



**TONOPAH  
PUBLIC  
UTILITIES**

**140 S. MAIN STREET  
POST OFFICE BOX 151  
TONOPAH, NEVADA 89049  
(775) 482-6643  
FAX (775) 482-3778  
TDD: 711**

**Tonopah Public Utilities is focused on protecting the health of every household in our community. This notice contains important information about your drinking water. Please share this information with anyone who drinks and/or cooks using water at this property. In addition to people directly served at this property, this can include people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, businesses, as well as parents served by childcare at this property.**

### **Regulatory History In Nevada:**

**June 19, 1986:** Congress enacted the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendment of 1986, which prohibited the use of pipe, solder, or flux in PWSs that is not "lead free", defined "lead free", and that plumbing must be "lead free".

- "Lead free" was defined as solders and flux may not contain more than 0.2 percent lead, and the pipes and pipe fittings may not contain more than 8.0 percent lead.

**March 22, 1989:** Nevada public water system regulations require plumbing installed in water supplies to comply with the 1986 SOWA amendments for "lead free" and updated compliance from the 1982 to the 1988 edition of the Uniform Plumbing Code (NAC 445.412).

**June 26, 1989:** Nevada law approved to require updated requirements from the 1985 to the 1988 edition of the Uniform Plumbing Code for any construction, alteration or change in the use of a building (NRS 444.350).

**October 1, 1989:** NRS 444.350 Uniform Plumbing Code law effective (NRS 218D.330). In the State of Nevada, any construction after 09/30/1989 was required by State law to **NOT** contain any lead.

**January 4, 2014:** The Reduction of Lead in Drinking Water Act went into effect nationally. This amendment to the Safe Drinking Water Act introduced a new definition of "lead free" in 40 CFR § 143.12. "Lead free" means:

- Not containing more than 0.2 percent lead when used with respect to solder and flux; and
- Not more than a weighted average of 0.25% lead when used with respect to the wetted surfaces of pipes, pipe fittings, plumbing fittings, and fixtures.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has issued revisions to the federal Lead and Copper Rule (LCR), on January 15, 2021. In November 2023, the U.S. EPA released new Lead and Copper Rule (LCRI) Improvement requirements.

The latest EPA changes are currently being implemented in various stages so that eventually lead or galvanized service lines will be replaced in our community.

Tonopah Public Utilities has determined that a portion of the water pipe (called a service line) that connects your home or building to the water main is made from galvanized material and may have absorbed lead. (This determination does NOT include the Anaconda Subdivision and nearby surrounding area.) The EPA has defined these service lines as “galvanized requiring replacement”<sup>1</sup>. Our records either indicate that lead service line pipe may be present or might have been present in the past. If you have information that could help us better describe your service line, contact us by phone at 775-482-6643 or email at [TPU@TonopahNevada.com](mailto:TPU@TonopahNevada.com).

Galvanized service lines that have absorbed lead can contribute to lead in drinking water. People living in homes with a galvanized service line that has absorbed lead may have an increased risk of exposure to lead from their drinking water.

**Through all the testing performed by Tonopah Public Utilities during instances of lines breaks and line replacements, no lead fittings have been identified.**

### **Replacing Galvanized Requiring Replacement (GRR) Service Lines**

Tonopah Public Utilities is currently replacing approximately 9,000 (nine-thousand) linear feet of the Galvanized Requiring Replacement (GRR) Service Lines in the Town of Tonopah. The following areas have been identified as GRR and are or will be under construction:

Rhines Trailer Court

Magnolia Ave/Nickie Alley

Central St

Oddie/Burro/Brougher Ave

South St

Prospect St

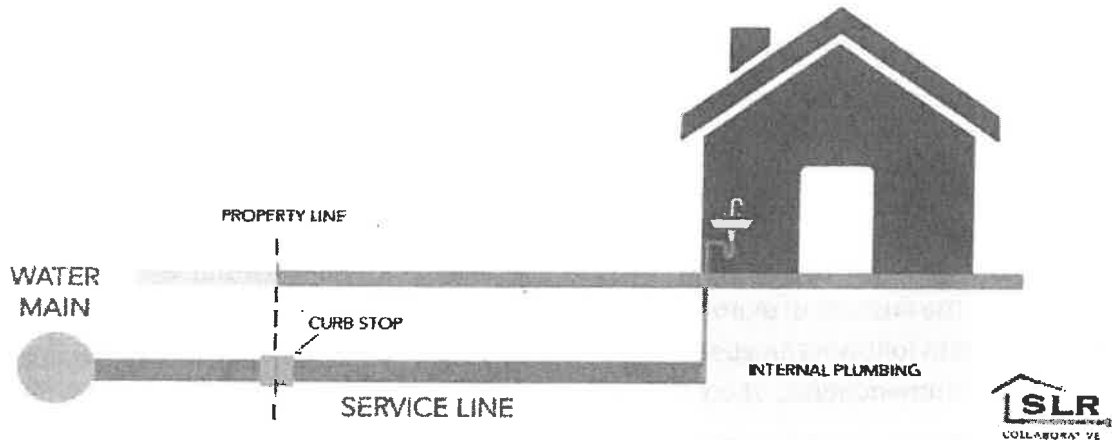
Booker St

Stewart St

If you have galvanized or other line that has potential for lead and are planning on replacing the portion of the service line that you own, please notify our office at (775) 482-6643 or [TPU@TonopahNevada.com](mailto:TPU@TonopahNevada.com) so we may update our records.

---

<sup>1</sup> Refers to a galvanized service line is or was at any time downstream of a lead service line or is currently downstream of a “Lead Status Unknown” service line.



## Health effects of lead

*Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or worsen existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these negative health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, and kidney, or nervous system problems.*

## Steps you can take to reduce lead in drinking water

Below are recommended actions that you may take, separately or in combination, if you are concerned about lead in your drinking water. The list also includes where you may find more information and is not intended to be a complete list or to imply that all actions equally reduce lead in drinking water.

**Use filters properly.** Using a filter can reduce lead in drinking water. If you use a filter, it should be certified to remove lead. Read any directions provided with the filter to learn how to properly install, maintain, and use your cartridge and when to replace it. Using the cartridge after it has expired can make it less effective at removing lead. Do not run hot water through the filter. For more information on facts and advice on home water filtration systems, EPA has developed a <https://www.epa.gov/water-research/consumer-tool-identifying-point-use-and-pitcher-filters-certified-reduce-lead>.

**Clean your aerator.** Regularly clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator). Sediment, debris, and lead particles can collect in your aerator. If lead particles are caught in the aerator, lead can get into your water.

**Use cold water.** Do not use hot water from the tap for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula as lead dissolves more easily into hot water. Boiling water does not remove lead from water.

**Run your water.** The more time water has been sitting in pipes providing water to your home, the more lead it may contain. Before drinking, flush your home's pipes by running the tap, taking a shower, doing laundry, or doing a load of dishes. The amount of time to run the water will depend on whether your home has a lead service line or not, as well as the length and diameter of the service line and the amount of plumbing in your home. [Include tailored flushing information, if appropriate, or add following language] Residents may contact us at [phone number and/or email address] for recommendations about flushing times in their community.

**Water Testing.** Tonopah Public Utilities conducts Lead and Copper testing every 3 (three) years at 10 different locations throughout the Town to get a representative sample of the whole Town. The test results are available upon request and are also reported on the Consumer Confidence Report on an annual basis. Alternatively, you may contact a certified laboratory to have your water tested for lead. A list of certified laboratories is available by request. Note: A water sample may not adequately capture or represent all sources of lead that may be present.

### **Get your child tested to determine lead levels in their blood.**

A family doctor or pediatrician can perform a blood test for lead and provide information about the health effects of lead. State, city, or county departments of health can also provide information about how you can have your child's blood tested for lead. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends public health actions when the level of lead in a child's blood is 3.5 micrograms per deciliter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ ) or more. For more information and links to CDC's website, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water>

**For more information on lead in drinking water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize exposure, please contact the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/lead>.**