View the *Protect Your Tap : A Quick Check for Lead* Guide
epa.gov/protectyourtap

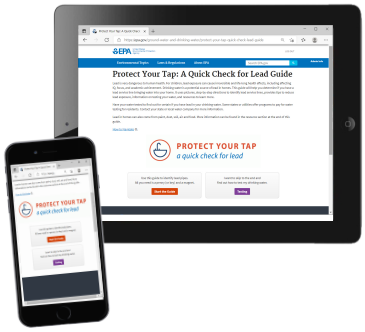
Lead in Drinking Water:
Partnering to Find Lead Pipes

There's a lack of information about where lead service lines are located. *Protect Your Tap: A Quick Check for Lead* was created in partnership with representatives from state and municipal governments, water utilities, and community groups to address this problem. This online step-by-step guide will help residents identify if they have a lead service line and what steps they can take to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water. Most cities and towns test their water systems for routine monitoring, but this doesn't necessarily reflect conditions for all residents or provide information about service lines.

The *Protect Your Tap* online guide:

- Displays on handheld devices, enabling users to make visual comparison.
- Is a step-by-step method that walks through how to identify lead pipes and other lead sources in drinking water.
- Recommends residents check with their water utility regarding the pipes bringing water into their homes.
- Recommends residents have their water tested by a certified lab.
- Provides resources about lead service line removal and reducing exposure to lead in drinking water.

PROTECT YOUR TAP
a quick check for lead

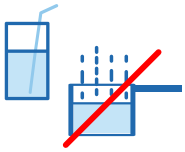


With this guide users can do 1, 2 or all 3:

1. Use Tips to Reduce Lead Exposure in Drinking Water

If you suspect a lead line, run water at a high volume tap. Everyone should run their kitchen tap to flush the line.

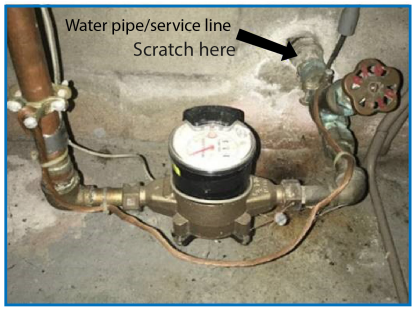
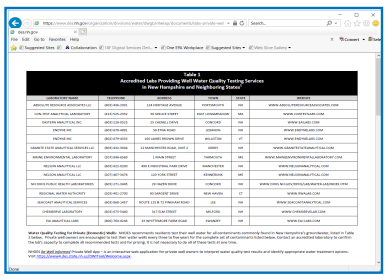
Consider using a water filter certified to remove lead. Know when to replace the filter.



Use only cold water for drinking, cooking and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead.

Regularly clean your faucet's screen (also known as aerator).

2. Locate Drinking Water Pipes



3. Find a Certified Lab to Test Drinking Water