LEAD IN YOUR DRINKING WATER SHOULD YOU BE CONCERNED?



OUR DRINKING WATER IS SAFE AND CLEAN

We take pride in providing safe and clean drinking water to Stettler and surrounding areas. Our extensive water testing during the water treatment process monitors color, taste and smell but the most important tests we do are to ensure the water we deliver is safe for you and your family to drink.

YOUR RESPONSIBILTY

A water service line is the pipe that connects your property's plumbing to the water main in the street. The Town of Stettler portion of the service line runs from the water main under the street or alley to the property line. The homeowner's portion of the service line runs from the property line to the water meter in the home or building. (See illustration above)

There are no measurable levels of lead in drinking water when it leaves our water treatment plant. However, lead may be found in tap water for those homes with service line pipes or plumbing and fixtures inside your home made of lead.

WE'RE ALIGNED WITH HEALTH CANADA'S NEW GUIDELINES

In March 2019, Health Canada announced a new guideline for drinking water quality in Canada. Two of the major changes are:

1. Reduction of the maximum acceptable concentration of lead in drinking water from 10 μ g/L (micrograms per Litre) to 5 μ g/L.

2. Requirement to complete testing at the tap from within a customer's home or business, instead of testing it at the property line (which was the previous requirement).

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit www.stettler.net/ to learn more about your role



SIGNS YOU MAY HAVE LEAD PIPES

- Your home was built prior to 1960
- When the Town of Stettler portion of the water service line is lead

TESTING FOR LEAD PIPES

Check the color of pipes in your home:

- Canadian Penny: copper
- Bright Blue or Black: plastic tubing
- Grey: galvanized or lead

If you suspect you may have lead pipes in your home the only way to confirm you may be at risk is to have your water tested.

For a list of accredited labs please visit www.stettler.net.

GENERAL TIPS FOR GOOD WATER QUALITY

- Don't use water from your hot taps for drinking, eating, cooking or baking. Only consume water from your cold ۲ taps, then heat it up if needed.
- Run your cold water tap for at least 3 minutes, or until cold, any time you haven't used the water for 6 or more • hours, if you will be drinking or cooking with it. This flushing time can be reduced if combined with other water use like flushing toilets, showering or running household appliances like the dishwasher or washing machine.
- If you're using a water filter system, follow the manufacturer's guidelines. Properly condition new filters before • their first use, and replace used filter cartridges as required.
- Take note of construction in your area. Following these general water quality tips is particularly important if • construction is occurring near your property, as ground disturbance has the potential to disturb the service line and temporarily increase lead levels in your tap water.

In addition to these general tips, you can take any of the following steps to maintain good water quality:

- 1. Install a water filter
- 2. Check to see if you have a lead service line
- 3. Replace in-home plumbing fixtures
- 4. Replace your lead service line



COST OF FILTER: \$25 - \$40 FILTER TYPE: Activated Carbon (NSF-53 certified) LIFESPAN: 2-3 months

COST OF FILTER: \$55 and over FILTER TYPE: Activated Carbon (NSF-53 certified FILTER TYPE: Activated Carbon (NSF-53 certified) LIFESPAN: 6-12 months

COST OF FILTER: \$25 and under

LIFESPAN: 2-3 months

COST OF FILTER: \$55 and over FILTER TYPE: Activated Carbon (NSF-53 certified) LIFESPAN: 6-12 months

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Annually, Stettler replaces cast iron and lead service lines during the construction season (May to October). As a result of the new Health Canada Guideline, we will be providing more information and reaching out directly to customers with lead service lines in the coming months.

In the summers of both 2020 and 2021, town staff will be collecting water samples from random houses identified by us to have lead services.

For customers who participate in the random sampling program, we will provide results to any resident living in a house where test results are above the maximum acceptable level set by Health Canada.

(We won't publish a household's individual water test results publicly as we respect the privacy of the voluntary participants in the water testing program)

