

GLCAP Water Service Line Self Survey

Since the early 1900's, lead service lines have been implemented in many cities across the US. Our team at GLCAP is committed to servicing communities and villages throughout Ohio by identifying and mapping potential sources of lead service lines.

By following a quick and easy guide, you can identify what material your service line is made of...

Listed below are the materials you will need to perform a "scratch test" on your service line.

- A key, penny, or screwdriver
 - A magnet
1. First, you will need to locate your water meter, usually found in your basement. As seen to the right, your service line will feed into this. This is where you will perform the scratch test.
 2. Next, you will use a key, coin, or screwdriver to scratch the pipe leading from the wall or floor of your home into the water meter.
 3. As shown below, the most common materials are either copper, galvanized iron, plastic, or lead.



Lead



A dull, silver-gray color that is easily scratched with a coin
Use a magnet - strong magnets will *not* cling to lead pipes

Galvanized



A dull, silver-gray color Use a magnet - strong magnets will typically cling to galvanized pipes

Copper



The color of a copper penny

Plastic



White, rigid pipe that is joined to water supply piping with a clamp

Important things to look for when performing the scratch test is a shiny silver appearance likely indicating lead as the material. Lead is a soft material, so another indicator is it will easily indent with a coin. As mentioned in the picture to the left, lead is non-magnetic, so using the magnet can help determine the material as well.

My service line appears to be:

Lead Galvanized Copper Plastic Other (specify) _____

Due to GLCAP's wide coverage, it helps us to have residents perform a short self-survey of their service lines. Doing so can ensure we assist as many communities and villages as possible. We want to personally thank you for taking the time to respond to this.

Please follow the instructions on back of this guide to send your results to our office so that we can follow up with you.