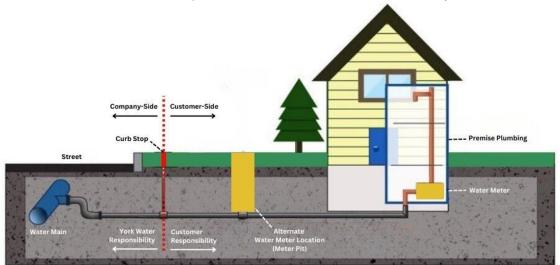
How to Check Your Water Service Line

The York Water Company's water mains are not made of lead, however, the water service line running from the water main to your home may be. We are asking for your help to identify the material of your customer-owned service line. If it is lead, York Water can schedule replacement of that service line at no cost to you.



Service Lines

York Water owns the service line segment from the water main to the curb stop and discontinued the use of lead on the company side prior to 1940. The service line from the curb stop into the home is the responsibility of the property owner and may be made of lead, copper, galvanized steel, or plastic pipe. Sample images of possible pipe materials can be found to the right.

You can determine the service line material by testing the service line pipe where it connects to the water meter in the basement or first floor of your home. You will find all the information you need below. The entire process should only take 10 minutes of your time. Please note: At the end of the survey, you will be asked to submit a picture of your service line with your magnet attached to the pipe.



Steps to Check Your Service Line Material

Step 1: Gather a key or a coin and a strong refrigerator magnet. Then, find your water meter.

The meter is usually located in a basement or in a meter pit outside. Look at the pipe that connects to your meter from the curb or the outside wall. If the pipe is copper/bronze in color, and may have green tarnish, the pipe is likely copper. If the pipe is white, it is likely plastic. If you have identified your service line material as copper or plastic, you can skip to Step 4 below.

Step 2: Carefully Scratch the pipe with the key or coin.

If the pipe is painted, gently scrape off the paint to expose the metal before you scratch it. Do not use a knife or sharp tool. Take care not to make a hole in the pipe. If the pipe scratches easily and turns a shiny silver color, the pipe may be lead or galvanized steel.

Step 3: Place the magnet on the pipe.

If the magnet sticks, the pipe is galvanized steel. If the **magnet does not stick**, the pipe is likely a lead pipe.

Note: A magnet will not stick to copper or plastic, however, these can be ruled out by color and the scratch test.

Step 4: Share your findings with York Water by completing the York Water Service Line Inventory Survey.

The York Water Service Line Inventory Survey can be found by scanning the QR code to the right and at yorkwater.com/service-line-inventory-project.



