

To: Resident's Name
Street Address
Marietta, OH 45750

Re: Notification of Lead Status Unknown (Unknown – Unlikely Lead) Service Line

Dear Consumer:

Putnam Community Water Corporation is the public water system (PWS) responsible for providing drinking water to this location. This notification is being sent because this home or building has a lead status unknown service line. This means that your service line material is unknown and may be lead, galvanized requiring replacement, or a non-lead material. A service line is a pipe that connects the water main to the building.

What Does This Mean?

Under the authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires us to notify water consumers who are served by a lead status unknown service line. A service line that is classified as "Unknown" is any service line that meets all of the following criteria:

- There is no record of material used at the time of installation. (drawings, historical records, capital project descriptions, etc.)
- The line was installed prior to 1988. The EPA banned lead in service lines and home plumbing in 1988.
- There is no record of the line being dug up and physically verified for material type. This could have been done during a service line repair or when the line was found during installation of the new sewer system.
- The home owner does not have any records and has not viewed the line where it enters the home.

Putnam Community Water is classifying the unknown lines as "Unknown – Unlikely Lead", which is what you will see if you look at the Lead Service Line inventory on the Putnam Water web site. This is based on the fact that Putnam Water has never found any lead lines in the system. However, because Putnam Water has never physically dug up the line to determine the material type, it must be classified as "Unknown – Unlikely Lead".

What are the Health Effects of Lead?

There is no safe level of lead in drinking water. Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Some of the health effects to infants and children include decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can also result in new or worsened learning and behavior problems. The children of persons who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy may be at increased risk of these harmful health effects. Adults have increased risks

of heart disease, high blood pressure, and kidney or nervous system problems. Contact your health care provider for more information about your risks.

What Can I Do to Reduce Exposure to Lead if Found in My Drinking Water?

- ***Do not boil water to remove lead.*** Boiling water will not reduce lead.
- ***Flush your tap if it has been unused for 6 or more hours.*** Lead levels increase over time as water sits in lead-containing plumbing materials. Regular water usage in your home or building can reduce lead levels in drinking water. When water has not been used for 6 hours or more, homes and buildings served by lead or a galvanized requiring replacement service lines should be flushed until you note a temperature change, then flush for one more minute.
- ***Use cold water for cooking, drinking, and preparing baby formula.*** Do not cook with, drink, or make baby formula from your hot water tap. Lead dissolves more easily in hot water. Always use cold water and heat if needed.
- ***Use an ANSI certified lead filter.*** Filters certified to the ANSI/NSF 53 standard for lead removal can be effective at reducing lead levels in water.
- ***Regularly clean your faucet aerators.*** Over time, particles containing lead can build up on the inside of aerator screens. Cleaning aerators regularly will help eliminate this source of lead.
- ***For pregnant persons, infants, and young children.*** Some populations such as pregnant persons, infants, and young children may be more at risk from the harmful effects of lead. These populations may consider taking extra precautions if their home is served by a lead or galvanized requiring replacement service line. These extra precautions may include having their drinking water analyzed for lead, using an alternative source of water (such as bottled water), or utilizing a filter certified to ANSI/NSF 53 standard for lead removal.
- ***Replace lead containing plumbing fixtures.*** Many homes in Devola built before 1988 have copper lines inside the home that used lead solder. There may be old faucets, valves and other plumbing fixtures may contain lead. Identify if your building's plumbing fixtures contain lead, and replace them when appropriate.
- ***You may wish to have your child's blood tested for lead.*** Your local county health department can be reached for additional assistance.
- ***You may wish to test your water for lead.*** To request this, contact Putnam Community Water Corporation for more information.

What is Putnam Community Water Doing?

- Putnam Community Water does lead testing of water drawn from the water faucet in 10 different homes that were built between 1982 and 1986. Samples are taken on a yearly basis and analyzed by an EPA certified laboratory. Residents are advised of the test results.
- Putnam Community Water adds orthophosphate to the water. Orthophosphate is a corrosion inhibitor which has proven effective at preventing the lead solder in copper lines from entering into the water.

- Putnam Community Water will be sending a survey form for residents to complete which will ask if the resident can confirm the type of pipe material of the line entering the home. If the resident does not feel confident to fill out the form a representative of Putnam Community Water will come to the home to complete the material identification.
- If necessary, in the future, Putnam Community Water may need to go to each “Unknown” line, dig it up and visually inspect the line.
- Putnam Community Water will be updating the list of “Unknown – Unlikely Lead” on a yearly basis. The EPA is requiring that all line materials be identified by October 2027.
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What Can You do About Your Lead Status Unknown Service Line?

- If you receive a survey form and you feel comfortable about filling it out, please do so. The survey form will contain information and pictures for how to determine the material type of the line entering the home. This would help out a lot.
- If you would like to have your water tested by an EPA certified laboratory, please contact Putnam Community Water for a list of laboratories.
- If your home was built before 1988, you may want to have the lines and fixtures evaluated by a licensed plumber.

For More Information, Please Contact: Putnam Community Water Corporation at www.putnamwater.com, visit U.S. EPA’s website at www.epa.gov/lead, or visit Ohio EPA’s [Learn About Lead | Ohio Environmental Protection Agency](#) website. For information about other lead exposure, please visit the Ohio Department of Health’s [Childhood Lead Poisoning](#) website.

Please share this information with all the other people in this home or building, 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 notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

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