



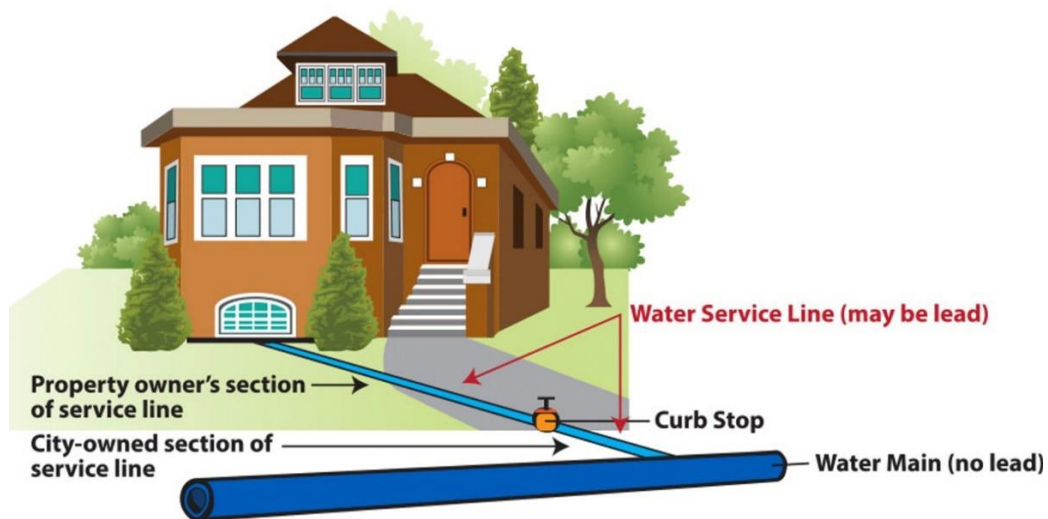
## Frequently Asked Questions

### Why did the Village initiate this program?

Congress banned the use of lead pipes in 1986 but allowed those already in the ground to remain. Some, but not all buildings constructed before 1986 could have lead service lines. The goal of this program is to remove all the lead service lines in the Village and update the water service lines to a modern copper material. This program will deal with lead service lines only. Copper, steel or plastic service lines will not be affected/replaced. The goal is for the Village to be 100% lead free at the completion of the program.

### What is a "Service Line"?

A water service line is the pipe that connects the water main in the street to your indoor plumbing.



### How do I know if I have a lead service line?

It is relatively easy for a property owner to identify the material of their water service line. Detailed pipe identification procedures are provided at the end of this document. Property owners are not required to verify their own pipe material as this will be done by the Village's contractor as part of the program. The pipe identification procedures are provided for reference only.

### How will this project be funded?

The Village received preliminary approval for a 4-million-dollar loan from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. The loan is 100% forgivable and will cost the Village of Frankfort, property owners, and utility customers nothing.

### **Will this cost me anything?**

No, property owners will be receiving an \$8,000 - \$10,000 improvement at no cost to them. A new service line will increase the property value and will also reduce the risk of lead contamination. This is truly a “win/win” for the all the parties involved.

### **Am I required to participate in this program?**

No, this program is COMPLETELY VOLUNTARY, but participation is strongly encouraged. Please keep in mind that if, in the future, the US Environmental Protection Agency or Illinois Environmental Protection Agency mandate that all lead service lines be removed, property owners may have to pay for it themselves. Further, the Residential Real Property Disclosure Act requires sellers in Illinois to present buyers with a disclosure listing the physical condition of the property, including the presence of lead. If it is determined that your service line is lead and you choose not to participate in the program you will be required to disclose the presence of lead as part of any future real-estate transaction.

### **How do I participate in this program?**

We will be contacting you if we think your property has a lead service line. Because a portion of the service line is privately owned, we do not know for sure where all the lead service lines are in the Village. Before the construction, you will need to sign an access agreement to allow the work to happen within your property (*to be provided at a later date*). Once the Agreement is signed, the licensed, insured and bonded Contractor hired by the Village to do the work, will schedule a site visit at your property. This visit will take approximately 15 minutes and will cover the specific work to be done at your property and associated restoration required. Prior to this meeting, we ask that you remove any movable objects and clutter near the location of your water meter. The date of your service line replacement will be scheduled at or soon after this initial meeting.

### **When will the work take place?**

We anticipate the work to commence during late summer of 2021 and be completed by the end of the summer 2022.

### **How long is it going to take to change my service line?**

Contractors should be in your house or business for approximately 3 to 6 hours. Typical installations generally take less than 4 hours. Your water service will be shut off while the work is being done. We ask that someone is present during this time to allow the Contractor into the home or business and to answer any questions during construction.

### **Who will be present?**

The Contractor (*2 to 3 employees, including a licensed plumber*) and a construction manager from the project consultant, Robinson Engineering.

### **What will be done?**

The water main in the street and the valve in your yard will be dug up. The excavation at your valve will be approximately 5'x5' wide and 6' deep. The excavation at the water main will be approximately 5'x7' wide and 7' deep. Any disturbance of sod, landscaping, pavement, etc. will be restored to original conditions.

Depending on the building layout, one of three methods will be used to install the new water pipe:

- 1) Cut the old pipe inside the building, attach the new pipe to the cut end, and pull the existing service line out from the street, while pulling the new service in behind the existing service in the existing cavity.
- 2) Use a machine outside the building to drill the service into your building and abandon the existing service in place.
- 3) Use a small machine inside your building to drill from the basement out to the water main.

Once the service line is installed under the ground, a plumber will connect the new copper service to the water meter inside your building and new shut off valves will be installed. All visible lead pipe within the building will be removed regardless of the method used. Any holes will be patched in your wall or floor and any normal domestic construction such as drywall, carpet, wood panels, etc. will be restored to their original condition.

### **What happens after the work is performed?**

You will receive instructions on how to flush the water pipes in your building to remove any residual lead particles. Studies have shown that disturbing a lead service line can temporarily increase particulate lead in your water for up to three months. While safe for bathing and cleaning, any water that is to be consumed should be filtered. You will be provided a water filter pitcher to use for drinking water for three months after the work is performed.

### **How will I know that the contractor is the Village's contractor?**

Please do not let anyone into your building to inspect your service line until the Village informs you who the contractor will be, the name of the contact person, and the approximate date you should be expecting a call to schedule the preconstruction meeting.