



# South Tahoe Public Utility District

1275 Meadow Crest Drive • South Lake Tahoe • CA 96150-7401  
Phone 530 544-6474 • Fax 530 541-0614 • [www.stpud.us](http://www.stpud.us)

November 13, 2024

Dear Customer,

Re: IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER SERVICE LINE

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.  
Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

**As required by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,  
South Tahoe Public Utility District has identified that your water  
service line material is unknown and could be lead.**

The South Tahoe Public Utility (District) recently conducted an inventory of all water service lines, which is the pipe that connects your home to the water main in the street. The purpose of the inventory is to identify the material of these service lines and fittings, including the customer-owned side of the water service line (from the meter to your home).

The material of the pipe that connects your home to the water main is unknown. Lead service lines or certain galvanized pipe can potentially place you at risk for exposure to lead. **Therefore, your service line material will need to be identified.** Fortunately, lead pipes were not commonly used in California, and we have not seen lead service lines in our system at this point in time. If a lead service line is identified, we will notify the homeowner and work with them to replace it.

The District monitors for lead in the distribution system every three years as part of the federal Lead and Copper Rule. The most recent water samples collected in the third quarter of 2023 showed that the 90th percentile of all lead levels measured had a concentration of 2.9 parts per billion (ppb). The action level for lead in drinking water is 15 ppb or 0.015 milligrams per liter (mg/L). The District's water samples have never exceeded the action level of 15ppb for lead.

### **What about my service line?**

Since your service line is categorized as a lead status unknown, you can help identify the material of your service line by conducting a 'scratch' and 'magnet' test.

- **Locate your water service line**, which usually enters a home through a crawlspace or garage.
- **Determine material** of your service line. All you need is a coin, magnet, and camera. See the attached guide to learn how to perform the 'scratch' test. Congress

amended the Safe Drinking Water Act in 1986 to prohibit the use of pipes, fittings and fixtures that contain more than 8% lead. If your home was built after 1986, your service line should not be lead.

- **Self-report** your service line material at [stpud.watersmart.com/WaterLineSurvey](http://stpud.watersmart.com/WaterLineSurvey).

### **What happens next?**

The District will continue to verify water service line material throughout our service area. Fortunately, lead pipes were not commonly used in California, and we have not seen lead service lines in our system at this point in time. If a lead service line is identified, we will notify the homeowner and work with them to replace it.

### **Lead Related Health Information**

- There is no lead in the water supplied by the District's wells. However, lead can get into your drinking water as it passes through pipes and plumbing materials that contain 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 cause new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems.
- If you have concerns about your water quality, read the annual Consumer Confidence Report which summarizes information about water quality at <https://www.stpud.us/water-quality-reports>. If you would like to have your water sampled for lead, contact our Customer Service Department at 530-544-6474 to learn more or visit the State Water Board's Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program for a map of other laboratories you can use.
- If you still have health concerns from potential lead exposure in your drinking water, there are point-of-use (POU) devices that can be used on your drinking water taps to provide an additional barrier of protection. A list of these residential treatment devices can be found at:  
[www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking\\_water/certlic/device/watertreatmentdevices.html](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/device/watertreatmentdevices.html)
- If you have other health issues concerning the consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your health care provider.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this public notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

### **Questions?**

Visit [stpud.us](http://stpud.us), call 530-544-6474, or email [cs@stpud.us](mailto:cs@stpud.us).