

Considering the health hazards linked to lead exposure, you are required to:

- **Look up your location on the lead service line map at ville.montreal.qc.ca/plomb, to see if you are affected. Reduce your tap water lead exposure, and bring your overall risk to a minimum by:**
 - Using a water filter pitcher, a tap filter, or a pipe filter beneath your sink. These devices must be **NSF-Certified for lead reduction** in accordance with NSF/ANSI¹ no 53 lead content compliance standards, and manufacturer's instructions must be followed
 - Using a filter until your entire water service line is fully replaced
- **Integrate the following actions in your daily routine:** let your tap water run for a few minutes after it becomes cool. Always use cold water to cook. Clean your tap aerator (strainer) regularly.

Please note that boiling tap water does not eliminate lead, as lead does not evaporate, nor is it destroyed through boiling.

For owners:

Moreover, the city asks property owners to replace the private portion of their building's service line if it is made of lead, so as to help streamline the city's replacement work. To do so, owners must obtain a permit from their borough office before starting the work. Failure to do so will result in the city replacing the private portion at the same time as the public portion of the line, at the owner's expense.

1. Before you purchase a filtration device, look up the list of certified products on the NSF International website: info.nsf.org/Certified/DWTU/listings_leadreduction.asp

Montréal action plan

- Provide an online map showing the results of lead screening operations
- Accelerate the screening in order to identify all lead water service lines by 2022
- Distribute a filtration device where a lead service line is detected
- Continue to accelerate public lead service line replacements
- Impose the obligation to replace the private portion of lead water service lines
- Prioritize the replacement of lead water service lines in wartime housing-type homes, single family homes, duplexes and triplexes.

The city is continuing awareness campaigns for citizens affected by lead service lines.

For more information

Ville de Montréal
311

ville.montreal.qc.ca/plomb

Direction régionale de santé publique
de Montréal
santemontreal.qc.ca/leadinwater

Info-Santé CLSC
811

MELCC Québec information centre
1 800 561-1616
mdelcc.gouv.qc.ca/eau/potable/plomb

Tips and prevention

Lead water service lines



Where is lead found?

Lead may be found in small quantities in the air, water, food and dust. Over the past decades the application of more restrictive standards has enabled us to practically eliminate lead from gasoline, tin cans, paint, plumbing solder, and other materials.

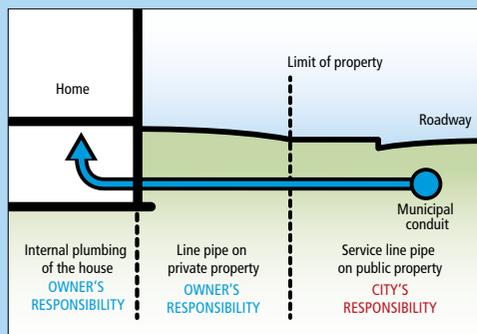
Types of buildings affected by the potential presence of lead service lines

- Buildings with eight units or fewer, built before 1970
- Buildings built between 1940 and 1950, commonly known as wartime housing units

For buildings having more than eight dwelling units or for residences built after 1970, it is highly unlikely that the line connecting the building to the municipal waterworks system is made of lead.

Montréal's water

The quality of drinking water distributed through the municipal water conduit system across the territory is excellent. However, some buildings are connected to our system through lead service lines. That lead can dissolve and make its way into your tap water, particularly after extended periods of stagnation. This may result in lead levels rising above those established for drinking water.



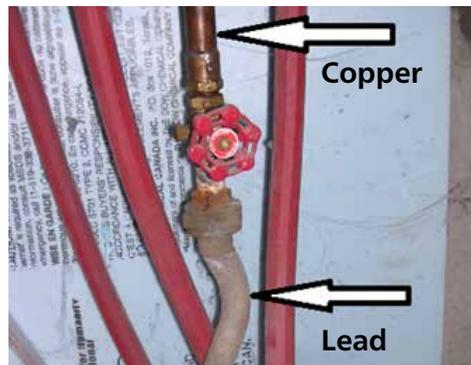
How to recognize a lead water service line

Find the water service valve and look at the pipe:

1. Lead is grey
2. Lead does not echo if you strike it
3. Lead leaves metallic marks when you scratch it
4. Lead does not attract a magnet

If you can't check the pipe yourself, contact your landlord or a plumber, who can do this for you. Nevertheless, even if your home doesn't have a lead water service line, there is still a possibility that an underground section of that water service line is made out of lead.

Note: Aside from the water service line, there may be other sources of lead in your plumbing, for instance, welding, taps, accessories.



Citizen involvement

If you have replaced the private section of your lead water service line, and you wish for the city to replace the public portion sooner, go to ville.montreal.qc.ca/plomb "Plan d'action" section, in order to find out more about the steps required. The city will analyze your file and contact you about the action required.

Prevention tips

Although our regional public health agency, the Direction régionale de santé publique de Montréal (DRSP,) considers the health risk linked to the presence of lead in Montréal's drinking water to be low, scientific evidence calls for caution as a large number of individuals may be at risk. The objective of public health authorities is to reduce as much as possible the level of lead exposure for the entire population, and more particularly for young children and pregnant women.

For maximum risk reduction, various individual measures can be taken to minimize lead exposure through tap water. These measures include the use of filtration devices (water filter pitcher, tap filter, or a pipe filter fitted beneath your sink) that are NSF-certified in accordance with standard NSF/ANSI no 53. It is essential to follow the manufacturer's recommendations for filter installation and maintenance. These measures are particularly important for babies fed with formula (concentrate or powder) mixed with water, children younger than 6 years old, as well as pregnant women who live in a home having a lead water service line.

