



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
BUREAU OF SAFE DRINKING WATER

CONSUMER NOTIFICATION OF A LEAD STATUS UNKNOWN SERVICE LINE

November 13, 2024

BADEN RESIDENT

«Address_1» «Address_2»

BADEN, PA 15005

Dear Water Customer,

Following the Federal Environmental Protection Agency mandate, Baden Borough Water Department would like to inform you that the material of the water service line to the above address has yet to be determined. Subsequently, the service line has been classified as **Lead Status Unknown**. This means that all or a portion of the service line may be made of lead or galvanized piping requiring replacement. Water supplied through a service line of unknown material has the potential to increase your risk of exposure to lead. For further information regarding your service line, our service line inventory is accessible at the Baden Borough office, 149 State Sreet, Baden PA 15005.

What is a Service Line?

A service line is the piping that connects your household or building plumbing to the water main in the street. Ownership varies by water system but is typically split between the water system and the customer. Baden Borough Water Department owns the section of the service line from the water main to the curb stop, while the section from the curb stop to the water meter is owned by the customer.

How Can I Determine My Service Line Material?

Baden Water Department is continuing service line identification and replacement. If your service line is found to contain lead or galvanized piping, you will receive a separate notice with information regarding your responsibility to replace your service line and possible financing opportunities, if available. **To determine the material of the waterline you may: 1. Provide a clear picture of where the water service line enters the building and perform a scratch test (example for doing a scratch test is attached) 2. Make an appointment for a borough employee to verify the service line by calling the borough office at 724-869-3700.**

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.

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 and cooking.
- **Do NOT use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula.**
- **Do NOT boil water to remove lead. Boiling water will not reduce 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.

For more information, call us at 724-869-3700, or visit our website at badenborough.com. For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's website at <http://www.epa.gov/lead> or contact your health care provider.

Sincerely,

Baden Borough Water Department
149 State Street
Baden PA 15005
724-869-3700