.5 micrograms per deciliter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ ) or more. For more information and links to CDC's website, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water>. MDH also has [Lead Information for Families](https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/lead/families.html) (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/lead/families.html>).

***For additional information, website links, and contact information see Page 4***

## Questions and More Information

- **For more information from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH):**
  - **Lead Service Line Replacement Program:**
    - <https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/lslrprogram.html>
  - **Additional information on lead in drinking water**
    - <https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/contaminants/lead.html>
- **City of Hastings**
  - Lead Service Line Webpage: <https://www.hastingsmn.gov/LSL>
  - Contact Us at 651-480-6185