

Ventnor City Lead Community Meeting

February 21
Ventnor City Water Department



What We'll Cover Today

- What lead service lines are
- Health risks and why removal matters
- Ventnor's replacement plan
- How to check your service line
- How to participate
- Questions and support



What Is a Water Service Line?



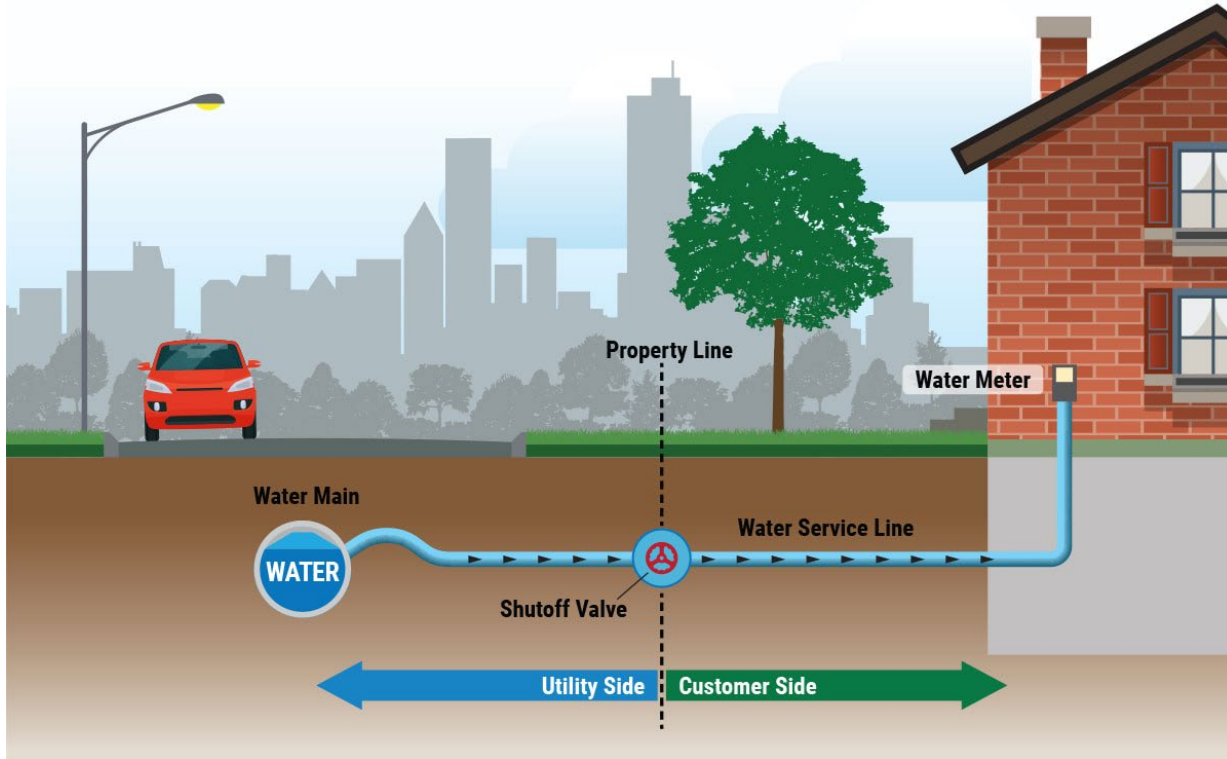
A service line is the pipe that carries drinking water from the city water main in the street into your home or building.

Service lines have two sections:

- Public side (street to curb)
- Private side (curb into home)



Galvanized steel pipes can accumulate lead particles over time, especially when they are connected downstream from lead pipes, allowing lead to build up on the interior pipe walls and enter drinking water. They must also be removed.



Water Service Line Visualization

LEAD



Lead pipe will be dull silver or blue-gray in color. Lead pipe will be shiny when scratched. Lead pipe is not magnetic, so a magnet will not stick to it.

GALVANIZED



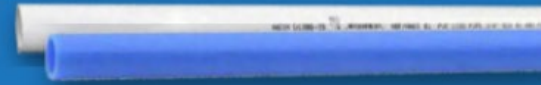
Galvanized steel pipe may be shiny or dull, silver or grey in color, and shiny like a new nickel when scratched. A magnet will stick to galvanized steel pipe.

COPPER



Copper pipe may be shiny, like a new penny, or orange/brown in color. When scratched it will shine like a new penny. A magnet will not stick to it.

PVC / PEX POLY



Plastic pipes can be white, blue, or black rigid pipe. Plastic is not magnetic, so a magnet will not stick to it.

Why Lead Service Lines Are Being Replaced

New Jersey law requires all lead and galvanized service lines to be replaced by 2031, with similar federal rules accelerating replacement, strengthening testing requirements, and improving public communication.

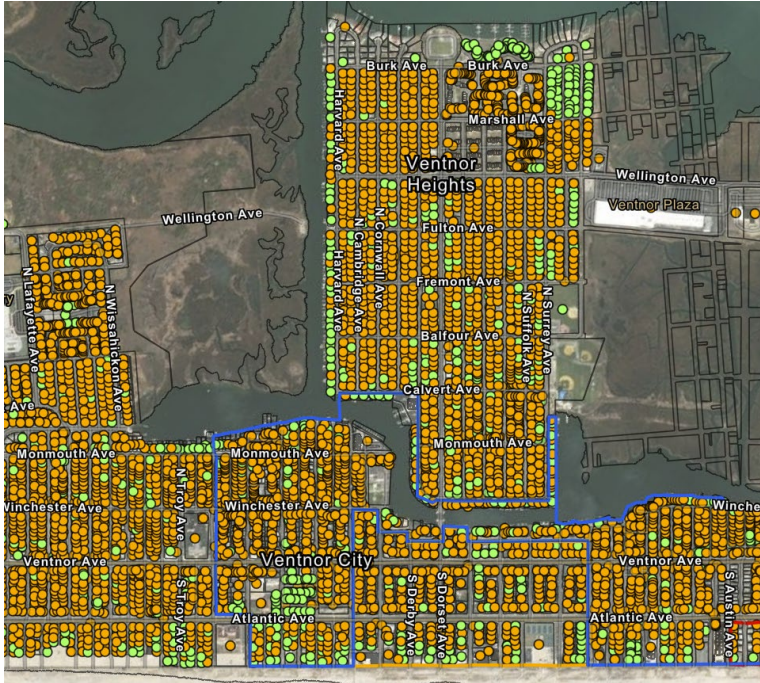
These mandates exist because lead exposure through drinking water poses serious public health risks. Lead can impact brain development, organ function, and long-term health, with children and pregnant women facing the greatest risk. There is no safe level of lead exposure, which is why full removal of lead and lead-accumulating pipes is now required.

How Ventnor Is Replacing Lead Service Lines

The process begins with locating and verifying service line materials, followed by phased construction scheduling to replace both the public and private portions of each line. Replacement work includes excavation, pipe removal, installation of new materials, and site restoration.

This work is currently being provided at no direct cost to residents. Ventnor has worked with state partners to secure infrastructure funding to support the project and reduce financial impacts on local water bills.

Service Line Mapping



Mapping can be viewed online at:
LSLRprogram.com/ventnorcity

How the city is mapping lines:

- Historical records
- Self reporting
- Contractor inspections
- Inventory building

How Replacement Work Is Phased

Service line replacement is being completed through a phased construction approach based on inventory data, contractor scheduling, and infrastructure coordination across the city.

Phasing allows Ventnor to prioritize areas with confirmed lead or galvanized lines while organizing construction efficiently with road repaving while minimizing disruption to residents.

As mapping and identification continue, additional areas will be scheduled for replacement.

How Service Lines Are Identified

Before replacement can occur, Ventnor must identify the material of every service line across the city. This is done through a combination of resident self-reporting and contractor field inspections.

Self-reporting allows homeowners to submit information about their service line, helping the city verify materials faster and prioritize replacement scheduling. If material information cannot be confirmed through self-reporting, contractors will be sent out to inspect service lines directly. This can only happen if the resident has fill out an access agreement to the property.

Ventnor City Free Lead Service Line Replacement



Ventnor City Water System is replacing all lead and galvanized steel service lines in its service area for free. Replacing your lead/galvanized steel lines is **required**. [Scan the QR code](#) or [visit the link below](#) to: 1) identify lead and galvanized steel service lines 2) grant contractors access to your property for service line replacement.

visit [ventnor-lead-service-line-inventory-rve.hub.arcgis.com] or call 609-823-7935

Scan here to access the form



Scan the QR code to tell us what your home's drinking water service line material is made of

Why Self-Report?

Before replacing lead lines, Ventnor City must identify all lead service lines. The Water System will do this one of two ways: using self-reporting data or sending contractors to test homes. **By scanning the QR Code above, you can speed up lead pipe replacement.**



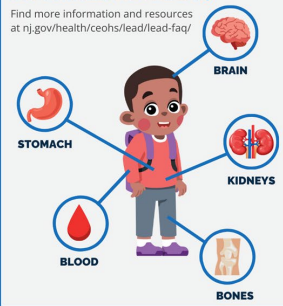
In July 2021, Governor Murphy signed legislation requiring the removal of all lead and galvanized service lines by July 2031.

To reduce your exposure to lead in drinking water, the EPA recommends...

- Use a water filter with NSF-53 certification to remove lead.
- Flush your pipes every morning by running your tap, doing laundry, or a load of dishes before drinking water.
- Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula.
- Regularly clean your faucet's screen (also know as the aerator).

How Lead Effects Your Body

Find more information and resources at nj.gov/health/ceohs/lead/lead-faq/

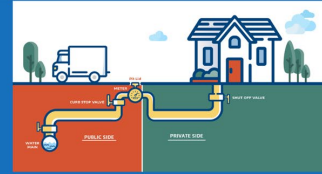


Frequently Asked Questions



What is a water service line?

Water service lines are the pipes that carry water from the Ventnor City Water System's pipes in the street into homes and buildings.



How do I know if I have a lead or galvanized service line in my home?

Use the QR Code to review the existing information on the service line.

If you see Unknown Service Line Material," then please look for a pipe coming into your home. It is usually in your basement or crawl space. That is the customer side of the line. To determine if the pipe requires replacement, look for the following characteristics.



LEAD

- Dull gray and very soft.
- Can easily be scratched with a key or coin and the area scratched will turn bright silver.



GALVANIZED STEEL

- Gray metal.
- When tapped with a screwdriver, it makes a metallic sound.

What do I do if I have a lead or galvanized service line?

Use the QR Code or website on this document report your lead or galvanized service line. Ventnor City Water System is committed to replacing all lead and galvanized steel lines in our system by 2031. If you prefer not to wait for Ventnor's program, you are welcome to hire a plumber to replace the line at any time.



For more information on the Ventnor City's Lead Service Line Replacement Program, visit [ventnor-lead-service-line-inventory-rve.hub.arcgis.com]

Mailer Sent To Residents

Self-Reporting

Reporting can be done online at: LSLRprogram.com/ventnorcity

Reporting can also be filled out in the back of the room at the end of the presentation.



Access Agreement

Access agreement can be completed online at: LSLRprogram.com/ventnorcity

Agreements can also be filled out in the back of the room at the end of the presentation.

In order to complete full service line replacement, the city and its contractors must access the portion of the service line located on private property.

This requires a signed access agreement from the property owner before any inspection or construction work can occur.

Lead in Drinking Water: A Permanent Solution for New Jersey

Report of Jersey Water Works Lead in Drinking Water Task Force



[Link to report](#)

A scenic view of a city skyline across a body of water, with a park bench in the foreground. The skyline is filled with various buildings, including a prominent skyscraper. The water is calm, and the sky is overcast. In the foreground, a paved walkway leads to a park bench. The bench is made of dark metal and wooden slats. To the right, there are trees and a grassy area. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and urban.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Ventnor Water and Sewer Superintendent
Ernst Gratz - egratz@ventnorcity.org

THANK YOU!