



## Lead Water Service Project Questions & Answers

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### Why is the Village doing this project?

The goal of this project will be to remove all the lead service lines in the Village and update the water service lines to a modern copper material. This project will be dealing with lead service lines only. Copper, steel or plastic service lines will not be affected/replaced. When the long-term project is completed the Village will be 100% lead free.

### What is a "Service Line"?

A water service line is the ¾" (or larger) diameter pipe that brings water into your house from the larger water main pipe under your street. The homeowner owns the water service line from the water main to the home (including the connection to the water main). The Village currently maintains the water service line from the main to the b-box within the right of way. However, the homeowner is the owner with ultimate responsibility of the line.

### How will this project be funded?

The Village of Itasca applied for a combination of state and federal funding to remove the lead service lines in the Village and replace them with copper service lines. This is the first time, to our knowledge, that the federal government has allowed public funds to be spent on private property. The Village has been approved funding for the first year and is currently applying for funding for the second year, but there is no guarantee that it will receive funding for the second year. The Village does not expect to spend any money to complete this project.

### Will this cost me anything?

For the first year program that is funded, there will be no cost to the homeowner, and the Village is currently seeking funding for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the program, to further extend the no cost to homeowners, if funded. The homeowner will be receiving an improvement valued at \$8,000 - \$10,000. A new service line will increase the property value and will also reduce the risk of lead contamination. This is truly a "win/win" for all the parties involved.

### Will I be mandated to agree to this?

No, this is COMPLETELY VOLUNTARY, but PARTICIPATION IS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED. Please keep in mind that the State of Illinois recently mandated that all lead service lines are to be removed. Should the Village not be able to secure funding in the future for private property work, the homeowner may have financial consequences for leaving a lead service line in place. This is a great opportunity to offer this replacement to residents at no cost now as part of this currently funded project.

### How do I sign up for this improvement at my home?

We will be contacting you if we think your property has a lead service line. Because a portion of the service line is privately owned by the homeowner, we don't know for sure where all the lead service lines are in the Village. We encourage you to check whether the service line inside your home is lead, and contact us if you think you have a lead service line. Details below will help you identify your service line material.

The following tests can be done on your service line coming through your floor or wall, prior to the first shut off valve.

**Scratch Test** - Use a screwdriver or other metal object to lightly scrape the surface of the water service line

Shiny and silver → your service is lead

Copper color like a penny → your service is copper

Dull grey → your service is galvanized steel



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**Magnet Test** – place a magnet on your water service line

Lead Service Line → a magnet WILL NOT stick to lead.

Copper Service Line → a magnet WILL NOT stick to copper.

Galvanized Service Line → a magnet WILL stick to galvanized pipe.

**The Tapping Test** – tap the service line with a coin or other metal object

Lead Service Line → produces a dull noise.

Copper Service Line → produces a metallic ringing noise.

Galvanized Service Line → produces a metallic ringing noise.

**What should I expect before the replacement of my service line?**

Before the construction, you will need to sign the attached access agreement to allow the work to happen within your property. Once the Agreement is signed, the licensed, insured and bonded Contractor- Joel Kennedy Constructing, awarded the contract through a formal bidding process to do the work, will schedule a site visit at your home. This visit to discuss the work to be done at your home and associated restoration required will take approximately 15 to 30 minutes. Prior to this meeting, we ask that you remove any movable objects and clutter near the location of your water meter. The date of your service line replacement will be scheduled at or soon after this initial meeting.

**When will the work take place?**

At this time, we anticipate the first year's work to take place starting in December 2021 and continue through the fall of 2022, and the second year's program is anticipated to take place in the fall of 2022 and continue through the fall of 2023, depending on the amount for federal funding available and where you live within the Village.

**How long is it going to take to change my service line?**

Contractors should be in your house for approximately 3 to 6 hours. Your water service will be shut off during the period of time that the work is being done. We ask that someone is home during this time to allow the Contractor into the house and to answer any questions during construction.

**Who will be present?**

During initial inspection and consultation, one employee from the Contractor, Joel Kennedy Constructing (OR one employee from Robinson Engineering) will be present to inspect the lead service line where it comes into the house.

Employees from the Contractor, Joel Kennedy Constructing, (2 to 3 employees, including a licensed plumber) and a construction inspector, hired by the Village, and/or a Village representative will be present during construction.

During restoration, no more than 1 to 2 employees from the Contractor and a Village representative will be present.



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All employees will wear masks while inside your house and will maintain social distancing per CDC guidelines.

### **What will be done?**

The water main in the street and the valve in your yard will be dug up. The excavation at your valve will be approximately 5'x5' wide and 6' deep. The excavation at the water main will be approximately 5'x7' wide and 7' deep.

Any outdoor disturbance of sod, landscaping, pavement, etc. will be restored as nearly as practicable to original conditions.

Any indoor disturbance of concrete floor, concrete walls, drywall, flooring, trim, etc. will also be restored as nearly as practicable to original conditions. The contractor will work with each individual resident to provide a satisfactory restoration.

Depending on the house layout, one of three methods will be used to install the new water pipe:

- 1) Cut the old pipe inside the house, attach the new pipe to the cut end, and pull the existing service line out from the street, while pulling the new service in behind the existing service in the existing cavity.
- 2) Use a machine outside the house to drill the service into your house and abandon the existing service in place.
- 3) Use a small machine inside your house to drill from the basement out to the water main.

Once the service line is installed under the ground, a plumber will connect the new copper service to the water meter inside your home and new shut off valves will be installed.

All visible lead pipe within the home will be removed regardless of the method used.

### **What happens after the work is performed?**

You will receive instructions as to how to flush the water pipes in your home to remove any residual lead particles.

You will be provided a water filter pitcher to use for drinking water for three months after the work is performed.

Samples will taken at your home 3-6 months after the work is complete.

### **How will I know that the contractor is the Village's contractor?**

Please don't let anyone into your home to inspect your service line until the Village notifies you to let you know who the contractor will be, the name of the contact person and the approximate date you should be expecting a call to schedule the preconstruction meeting and the construction.

### **Who do I call if I have questions or concerns?**

Of course, you can always contact the Itasca Public Works at 630-773-2455 with any questions.

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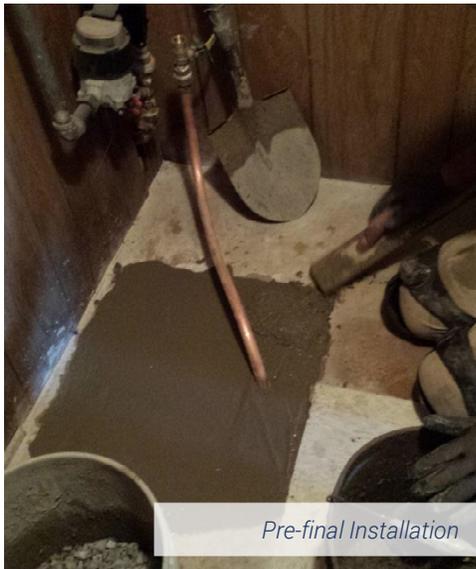
What will this project look like?



Drilling to Residences



Valve Excavation in Parkway



Pre-final Installation



Final Installation