



CITY OF  
**FOLLANSBEE**  
WEST VIRGINIA

872 Main Street, P.O. Box 606  
Follansbee, WV 26037  
(304) 527-1330

Name on the Account:  
Address of Property:

Service location line:

August 14, 2024

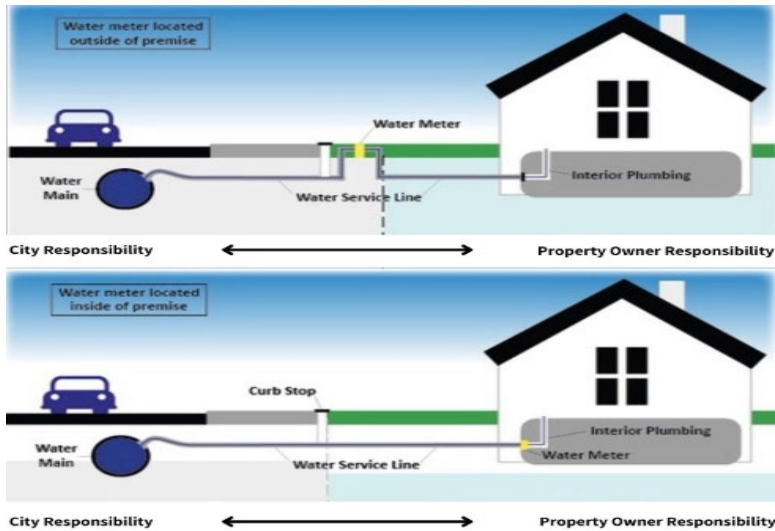
Dear Customer,

Due to a change in the Lead and Copper Rule from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), it is required that water utilities identify the material of water service lines in local homes, businesses, and schools. The primary purpose of the EPA's ruling is to identify homes that have lead water service lines which were commonly installed in homes constructed prior to 1986. **Please fill out the following survey and return it to our office no later than September 2, 2024.** On the back of the survey are directions on how to locate your service line and how to identify the service line material.

1. Year the house, business, or school was built: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Service line Installation Date Range:  Before 1988  1988 or after  Unknown
3. The type of my water service line going from the water meter to just outside of my house or business is best described as:  
 Lead  Galvanized  Steel  Cooper  Plastic  Unknown  Other: \_\_\_\_\_
4. I have determined my service line material type as follows:  
 I have observed the material and know what it is.  
 I have been provided some form of documentation of the water service line material.  
 It is my best guess.  
 Service line repair or replacement record.  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_
5. If unknown, may the utility make arrangements to inspect your indoor plumbing?  Yes  No
6. Phone number to contact to make inspection arrangements: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you,  
Sam Mazzone, Follansbee Chief Water Operator

## How to locate your service line



Begin by locating your water meter. Some water meters can be located close to the street near the curb or sidewalk. Look for a metal or concrete lid with “Water Meter” or “Water” written on the top. Your main water service line will run underground from the meter to the closest wall of your house. Because we live in an area prone to freezing, this line will emerge in a garage, basement or first floor of the home. A valve will be attached to the line as it enters the house. Keep in mind that this valve could be near the floor or above your head in floor joists. If your basement is finished, it is possible that the valve has been covered. Look for access panels in ceilings, on walls or even in closets. Some Water meters can be located inside the building, the service line is attached to the valve then to the meter that is coming into from the outside. If you are unable to locate your water service line, it may be beneficial to contact a plumber. They can both locate your line and help determine the material of the line.

## Identifying water Service line material

Water service lines can be plastic (PVC), copper, galvanized steel, or lead. A good place to start is a simple visual inspection.

- **Plastic** is a smooth pipe of various colors (e.g., white, blue, black, and green).
- **Copper** is the color of a penny.
- **Galvanized** is a dull, silver-gray color that is difficult to scratch.
- **Lead** is a soft metal that is a dull, silver-gray color. It is easily scratched with a coin or key, and the scratched areas will appear shiny. Lead pipe is commonly attached to other types of pipe with a “wiped” joint. This is a rounded ball of lead that connects the pipe to other materials.



If the pipe is metal, here are some steps that may be helpful in identifying the material of the pipe.

### Magnet Test

Magnets will stick only to galvanized lines, not lead or copper pipes.

### Scratch Test

Use the flat edge of a screwdriver to scratch through any corrosion buildup on the outside of the pipe. Do not use a knife or other sharp instrument to prevent puncturing the pipe. Each service line will produce a different scratch. When Scratched:

- A galvanized line will remain a dull gray color.
- A copper line will shine and be the color of a penny.
- If the area is shiny and silver, the line is likely lead.

### Tap Test:

- Tap the line with a penny...
- Tapping a galvanized pipe will produce a metallic ringing,
- Tapping a copper pipe will produce a metallic ringing.
- Tapping a lead pipe will produce a dull noise.

**After locating your service line and identifying the material, please fill out the survey on the front and return to**

**Mail to:**  
City of Follansbee  
P.O. Box 606  
Follansbee, WV 26037

**Drop off in person:**  
City of Follansbee  
872 Main Street  
Follansbee, WV 26037