

December 11, 2025

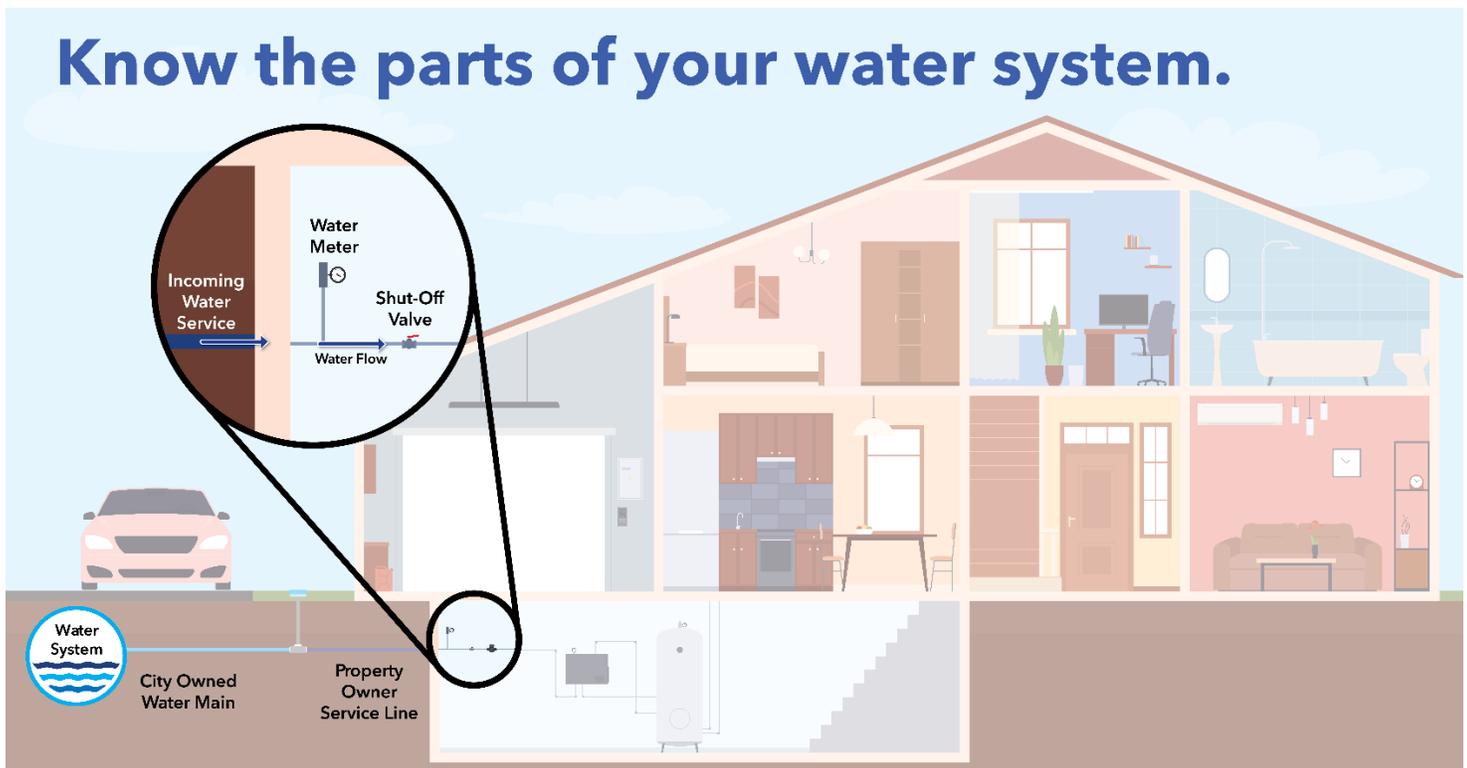
City of IGH: Notice to Individuals Served by a Service Line of Unknown Material

This notice contains important information about your drinking water. Please share this information with anyone who drinks or cooks using water at this property. This can include people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, businesses, as well as parents served by childcare at this property.

The City of Inver Grove Heights is focused on protecting the health of every household in our community. Since late 2023, the City of Inver Grove Heights has worked to identify materials throughout the water system and has determined that as of October 31, 2025, a portion of the water pipe (called a service line) that connects your private building to the water main is made from unknown materials. Because your service line material is unknown, there is the *potential* that some 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.

Identifying Service Line Material

The City is continuing to update its records and verify the type of service line material on the "City side" of the property line, and on the "private side" connecting into private buildings. (See the graphic below for more information on identifying the "City" and "private" sides of a water system.



Find information on service line materials at specific Minnesota addresses at: maps.umn.edu/LSL/

If a search at maps.umn.edu/LSL/ lists the material on the *private side* of a service line as “unknown,” contact the City of IGH at **651-450-4309** or **water@ighmn.gov** and a staff member from the Utilities Division will meet with you at your property to verify the existing service pipe and internal piping materials.

Additionally, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has developed an online step-by-step guide to help people identify lead pipes in their homes called, “Protect Your Tap: A Quick Check for Lead.” It is available at: **www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/protect-your-tap-quick-check-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 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.

Steps to 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 can find more information. The list 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, see the EPA website at: **www.epa.gov/water-research/consumer-tool-identifying-point-use-and-pitcher-filters-certified-reduce-lead**

Clean your aerator. Regularly clean your faucet 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 sits 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, and the length and diameter of the service line and the amount of plumbing in your home.

Have your water tested. The City of IGH tests for lead in drinking water from within approximately 300 private properties annually as part of Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) system monitoring guidelines. If you wish to have your property considered for water testing as part of this annual test, contact **651-450-4309** or **water@ighmn.gov** to receive additional information. Alternatively, if you wish to have your water tested independently, please contact an MDH-accredited laboratory for instructions on how to submit a sample: **eldo.web.health.state.mn.us/public/accreditedlabs/labsearch.seam**

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, visit: **www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water#getinto**

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 or county departments of health can also provide information about the health effects of lead and how you can have your child's blood tested for lead.

Ongoing System Inventory and Next Steps

The City of Inver Grove Heights, in conjunction with the Minnesota Department of Health, is continuing to update our inventory to identify all service line pipe materials within the public water system. To date, *the City has not found any lead or galvanized service piping in the public water system*. If lead or galvanized service lines are found, Minnesota has a program for funding the replacement of service lines, and the City will apply for funding for replacement in the future and share information with impacted property owners regarding funding capabilities for private-side service line replacement.

For more information, visit:

www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water

The MDH has a website dedicated to providing lead information for families at:

www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/lead/families.html

For additional information on the Lead Service Line Replacement Program, visit the MDH website at:

www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/lslrprogram.html

For more information about lead in drinking water, visit the MDH webpage:

www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/contaminants/lead.html



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