November 18, 2025

Dear Residents of Hermantown,

The City of Hermantown has completed and submitted our service line materials inventory to the Minnesota Department of Health. The service line inventory is publicly available, and you can check the materials for your service line by visiting the Lead Inventory Tracking Tool (LITT) at https://maps.umn.edu/LSL/ you may also contact us at 218-729-3600.

To complete the service line inventory the utility director researched historical records, used St. Louis County's database, and made several on site inspections of existing service lines. As of 10/01/2025 our inventory contains 0 lead, 0 galvanized requiring replacement, 0 unknown material, and 2368 non-lead service lines.

Thank you for helping this process be a success.

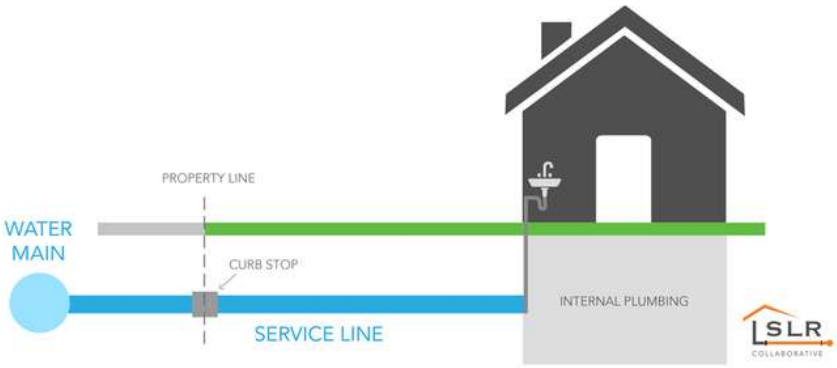
Trish Crego
Utility and Infrastructure Director – City of Hermantown
(218) 729-3600 // tcrego@hermantownmn.com

Notice to Individuals Served by a Lead Service Line

Water System Contact: City of Hermantown
Name Trish Crego Title Utility and Infrastructure Director
Phone 218-729-3600 Email tcrego@hermantownmn.com
Web address https://maps.umn.edu/LSL/
Date 11-18-25

Dear Customer,

Our public water system is focused on protecting the health of every household in our community. This notice contains important information about your drinking water.



It has been determined that either a portion of or the entire water pipe (called a service line) that connects your home, building, or other structure to the water main is made from **lead.**

People living in homes with a lead service line may have an increased risk of exposure to lead from their drinking water.

Individuals can look up information on service line material information for Minnesota addresses at Minnesota Service Line Material Tool (umn.edu) (https://maps.umn.edu/LSL/).

Please share this information with anyone who drinks and/or cooks using water at this property. In addition to people directly served at this property, this can include people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, businesses, as well as parents served by childcare at this property.

Health effects of lead
There is no safe level of lead in drinking water. Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Some of the health effects to infants and children include decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can also result in new or worsened learning and behavior problems. The children of persons who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy may be at increased risk of these harmful health effects. Adults have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems. Contact your health care provider for more information about your risks.

Steps you can take to reduce lead in drinking water.

Below are recommended actions that you may take, separately or in combination, if you are concerned about lead in your drinking water. The list also includes links where you may find more information and is not intended to be a complete list or to imply that all actions equally reduce lead in drinking water.

Use a filter. Using a filter can reduce lead in drinking water. If you use a filter, it should be certified to remove lead Look for filters that are tested and certified to NSF/ANSI Standard 53 for lead reduction and NSF/ANSI Standard 42 for particulate reduction (Class I). Read the directions provided with the filter to learn how to properly install, maintain, and use your cartridge and when to replace it. Using the cartridge after it has expired can make it less effective at removing lead. Do not run hot water through the filter. For more information on facts and advice on home water filtration systems, visit EPA's website at Consumer Tool for Identifying Point-of-Use and Pitcher Filters Certified to Reduce Lead in Drinking Water (https://www.epa.gov/water-research/consumer-tool-identifying-point-use-and-pitcher-filters-certified-reduce-lead).

Clean your aerator. Regularly remove and clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator). Sediment, debris, and lead particles can collect in your aerator and be released into your water.

Use cold water. Do not use hot water from the tap for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula as lead dissolves more easily into hot water. Boiling water does not remove lead from water.

Run your water. The more time water has been sitting in pipes providing water to your home, the more lead it may contain. Before drinking, flush your home's pipes by running the tap, taking a shower, doing laundry, or doing a load of dishes. The amount of time to run the water will depend on whether your home has a lead service line or not, as well as the length and diameter of the service line and the amount of plumbing in your home. Residents may reach out to the contact information listed above for recommendations about flushing times in their community.

Learn about construction in your neighborhood. Construction may cause more lead to be released from a lead service line. Residents may reach out to the contact information listed above to find out about any construction or maintenance work that could disturb your service line.

Have your water tested. Residents may reach out to the contact information listed above to learn more about lead testing and the lead levels in your drinking water. Alternatively, you can contact a Minnesota Department of Health accredited laboratory (https://eldo.web.health.state.mn.us/public/accreditedlabs/labsearch.seam) to purchase a sample container and instructions on how to submit a sample. Note, a water sample may not adequately capture or represent all sources of lead that may be present**.** For information on sources of lead that include service lines and interior plumbing, please visit How lead gets into drinking water (https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water#getinto). If a test shows your water has high levels of lead after you let the water run. You can learn more about water treatment options at Home Water Treatment (https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/factsheet/hometreatment.html).

Understand Blood Lead Testing
In Minnesota, elevated blood lead levels are most associated with lead exposure from lead paint and dust. Water is rarely the cause of elevated blood lead levels. Routine blood lead tests are covered by insurance and medical assistance programs as a preventative health care service. If you have concerns about childhood lead exposure, contact your child's primary health care provider to request a blood lead test. If your child does not have a primary health care provider or health insurance, there are several resources available.

Visit Lead Information for Families (https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/lead/families.html).

Replacing lead service lines
Minnesota has a program for funding the replacement of lead service lines. Individual homeowners are not eligible to apply directly to the state for this funding. Our water system may apply to this funding program in the future. You would be contacted when work will commence in your neighborhood.

Ownership of a service line is often split between the customer and water system. Our public water system is required to replace the system owned portion of the lead service line when a property owner notifies us that they are replacing their portion. If the property owner replaces their portion of the service line without

coordinating with their water system, the property owner may be responsible for all costs related to the replacement of the privately owned portion of the service line.

For additional information on Minnesota's Lead Service Line Replacement Program, please visit Lead Service Line Replacement Program Facts (https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/lslrprogram.html).

For more information about lead in drinking water visit Lead in Drinking Water (https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/contaminants/lead.html).