

## LEAD FREE SPRWS

### Approximately 27%

of 26,000 SPRWS properties had a lead service line at project start in 2023.

### FREE Replacement!

Lead Free SPRWS will work to replace lead service lines (both public and private side) at **NO COST** to the customer.

While this program is **voluntary**, customers are strongly encouraged to participate when offered the opportunity.

Goal Timeline:  
**10 Years** (2023-2032)

Email: [lead@stpaul.gov](mailto:lead@stpaul.gov)

Total Program Cost:  
**\$300 Million** (estimated)

## Reduce Lead in Drinking Water

SPRWS works around the clock to reduce exposure to lead in your drinking water. Even so, there are steps that you can take to reduce exposure even further for you and your family if you have a lead service line or lead in your interior plumbing.

- If your water has collected in your plumbing for **more than 6 hours** (for example, overnight) let cold water run from your faucet for 3-5 minutes to clear it before using.
- **Do not use hot water directly from the faucet** for cooking, drinking or making baby formula because lead dissolves more quickly in hot water.
- If you have a faucet used for drinking water that has an aerator, **remove the aerator and clean it out once a month.**
- **Use a water pitcher** or point of use filter for your drinking water.



# GETTING THE LEAD OUT



1

Visit [www.stpaul.gov/water/lead-free](http://www.stpaul.gov/water/lead-free) to learn about lead and the Lead Free SPRWS Program.



2

Use our online tools to **check** your water service line material and find out if the Lead Free SPRWS program will be on your street soon.



3

Complete an intent form to let us know you're interested in a free water service line replacement and to receive updates on the program.

## FIND OUT if you have lead:



Use our online tools to check your water service line material.  
[www.stpaul.gov/water/lead-free](http://www.stpaul.gov/water/lead-free)



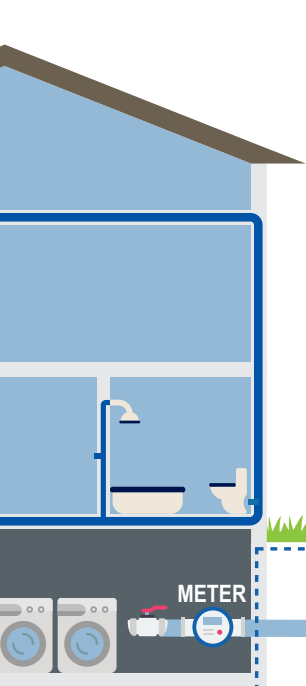
Get your tap water tested for free. If you live in the SPRWS retail area, pick up a water sample container to have the tests run. Contact Customer Service for more information. **651-266-6350**

[www.stpaul.gov/water/lead-free](http://www.stpaul.gov/water/lead-free)

**651-266-6820**

EMAIL: [lead@stpaul.gov](mailto:lead@stpaul.gov)

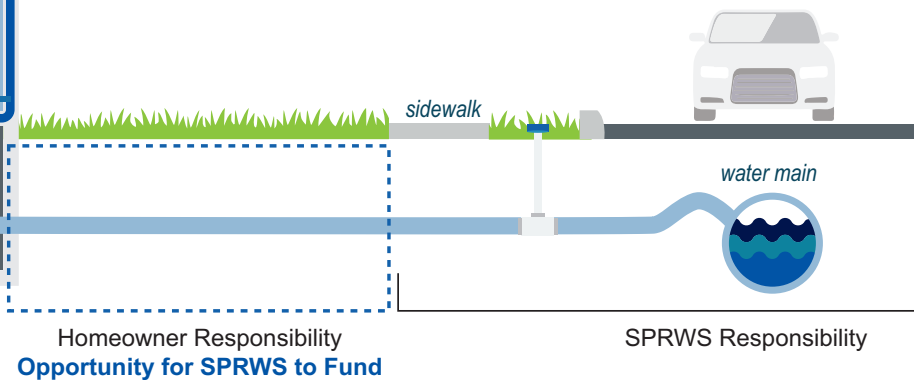




# WHAT

## is a water service line & who owns it?

Water service lines are the pipes that carry water from the water main in the street into homes/buildings. SPRWS owns the part of the water service lines from the main in the street to the property line (public side). Individual property owners own the part from the property line to the meter inside the home (private side).



# WHEN

## will my lead service be replaced (if applicable)?

Replacements are organized and prioritized using multiple factors, including the following:

- Efficiency of completing replacements during other construction projects, including water main replacement or street reconstruction.
- Census information to identify areas where the population is at a higher risk for negative health consequences of lead exposure, including children under five and low-income populations.
- Replacement decisions are made and communicated out annually leading up to construction season.

# WHY

## is lead a problem?

Lead is a common metal found in air, soil, household dust, consumer products, and water. If too much lead enters the body, it can hurt the brain, nervous system, red blood cells, and kidneys. Children, infants, and pregnant women are at greater risk. The most likely sources of lead in your household water are lead service lines, lead solder in your water pipes, or brass fixtures in your plumbing. Lead water services were standard for Saint Paul homes built before 1926 and occasionally used in homes up until 1947.

# WHAT

## is SPRWS doing about lead?



### Lead Free SPRWS:

In 2023 SPRWS launched an ambitious 10-year plan to remove all lead service lines in both private and public property.



### Corrosion Control:

Water leaving the SPRWS water treatment plant does not contain lead. Since the water has the potential to interact with lead if customers have a lead service line or lead solder in their internal plumbing, SPRWS treats the water to minimize leaching. This process, known as corrosion control, creates a protective scale on the inside of the pipe between the water and the lead.



### Financial Assistance:

If Saint Paul property owners would like to replace lead service lines sooner than Lead Free SPRWS will be in their area, SPRWS offers a lead assessment program. This allows customers to hire a licensed plumbing contractor to complete the work within private property and pay for it via a 20-year, low-interest assessment through SPRWS. SPRWS will then replace the public portion if it is lead, typically within the same construction season.

**Committed to providing customers with safe, great tasting water!**