

## Lead Service Line Replacement Program

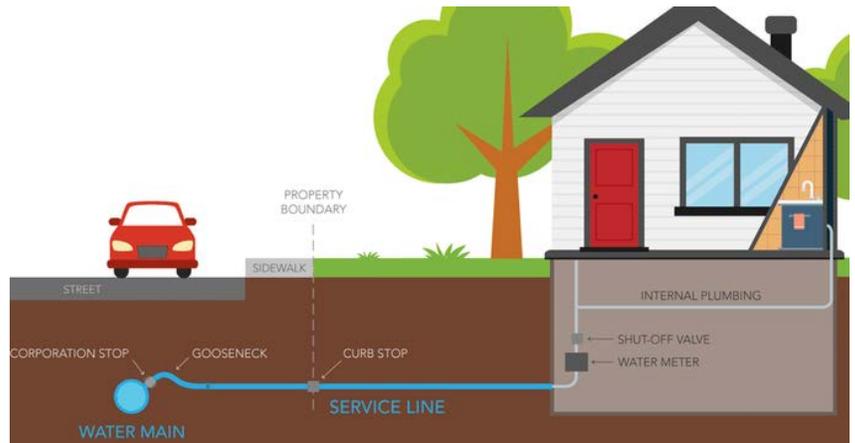
The City of Milwaukee provides a systematic program to replace lead service lines (LSL) with copper. This was established in 2016 by Common Council Resolution 160742.

### The lead service line from the water main to the water meter will be replaced only if:

- A lead service line is found to be leaking
- A lead service line is damaged during planned construction
- The utility-owned section of the LSL is replaced on a planned or emergency basis

In these situations, the water utility immediately notifies a property owner that replacement is required.

As shown at the right, the Milwaukee Water Works (MWW) owns the section of service line from the water main to the curb stop at the property line. The property owner owns the section from the curb stop to the water meter.



### If replacement is required:

#### The property owner can use the city contractor to replace the private section of the service line:

- The water utility will hire the contractor and pay the cost up front.
- Properties with 1-4 dwelling units are eligible for a **city cost-share**. The cost is currently \$1,600 compared to the 2018 average full cost of \$6,026. The subsidy is not available to properties with more than four dwelling units.
- All property owners using the city contractor can repay the cost to the city immediately or repay the city using **special assessment financing** over 10 years. Interest is charged on any unpaid balance. This is similar to how street projects are assessed to properties.

#### OR

- **The property owner can hire and pay a contractor** to replace their section of lead service line while the city replaces the utility-owned section. If you choose to replace and pay for replacement of your section of the lead service line, please obtain an estimate from a licensed plumber and notify MWW Customer Service at (414) 286-2830. The utility will then replace its section of the lead service line.

### No action is required of property owners with a lead service line that is not leaking or damaged.

MWW revenue from water rates pays for replacement of utility-owned sections of LSLs. Safe Drinking Water Loan funds (SDWL) pay the difference between the actual cost and the city subsidy to replace privately-owned sections of LSLs.

Sources of lead may be present in internal plumbing. Property owners may want to hire a licensed plumber to replace lead pipes, lead solder on copper or galvanized plumbing, galvanized steel, and fixtures, like a kitchen faucet.

Search Milwaukee Water Works records to see if a property has a lead service line at [milwaukee.gov/water](https://www.milwaukee.gov/water).