

For more information about your drinking water, call your water utility and ask for a copy of your Annual Water Quality Report



The water that leaves water treatment plants typically does not contain lead, but lead can be released into drinking water from corrosion in lead service lines and household plumbing that contains lead. If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health and development problems, especially for pregnant women and young children.

Infographics developed by the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD)
This pamphlet contains information that is generally applicable in the Detroit, Michigan area. For specific information about your community contact your local drinking water utility.

HEALTHY WATER TIPS



Drinking or cooking?
Always use cold water.



Have you checked your faucets lately?
Remove and clean the aerators monthly.



Has your water not been used for six hours or more? Turn the water on from your faucet until it is cold and continue to run for an additional two minutes to get fresh water.



After you run the water, consider filling a pitcher with the fresh water to keep in your refrigerator for drinking



Use a filter that meets the ANSI/NSF 53 (National Sanitation Foundation) standard for lead removal if preparing infant formula.



- Home improvement stores, department stores and online retailers sell these filters.
- Follow the manufacturer's guidelines for installing and maintaining the filter.



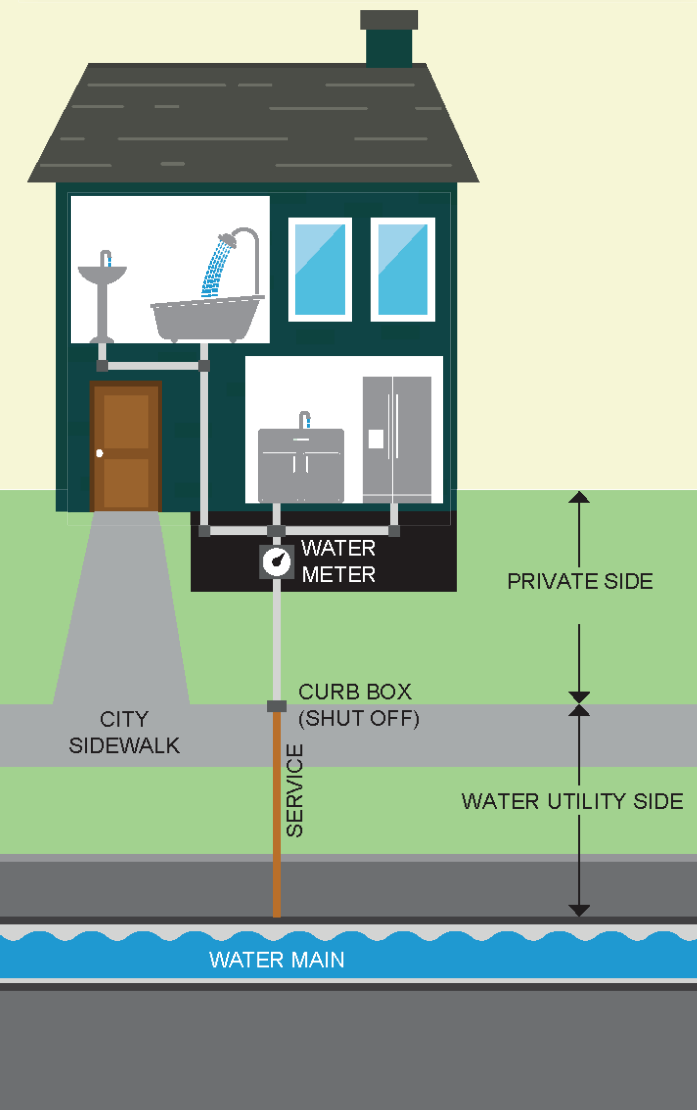
Was your home built before 1950 and is there a pregnant woman or a child under 6 years of age living in the home? Consider using a filter that meets the ANSI/NSF 53 standard for lead removal.

What you need to know about lead in drinking water



YOUR WATER SERVICE

A service line is a small pipe, typically less than one-inch in diameter, that connects the water main in the street to your home. Your water utility typically maintains service lines starting at the water main up to the curb box (shut off valve). Property owners may be responsible for the service line from the curb box to the home (see Figure). In the Detroit area single-family homes, especially those built prior to 1950, the service lines may be made of lead.



FLUSH YOUR PIPES AFTER CONSTRUCTION OR WATER UTILITY WORK IN OR AROUND YOUR HOME

Flush your water taps after maintenance in your neighborhood or plumbing work in your home. DO NOT consume tap water, open hot water faucets, use your icemaker or filtered water dispenser until flushing is complete.



1 Remove faucet aerators from all water taps in the home.



2 Beginning in the *lowest level of your home*, open all the cold water taps in the house.

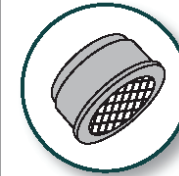


3 Let the water run for 5-10 minutes at the last tap you opened (top floor).

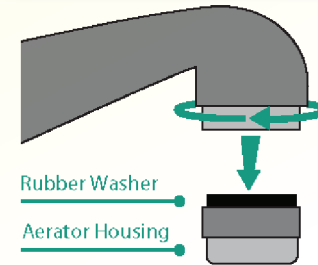


4 Turn off each tap starting with the first tap you opened (bottom floor). Clean and install aerators.

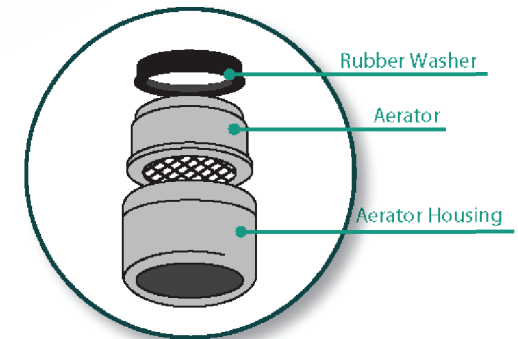
WHAT IS A FAUCET AERATOR?



The aerator on the end of your faucet is a screen that will catch debris.



The aerators screw off from the end of your faucets by hand; you may need to use a wrench the first time. Brush and rinse the aerators before putting them back on.



HOW TO IDENTIFY YOUR SERVICE LINE MATERIAL

This online tool to help you identify your service line material: <https://apps.npr.org/find-lead-pipes-in-your-home/en/#intro>

