1. Find the water meter. This is usually in the basement but it could be on the first floor. From the meter, work your way to where the service line enters the building in the wall or in the floor.
2. Find an area to test on the pipe between the wall and the shut-off valve.
3. Use a magnet to see if it sticks to the pipe. If it sticks, the pipe is made of galvanized steel. This is safe.
4. If the magnet does not stick, use a key or a coin to scratch the pipe. If the scratch is copper-colored like a penny, the pipe is copper. This is safe.
5. If the scraped area is shiny and silver, the service line is made of lead. This is not safe.
6. After touching a lead service line, wash your hands with soap and water.

If your service line is made of lead and your property was built between 1952 and 1962, please call Milwaukee Water Works Customer Service at (414) 286-2830 or email watwebcs@milwaukee.gov to update our records.

Thank you.