



www.downers.us

July 1, 2016

Dear Water Customer,

The Village is dedicated to providing water that is clean and safe for you to use. Ensuring that our customers have accurate and timely information about the operation and maintenance of the community water system is also important. The purpose of this notice is to inform you that a construction project will soon begin on the water system in your neighborhood that may affect the lead content of your water supply if you have a lead service line.

The Water Main Project is scheduled to begin on _____ and expected to be completed by _____.

Lead plumbing was used in homes built in the early 20th century. In the 1960s, the use of lead pipes was phased out and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency banned the use of lead pipes in construction after 1986.

Generally speaking:

- Homes built prior to 1930 most likely have a lead water service line (unless upgraded during a remodel).
- Homes built between 1930 and 1960 may have a lead service line.
- Homes built after 1960 are likely to have a copper service line.

Having a lead service line does not necessarily mean you'll have lead in your water. It does however indicate that you may be at greater risk if your lead service line is disturbed. A sure way to determine if the pipe coming into your home is made of lead is to carefully scratch it with a coin. If it is a lead, the scratched area will turn bright silver.

While it is not known for certain whether or not this particular project will adversely affect the lead (if present) in your plumbing, here are preventative steps to help reduce your risk from lead:

- Run your water for a few minutes to flush out lead after periods of non-use, such as first thing in the morning, after work and returning from vacation.
- Always use cold water for drinking, cooking and preparing baby formula. Lead dissolves more easily in hot water and boiling water will not remove lead.
- Periodically remove and clean your faucet aerators.

**COMMUNITY RESPONSE
CENTER**

630.434.CALL (2255)

CIVIC CENTER

801 Burlington Avenue

Downers Grove

Illinois 60515-4782

630.434.5500

TDD 630.434.5511

FAX 630.434.5571

FIRE DEPARTMENT

ADMINISTRATION

5420 Main Street

Downers Grove

Illinois 60515-4834

630.434.5980

FAX 630.434.5998

POLICE DEPARTMENT

825 Burlington Avenue

Downers Grove

Illinois 60515-4783

630.434.5600

FAX 630.434.5690

PUBLIC WORKS

DEPARTMENT

5101 Walnut Avenue

Downers Grove

Illinois 60515-4046

630.434.5460

FAX 630.434.5495

- Have your water tested. Since you cannot see, taste or smell lead dissolved in water, testing is a good way of telling whether lead is present or not. Cost for testing can range between \$20 and \$100 and specific steps are required in order to draw an accurate sample.

While the Village does not perform testing in-house, here is contact information for several of the labs near the area.

Name	Address	City	Phone
Suburban Laboratories, Inc.	1950 S. Batavia Ave., Suite 150	Geneva, IL	708-544-3260
First Environmental Laboratories, Inc.	1600 Shore Road, Suite D	Naperville, IL	630-778-1200
ARRO Laboratory, Inc.	P.O. Box 686	Joliet, IL	815-727-5436

- Replace the entire lead service line.

More information about lead can be found on the Village's website, **www.downers.us**. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at **630.434.5460**.

Sincerely,

Staff Engineer II
Village of Downers Grove