

## **Ensuring No Lead Water Pipes are in Clatskanie**

In 2023, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency directed all cities in the U.S. to conduct a lead line inventory of its water systems. The City of Clatskanie completed the initial Service Line Inventory this year, which included the material identification of city-owned and privately owned service lines. A service line is the pipe that carries water from the City's water main in the street to your home or building. This inventory informs Clatskanie water customers and health agencies about service line materials and demonstrates that no lead service lines are present in the water system.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recently revised its Lead and Copper Rule to reduce exposure to lead through drinking water nationwide. The service line inventory is part of our ongoing work to meet those regulations. If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Clatskanie continues to provide high-quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in private plumbing components. The best way to remove risks from lead in water is to replace lead service lines and any lead materials that come into contact with your drinking water. Under guidance from the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the City of Clatskanie examined historical water system records and performed visual inspections to produce the initial service line inventory.

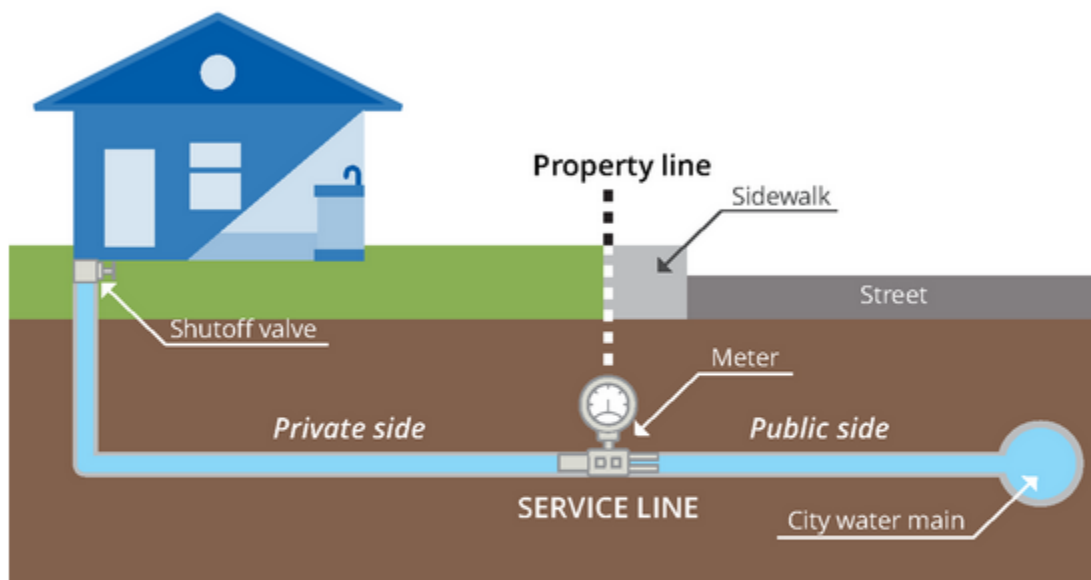
Based on statistical guidance from OHA, the City of Clatskanie inspected 363 private drinking water service lines across the city to get a random yet representative sample of service lines built pre-1986. The City found no lead service lines in these inspections. Statistically, the remaining uninspected service lines are likely made with a non-lead material, with a 95% confidence level.

The City of Clatskanie is committed to meeting future regulatory requirements. Updates will occur over time as the City prepares for future updates from the Lead and Copper Rule Improvements.

OHA has concluded that service lines installed after 1985 are considered non-lead since the lead ban was enacted in the state at that time. Per Oregon policy, if a water system has no current or historical records or knowledge of public lead service line use, a private galvanized line is classified as non-lead.

## Types of Service Lines

### Service Line



*Lead can enter drinking water through pipes or plumbing fixtures made of lead. The City pipes that carry water through our neighborhoods are not made of lead.*

- **Public service lines:** City-owned, from the city water main to the meter box.
- **Private service lines:** Located on private property, from the meter box to the entrance of a building. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) revised its Lead and Copper Rule to reduce lead exposure in drinking water nationwide, and the City of Clatskanie collaborated with the EPA, OHA, and consultants to develop the service line inventory.

## Project Stages

- **Historical records review:** The City examined water system records, water distribution system records, and utility GIS data.
- **Focused approach:** The City worked with consultants and followed OHA guidelines to decide which service lines to inspect. The use of lead pipes was banned in 1986, so inspection efforts focused on homes built prior to 1986.
- **Visual inspections:** The city visually inspected 363 service lines with the help of property owners. Sites were randomly selected but geographically dispersed throughout the City to follow OHA statistical guidelines.
- **Data inspection:** Data gathered from historical records and visual inspections were compiled and validated for accuracy.
- **Results:** No lead lines were found in private or public service lines. Since no lead service lines were found during visual inspections or in historical records, the City can say with 95% confidence that no lead service lines are within the City. Results were submitted to OHA.

**For questions or further information, please call Public Works at 503-728-2622**