



For Immediate Release – June 24, 2024

Lead and Copper Rule Revision

Media Contacts:

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FLORENCE, SC – The Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently enacted drinking water standards related to lead and copper. The Lead and Copper Rule Revision aims to enhance protection of property owners by reducing their exposure to these harmful substances as lead can cause serious health problems if too much enters the body.

The drinking water provided to customers by the City of Florence does not contain lead. However, in homes built before 1986, when lead service lines and plumbing fixtures made with lead components were common, lead can enter residents' drinking water through the corrosion process.

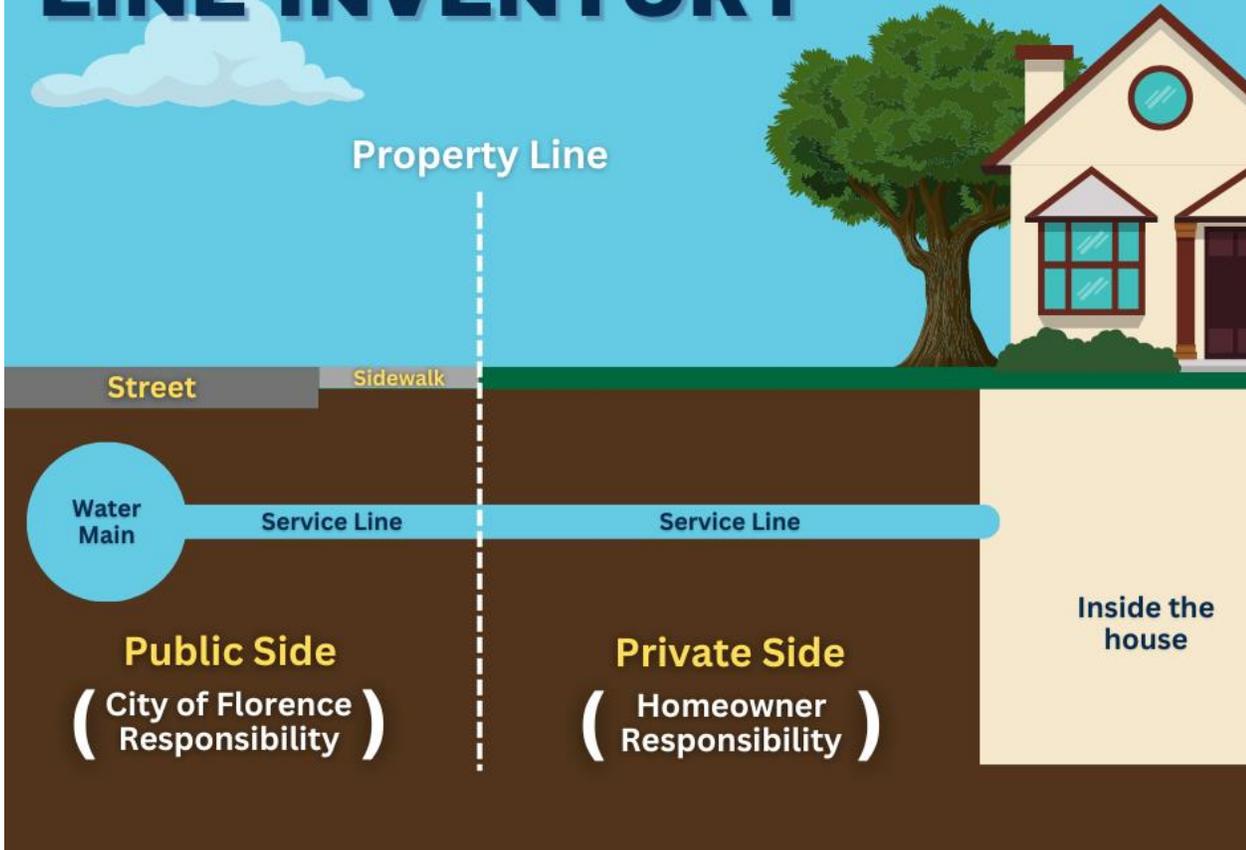
As part of the new regulations, the City of Florence is required by the EPA to inventory the water service lines and the type of materials used (lead, galvanized pipe, non-lead or unknown). The water service line is the pipe that connects the residence to the city's water main in the street (see attached picture.)

The City of Florence began this process earlier this year, and have now contracted with Second Sight Systems to assist with surveying the remaining 14,000 customer service lines to meet the October 16, 2024 deadline set by the EPA. These crews will be excavating in the customer's yards on the city side and customer side of the water meter to survey what type of material is used per the EPA LCRR (Lead and Copper Rule Revision). The EPA requires that every water service line be evaluated, and the line type documented by a city crew or our contractor. Photos of the Second Sight Systems vehicles are included so that customers can easily identify the contractors associated with the project.

When on site, the crew will dig an approximately 1-foot diameter hole on the city side and the customer side of the water meter to visually inspect the pipes. The city will be compiling this information for an inventory that must be submitted to the EPA and SCDHEC. Once the system inventory is completed, the results will be made available online to the public. Water services with documented lead-free lines (PVC, etc.) will not be excavated.

If you have any questions concerning this notice, please call the City of Florence at (843) 665-3236.

WATER SERVICE LINE INVENTORY



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