



Date Distributed- 11/15/2024

Water System- City of Albion System ID - 5160001

Notification That Your Water Service Line Material May Be Unknown

The City of Albion has determined that material in some or all your customer side water service line is composed of lead, galvanized materials requiring replacement, or unknown and there is a possibility that it may be composed of lead. People living in homes with a lead service line have an increased risk of exposure to lead from their drinking water. This notice serves to notify you of this potential risk and provides information to help you reduce your risk of lead exposure.

What Do I Need To Know?

- As Part of The State Of Idaho's New Lead Initiative, Public Water Systems are Now Performing Inventories of the Type of Service Lines (Public & Private) Within Their Service Area. You May Now View, and Update, the Materials at Your Address.
- The entirety of the City of Albion's public service lines were replaced in the early 90's, meaning that there are no lead/galvanized public service lines. However, your private service lines may contain lead, galvanized materials requiring replacement, or unknown materials.
- In 1986 a Federal and State of Idaho ban on the use of lead lines was enacted. If your home was built prior to this date, it is possible that you have lead service lines in your home.
- Alternately, your home may also contain galvanized service line materials (see "What are the Dangers of Galvanized Materials?" section below. Please note that based on the date and type of installation, your galvanized materials may require replacement.

Please Visit www.albionidaho.gov/inventory to download a copy of the City of Albion's Inventory and search by address (starting with your house number) to verify your risk type. If you have updated information on your home's type of water line materials, you can submit it by entering your info in the form on that webpage.

What are the 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.

Steps You Can Take to Reduce Your Exposure to Lead in Your Water

- 1. Run your water to flush out lead. If the tap hasn't been used for several hours, run water for 15-30 seconds to flush lead from interior plumbing or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking.*
- 2. Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula. Lead dissolves more easily into hot water. Do not use water from the hot water tap to cook, drink, or make baby formula.*
- 3. Do not boil water to remove lead. Boiling water will not reduce lead.*
- 4. Look for alternative water sources, or treatment options. You may want to consider purchasing bottled water or a water treatment filter/device. Ensure any filter/device is NSF approved to remove lead. Be sure to maintain or replace any filter/device in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to protect water quality.*
- 5. Contact your local health department or healthcare provider to find out how you can get your child tested for lead, if you are concerned about exposure.*

What are the Dangers of Galvanized Materials?

*City of Albion has verified that some, or all, of your water service line is made **of galvanized materials requiring replacement (GRR)**. People living in homes with a service line made of galvanized materials, which has been in the past or is currently situated downstream of lead bearing materials, have an increased risk of exposure to lead from their drinking water. Galvanized pipes themselves do not contain lead as a primary material; they are typically made of steel or iron coated with a layer of zinc to prevent corrosion. However, galvanized pipes can pose a lead risk in the following ways:*

- 1. Lead Solder or Fixtures: If lead solder or fittings were used in conjunction with galvanized pipes, lead can leach into the water over time.*
- 2. Accumulation of Lead from Other Sources: Galvanized pipes can accumulate lead on their interior surfaces if they are connected to older lead pipes or are used in systems where lead was previously present. Over time, this lead can be released into the water, especially as the pipes corrode.*
- 3. Zinc Coating Contaminants: In older galvanized pipes, the zinc coating used to prevent rust may contain trace amounts of lead as an impurity. Modern regulations limit this, but older installations may pose risks*

Opportunities to verify the material of your service lines- Please contact us if you are interested in verifying the materials of your service line.

Opportunities to replace GRR service lines only- If you are interested in replacing your portion of the galvanized service line, please contact a licensed plumber.

For More Information

Call us at 208-647-4644 or visit our website at www.albionidaho.gov For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's website at www.epa.gov/lead or contact your health care provider.