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**STREET SUPERINTENDENT**  
BOB KEPLAR

## How to Identify a Lead Water Service Line

Tools needed: Flat Head Screwdriver, Magnet, Coin

### Step 1

Locate the water service line entering the building. This is typically found in the basement or a crawlspace. A shut-off valve should be installed on the pipe after the point of entry.

Identify a test area on the pipe between the point of entry into the building and the shut-off valve. If the pipe is covered or wrapped, expose a small area of the it.

### Step 2

Scratch a small surface of the pipe.

Use a flat head screwdriver to carefully scratch through any corrosion that may have built up on the outside of the pipe.

### Step 3

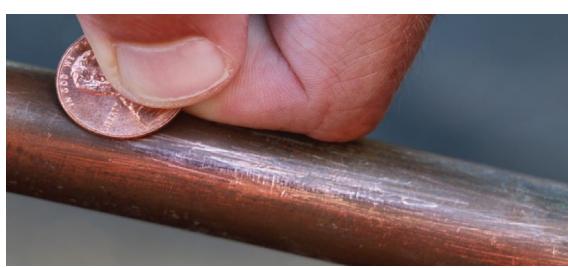
Compare your pipe to the chart below.

Each type of pipe will produce a different type of scratch and react differently to the magnet.



**Lead Pipe**

- \* A magnet will not stick to a lead pipe. (Don't lay magnet on top of the pipe.)
- \* Scratch the pipe with a coin. If the scraped area is shiny silver and flakes off, the service line is lead.



**Copper Pipe**

- \* A magnet will not stick to copper pipe. (Don't lay magnet on top of the pipe.)
- \* Scratch the pipe with a penny. If the scraped area is copper in color, like a penny, your service line is copper.



**Galvanized Steel Pipe**

- \* If a magnet sticks to the surface, your service line is galvanized steel.
- \* A scratch test is not needed. If you scratch the pipe, it will remain a dull grey.