

Context

The purpose of this document is to provide good practices for identifying the water service materials. There are many methods and resources to help identify lead service materials and this document is intended to provide different options that may be available for your community. Generally, taking the actions at the top of the document and working down will be most efficient in understanding material types and where more labor-intensive resources need to be allocated.

Construction Dates

Lead services were banned nationally after June 19, 1986. Many communities used ordinances to ban lead services before the national ban. Any new construction after the community or national lead service ban date can be determined as non-lead service materials. Resources to help identify construction dates include:

1. Identify date of community ordinance ban if it exists
2. Subdivision establishment dates
3. County Assessor building age

Permits

Certain types of permits, such as new construction or demolitions, may require replacement of lead services. Permits dated after the community or national lead service ban can be determined as non-lead.

Water Project Review

During water main replacement projects, some communities began to replace lead service lines. Review of Capital Improvement Projects or other water main replacement projects can help identify where service lines can be determined as non-lead.

Water Meter Replacement or Building Inspections

Including the identification and recording of service line materials during the process of a water meter replacement or building inspection activities is a great way to identify service materials. Asset Management has a mobile application for users to edit service line material information in the field.

Customer Self-Reporting

Customers can self-report service material through a survey or questionnaire. Communities can also provide methods for customers to submit photos of the service connection to the water meter in which Public Works staff can identify the service material.

Targeted Field Verification

After using the above methods to help identify service line materials, field verification via building inspections may be needed to identify any unknown and possibly lead materials.