

## INTERACTIVE WATER SERVICE MAP

We used mapping software to locate water pipes that may contain lead. We have created a version of this map so customers can locate their own homes and review the data to help ensure it is accurate. The information contained within this interactive map is based on historical records and physical inspections. This map will be periodically updated to reflect new information obtained in the course of our work. If you believe that your water service material is not accurate, please contact our office at (207) 622-3701. Visit [www.GAUD.us/Lead](http://www.GAUD.us/Lead) for the online map or scan the QR code at at right.



12 WILLIAMS STREET, AUGUSTA, ME 04330 / (207) 622-3701

**NOTICE: OUR RECORDS INDICATE YOUR WATER SERVICE IS LEAD**

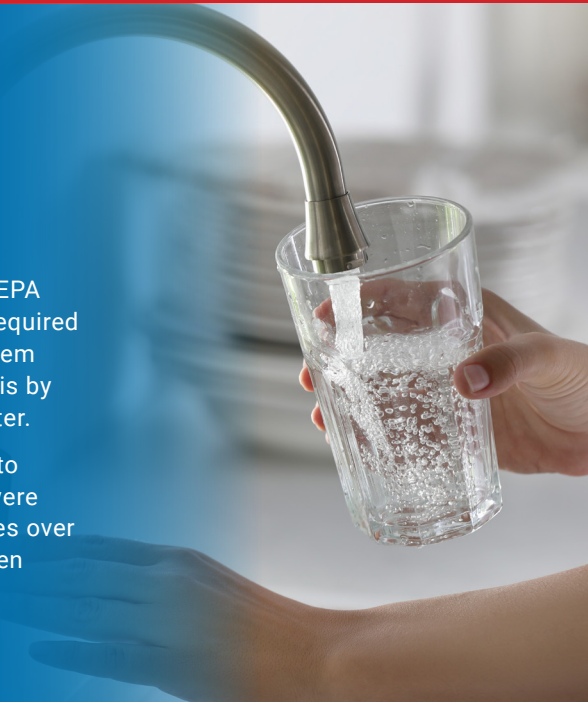


## GET THE LEAD OUT

Here at GAUD we take all issues with your drinking water very seriously. The EPA recently changed the way lead in drinking water is regulated. The new rules required us to do a thorough investigation of the types of pipes used in our water system to determine whether or not any of them could be a source of lead. We did this by reviewing 100 years of records and by visiting customers to inspect their meter.

We examined 5,980 water services, which is the pipe connecting your house to the water main in the street. Of those, 9 were determined to be lead and 93 were determined to be galvanized steel, which may have accumulated lead particles over many decades of use. The 9 customers who have lead pipes have already been notified so they can consider the potential risks and remedies.

See inside for details.



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**NOTICE: OUR RECORDS INDICATE YOUR WATER SERVICE IS GALVANIZED**

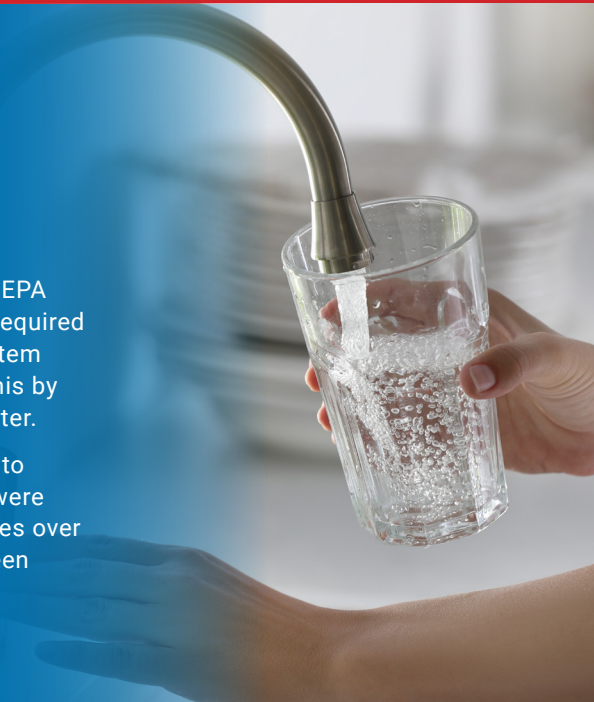


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**NOTICE: OUR RECORDS INDICATE YOUR WATER SERVICE IS UNKNOWN MATERIAL**

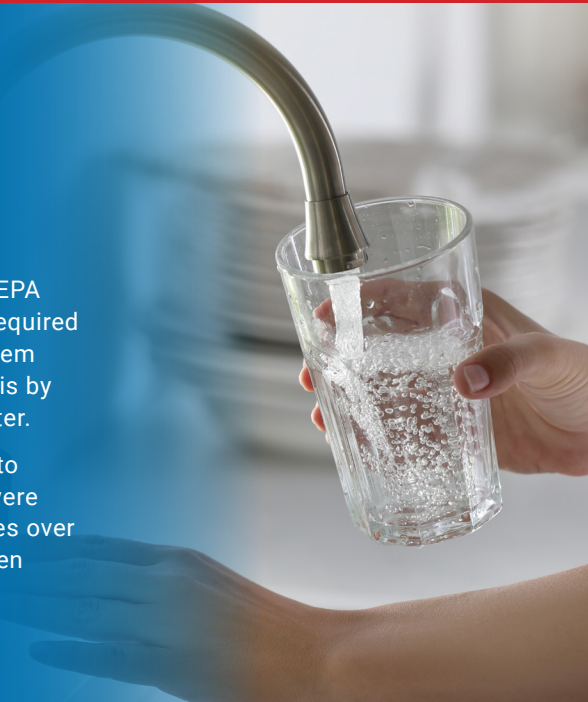


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## WATER SERVICE PIPE MATERIALS

Through records review and physical inspection, we determined that we have these water service pipe materials in our system:

- **Lead** - A dull, silver-colored metal that scratches easily with a coin.
- **Galvanized** - A zinc coated iron pipe that is usually pitted and rusted. It is also magnetic.
- **Non-Lead** - This includes plastic, copper, brass, cast iron, ductile iron, and/or steel.
- **Unknown** - We couldn't figure out what kind of pipe it was using the methods available. We will be investigating this further.

## WHAT ARE THE HEALTH EFFECTS OF LEAD IN DRINKING WATER?

**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 women, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Some of the health effects to infants and children include decreased 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 those 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. For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's website at [www.EPA.gov/lead](http://www.EPA.gov/lead), or contact your health care provider.

## WHAT CAN I DO TO PROTECT MYSELF IF I HAVE LEAD PLUMBING?

1. Run your water until it feels noticeably colder. The longer water sits in pipes, the higher the potential lead.  
We recommend you do this first thing in the morning, but especially if you have been away for a few days.
2. Use cold water for drinking and cooking, as well as for preparing baby formula. Hot water dissolves lead more quickly than cold water.
3. Don't boil your water to get rid of lead. Boiling water actually concentrates the lead.
4. Use bottled water for drinking and cooking.
5. If you are concerned about lead, contact your health care provider or the Maine Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (866-292-3474). You can ask about having you or your child tested for lead.

## LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT:

To learn about opportunities for lead and galvanized service line replacement and potential funding opportunities, contact our office at **(207) 622-4539**. If you are planning on replacing the water service on your property, please contact our office, as we are required to replace the GAUD-owned water service at the same time.

## TESTING YOUR WATER

If you are interested in testing your water for lead, visit our website at [www.GAUD.ws/lead](http://www.GAUD.ws/lead) or scan the QR code at right. If you have questions, want to verify your service line material, or believe a service line may have been categorized incorrectly, contact us at **(207) 622-3701**.

