

# CITY OF WOODWARD

722 MAIN STREET | WOODWARD, OK 73801 | TEL: 580.256.2280



November 15, 2024

Re: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Lead and Copper Rule Improvements for Public Water Supply Systems

Dear City of Woodward Water Customer,

In the City of Woodward, we take pride in providing the best tasting and safest drinking water to our customers. Our water treatment operators work hard to ensure that the water you receive complies with all of the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Act requirements, which includes the amount of lead and copper present in the water. The water we provide to homes and businesses is essentially lead-free in the distribution system and prior to entering individual household plumbing. However, lead can enter drinking water when plumbing materials containing lead corrode. Lead service lines, the lines that connect the water main to your house, can be a significant source of lead in drinking water.

On December 16, 2021, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) in order to reduce lead in drinking water by requiring public water supply systems like the City of Woodward to identify and document all lead service lines/pipes in its system. To comply with the LCRR, the City of Woodward was required to complete and submit a lead service line inventory to the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) by October 16, 2024, based on a historical records review. The inventory was completed and submitted as required, and can be found on the city website: [www.cityofwoodward-ok.gov/272/DrinkingWaterQuality](http://www.cityofwoodward-ok.gov/272/DrinkingWaterQuality)

The historical records review found that lead was banned from use in new construction in the City of Woodward beginning in the early 1980s, as part of a nationwide effort to reduce lead exposure, with the 1986 federal Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) serving as a key milestone in this effort. However, many service lines of unknown material types were included in the inventory because of a lack of records indicating the type of material used for service lines installed prior to the 1986 lead ban. All customers that are being served by a service line of unknown material type must be notified as part of the LCRR requirements. That notification is included as an attachment to this letter.

On October 8th, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a final rule requiring drinking water systems across the country to identify and replace lead pipes within 10 years. We want to assure you that the City of Woodward is working diligently to comply with this new rule, and we are committed to verifying the material type of service lines currently identified as unknown. Although this work will take time, we are making every effort to carry out these improvements as quickly and efficiently as possible. In the meantime, the City of Woodward will continue to fully comply with all Safe Drinking Water Act requirements.

If you have any questions or would like to help by identifying your private service line material type, please contact Public Works at (580)-377-1924 or [lcr@cityofwoodward-ok.gov](mailto:lcr@cityofwoodward-ok.gov)

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Duncan Brittain'.

Duncan Brittain  
Director of Environmental Services

**SERVICE LINE CONSUMER NOTICE: UNKNOWN SERVICE LINE  
IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SERVICE LINE**

**PWS Name:** Woodward PWSID: OK2007701

Date Notice Distributed: November 15, 2024

Your property, at the address on this mailer, is being served by a service line of

**UNKNOWN** material. Although unlikely, it is possible it may be lead; so, it is important to understand that lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Please read this information closely to see what you can do to identify your service line material and reduce lead in your drinking water. In addition, it is important to determine what the service line material is.

**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.

**Where does lead come from?** Lead is a toxic heavy metal that occurs naturally. Though lead can be found in all parts of our environment, much of our exposure comes from human activities including the use of fossil fuels, some types of industrial facilities, and past use of lead-based paint in homes. Lead enters drinking water primarily through the corrosion, or wearing away, of materials containing lead in household plumbing and the water distribution system, such as the pipes that connect your house to the water main (service lines). Lead solder and plumbing fixtures, such as faucets, within your home/building may also contribute to lead in your drinking water.

**Steps you can take to reduce your exposure to lead in your drinking water:** Although we, as the public water system, are taking action to reduce lead levels, elevated lead level may also be due to conditions unique to your home, such as the presence of lead solder or brass faucets, fittings, and valves that may contain lead. There are actions you can take to reduce exposure. We strongly urge you to take the steps below to reduce your exposure to lead in drinking water.

- **Run your water to flush out lead.** If water has not been used for several hours, run water for 30 seconds to 2 minutes until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking.
- **Use cold or bottled water for drinking, cooking, and preparing baby formula.**
- **DO NOT boil water to remove lead.**
- **Identify and replace your plumbing fixtures that contain lead and/or lead solder.**

**How to identify your service line material:**

If you would like us to assist in determining your service line material, please contact us at [lcr@cityofwoodward-ok.gov](mailto:lcr@cityofwoodward-ok.gov)

For more information, contact us at (580)-377-1924, or [lcr@cityofwoodward-ok.gov](mailto:lcr@cityofwoodward-ok.gov)  
Visit EPA's Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/lead> or contact your health care provider for more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead.

# TYPES OF SERVICE LINE MATERIAL

## LEAD



A dull, silver colored pipe that can be easily scratched with a coin or key. Scratching leaves a shiny silver color. Magnets WILL NOT stick to lead pipes. Lead pipes are bendable and commonly have a "bulb".

## GALVANIZED

## IRON



A dull, silver colored pipe that is hard to scratch with a coin or key. Scratching leaves a dull gray color. A magnet WILL stick to a galvanized iron pipe.

## COPPER



Brown colored pipe that can be easily scratched with a coin or key. Scratching leaves a copper color. Magnets WILL NOT stick to copper pipes.

## PLASTIC



Generally, white, black, or blue piping. Plastic piping is rigid. A magnet WILL NOT stick to plastic pipe.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

EPA Lead in Drinking Water Guidance: <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water>