

# BOROUGH OF ELMER

## WATER DEPARTMENT

120 S. Main Street, PO Box 882, Elmer, NJ 08318 (856) 358-4010, Ext. 110; (856) 358-8019 Fax  
clerk@elmerboroughnj.com www.elmerboroughnj.com

### Water Service Line Materials Survey

Dear Water Customer:

This letter is intended to be distributed to all homeowners/property owners in the Borough of Elmer to identify the material type of water service lines to each property. The information collected will be used to create a plan to replace lead service lines in the Borough of Elmer within 10 years. Each homeowner/property owner is asked to complete the survey below.

#### **Background Information**

In 1991 the Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published regulations to control lead and copper in drinking water. The Lead and Cooper Rule required systems to monitor drinking water at customer taps. Since the onset of the rules Elmer has sampled NJDEP approved sites and have no known exceedance of lead during sampling. The most current sampling was completed in 2021 and the Borough of Elmer collected (10) drinking water samples at various locations within the water system service area. There were no reported lead/copper test results that exceeded the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) Safe Drinking Water (SDW) Standards.

In July 2021, P.L.2021, Ch.183 (Law) was enacted, requiring all community water systems to replace lead service lines in their service area within 10 years. Under the law, Elmer Borough Water Department is required to notify customers, non-paying consumers, and any off-site owner of a property (e.g., landlord) when it is known they are served by a lead service line. Note that per C.58:12A-41, section 2, the definition of a lead service line now includes galvanized service lines. The Elmer Borough Water System Lead service line inventory is available at the Borough of Elmer Clerk's Office at 120 S. Main Street, Elmer, NJ 08318

#### **How to check your water service line**

To identify if you have a copper, lead or galvanized steel water service line on your property, you (or your landlord) can perform a Materials Verification Test on the water service line where the line connects to the water meter. Please follow the steps below and complete the provided survey, so we can update our records with the information you provide.

#### **What you need:**

- A house key or coin
- A strong refrigerator magnet

#### **Steps to check your service line:**

1. Find the water meter on your property, likely located in your basement or utility closet.
2. Look for the pipe that comes through the exterior wall of your home and connects to the meter.
3. Once the pipe is located, use a house key or coin to scrape the pipe exposing fresh metal. A magnet can be additionally used to determine if the pipe is magnetic.

- Determine your pipe material by the information provided below and send us your results using the Materials Survey on the following pages.

**Steps to check your soldered service line fittings:**

- Locate a few soldered fittings.
- Similar to testing your pipe by scraping with a key or coin, scrape the solder with a key or coin. If the solder has a shiny color, then it is lead (lead solder will be a dull gray and modern tin solder will be a light gray or shiny without being scraped).

**Your test results:**



**Lead**

Dull matte gray or silver  
If scraped the pipe soft and area shiny.

You **DO** have a lead service line.



**Copper**

Dull brown or greenish  
If scraped the pipe is copper (like a Penny).

You **DO NOT** have a lead service line



**Galvanized Steel**

Dull gray or silver and magnetic  
If scraped area remains a dull gray.

You **DO** have a lead service line.



**Plastic Pipe (PVC or PEX)**

Plastic pipes will be smooth and are usually blue, black, red or white.

You **DO NOT** have a lead service line.

This notice is being sent to you by Elmer Borough Water Department. State Water System ID#: NJ1702001  
Date distributed: May 4, 2022

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### Materials Survey

Before completing this survey, please review the instructions on the previous pages to learn how to locate your water service line and identify the material.

#### What is your water service line material?\*

My water service line pipe material upstream of the meter is likely:

- Lead
- Galvanized Steel
- Copper
- PVC
- Other

#### Provide at least 1 photo showing the material of your water service line.\*

The photo should show the scratched surface of the pipe between where the pipe comes through the wall of your home and your water meter. The photos shall be sent to clerk@elmerboroughnj.com along with the homeowner/property owners name and address, or printed photos may be provided with the return of the completed survey via mail.

#### First Name\*

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#### Last Name\*

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#### Address\*

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#### I prefer to be contacted by\*

Please select an option and then provide a phone number and email address:

- Phone
- Email

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**Phone Number\***

(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address\***

\_\_\_\_\_

**I am the:\***

- Homeowner
- Renter / Tenant

**What year was your house built?**

\_\_\_\_\_

**If you are unsure of the year your house was built, please select one of the following:**

- My house was likely built before 1961
- My house was likely built between 1961 and 1986
- My house was likely built after 1986

**Date completed**

\_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this form and return a hard copy and photo mailed or dropped off to:

Sarah Walker, RMC  
Elmer Borough  
PO Box 882  
120 S. Main Street  
Elmer, NJ 08318  
via email: clerk@elmerboroughnj.com.

If you have any questions, please call 856-358-4010, Ext 110.