



## **LEAD AWARENESS**

In 1991, The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established the first Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water. BGMU takes concerns about lead seriously, and we are committed to providing safe drinking water.

### **How does lead get in drinking water?**

The most common source of lead in drinking water is from corrosion in lead pipes, faucets, and fixtures. Corrosion is a dissolving or wearing-away of metal caused by a chemical reaction between water and plumbing. Every two hours (at a minimum), BGMU monitors and adjusts your water's pH levels and uses treatment methods that reduce the likelihood of corrosion. However, it is possible for lead to develop in drinking water as it passes through lead pipes, copper pipes with lead solder, faucets, and fixtures.

### **Does BGMU have lead service lines?**

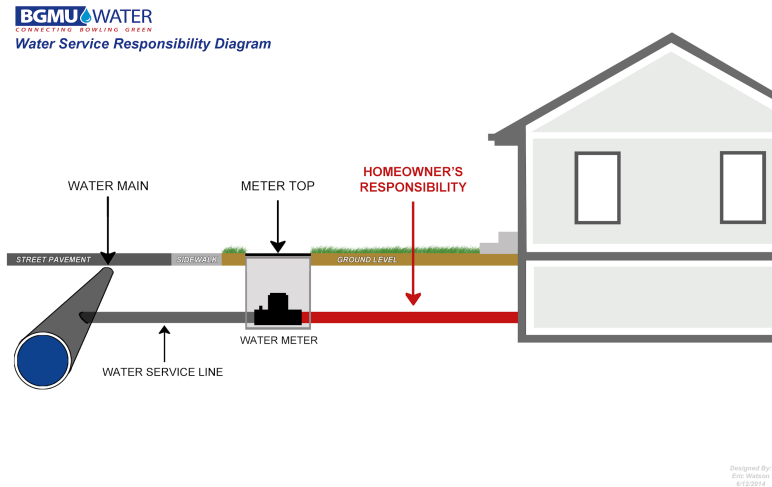
BGMU is not aware of any lead service lines in our system. However, we have some very old lines that we are physically checking to ensure they do not need to be replaced. BGMU's water system dates back to 1868. Infrastructure has changed and been replaced over time, and the LCR requires that we inventory every line in our system. While we don't anticipate any surprises, we are diligently taking an inventory of the system that will be sent to the Kentucky Division of Water and will be available to the public.

### **Is lead regulated and tested in Bowling Green?**

Yes, lead is regulated by the EPA through an Action Level that requires treatment changes if more than ten percent of the homes tested exceed fifteen (15) parts per billion (ppb) of lead in first-draw samples. BGMU complies with the EPA regulation, and we test for lead every three years as required by the EPA.

## What about the service line that enters my home?

Property owners are responsible for the portion of the service line that connects the home to the water meter. The water main and the portion of the service line from the meter to the water main is owned and maintained by BGMU. Plumbing, faucets, and fixtures inside the home are also the responsibility of the home owner.



## How can I find out if I have lead plumbing?

If you are concerned that your home plumbing contains lead pipes, we suggest contacting a licensed plumber for assistance. You can also visit the EPA's website for a guide to identify lead pipes:

<https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/protect-your-tap-quick-check-lead-0>.

## Where can I learn more?

- **US Environmental Protection Agency**
  - <https://www.epa.gov/lead/learn-about-lead>