

November 14, 2024

To: [Resident's Name or Address]  
Subject: Notice of Unknown Service Line Material

Dear [Resident's Name],

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has issued the revised Lead and Copper Rule (LCRR) to protect public health and reduce exposure to lead and copper in drinking water. Recently, the EPA partnered with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to place special emphasis on remediating the effects of lead on children, specifically in care and education facilities. You can read more about the EPA's directives by visiting their page at [www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/revised-lead-and-copper-rule](http://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/revised-lead-and-copper-rule).

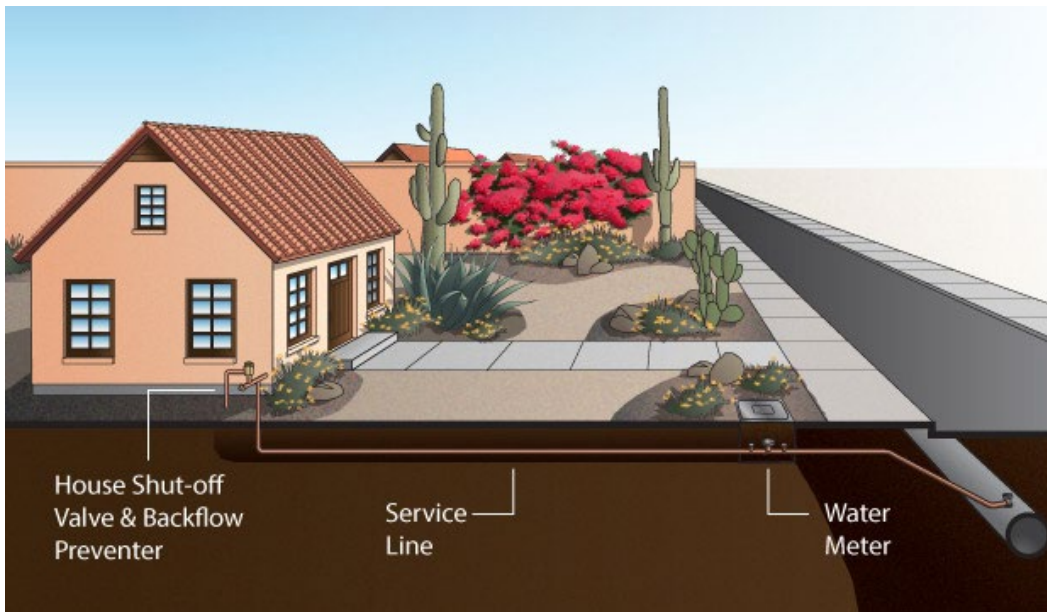
In 1986, the City of Buckeye prohibited the use of lead pipes, solder, or flux. While individual property owners may have chosen to install lead or copper on their property without the city knowing, the Water Resources Department is confident there are no lead or copper materials in its infrastructure installed post-1986. The city routinely tests all water supplies for contaminants, including lead, and the levels have been below the EPA standards.

To comply with the requirements of the EPA's LCRR, the city is conducting physical inspections of all water service lines constructed before the 1986 ban. The purpose of the inspections is to confirm the absence of lead materials. These inspections are being conducted in the Valencia, Historic Buckeye, Sundance/Sunora, Bulfer, Sun Valley, and Hopeville and Sonoran Ridge neighborhoods. Neighborhoods built after 1986 will not be inspected.

To date, the City of Buckeye (COB) Water Resources Department (WRD) has inspected 40% of the total service lines installed prior to 1986 and has discovered no lead or copper pipes thus far.

Throughout the next year, WRD will complete inspections of the remaining 60% of the water service lines. Because your service line has not yet been physically inspected, it is considered an "unknown service line". As a courtesy, WRD is inspecting both the city's side of your service lines (Public side) and your side (Private side) (please see the graphic below to understand where the city's line ends and where your line begins).

Though we are confident that there are no lead service lines in the city, we are dedicated to completing the inspections for the safety of our residents. 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.



You will be notified if lead or copper is discovered on either the Public or Private sides.

- If the portion of the service line that you own as part of your property (Private Side) contains lead or copper, you will be provided:
  - Information about resources that may be available to you to aid in replacing the line. The city is not able to replace the line for you.
  - Test results showing the amount of lead in your water.
  - Information on keeping yourself and your family safe while waiting to have your line replaced.
- If the portion of the service line on the Public Side contains lead or copper, you will be provided:
  - Test results showing the amount of lead in your water.
  - Information on keeping yourself and your family safe while waiting for the city to replace the line.
  - A date and time for the city to conduct the line replacement at the city's expense.
  - Contact information for your Replacement Manager. Your Replacement Manager will be a knowledgeable WRD staff member dedicated to ensuring your service line replacement is completed efficiently; helping you with post replacement flushing of your pipes; and answering any questions you may have.

To track the city's progress and get access to extensive information and resources regarding this project and the EPA's LCRR, please visit <https://arcg.is/OW9O811>. We have also included in this letter information from ADEQ on what you need to know about lead, living with lead in your home, and steps to take to safeguard your family from lead exposure.

If you have any immediate questions or concerns regarding this project, or if you would like the city to perform the service line inspection, please reach out to us by:

- Completing the *Contact Us* form at [www.buckeyeaz.gov/services/contact-us-1682](http://www.buckeyeaz.gov/services/contact-us-1682).
- Calling Environmental Compliance Officer Elsa Varela at 623.349.6145.

- Sending an email to [evarela@buckeyeaz.gov](mailto:evarela@buckeyeaz.gov).

Sincerely,



Terry Lowe  
Director  
Water Resources Department

**Here are steps you can take if you suspect lead is present in your drinking water:**

- **Run Your Water to Flush Out Lead:** If your interior plumbing has not been used for several hours, run water from the cold water tap for 15-30 seconds to flush lead from interior plumbing or until it becomes cold and reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking.
- **Clean Your Faucet's Aerator:** Clean your faucet's aerator (the small screen or fitting located at the end of the faucet's spout) to get rid of sediment, debris, and possible lead particles.
- **Use Cold Water for Cooking and Preparing Baby Formula:** Hot water can dissolve lead more quickly than cold water and boiling water does not remove lead from water. Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap. Do not use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula.
- **Identify and Replace Plumbing Fixtures Containing Lead:** Identify and replace plumbing fixtures containing lead: New brass faucets, fittings, and valves, including those advertised as "lead-free," may contribute lead to drinking water. The law currently allows end-use brass fixtures, such as faucets, with up to 0.25 percent wetted surface lead to be labeled as "lead-free."
- **Test Your Water for Lead:** Email [evaarela@buckeyeaz.gov](mailto:evaarela@buckeyeaz.gov) Services to find out how to get your water tested for lead. However, a water sample may not adequately capture or represent all sources of lead that may be present.
- **Use a Water Filter:** If you believe your service line or home plumbing materials may contain lead, you may want to consider purchasing a water filter. Read the package to be sure the filter is approved to reduce lead, or contact NSF International at 800-NSF-8010 or [www.nsf.org](http://www.nsf.org) for information on performance standards for water filters. Be sure to maintain and replace a filter device in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to protect water quality.