

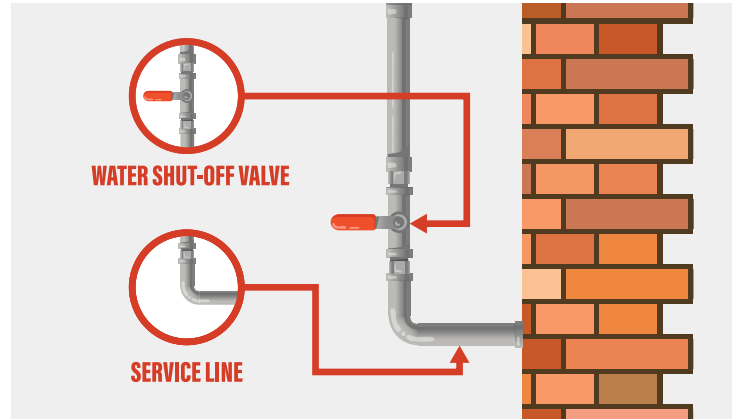
HOW TO IDENTIFY WATER PIPE MATERIAL



STEP 1

Find where the water service line enters the building. **Be sure that you see where the pipe comes through the floor or wall.**

It should be in the basement or lowest floor of the building, near the whole-house water shut-off valve.



STEP 2

Pipe Material Identification (on back):

- Inspect the pipe for threads at the connections.
- Use a coin or key to gently scratch the surface and reveal the underlying metal. Be prepared to scratch through any corrosion or paint. Keep in mind that lead pipes are soft and will scratch easily.
- Test if a magnet sticks to the pipe.



STEP 3

Take three (3) photos:

1. The pipe coming through the wall or floor.
2. A closer view of the pipe with where you scratched it to reveal the metal.
3. A further-out view of the pipe that includes the shut-off valve.



STEP 4

Use the photos and scratch/magnet test to complete the survey.

OVER



LEAD

- A magnet will not stick to a lead pipe.
- Scratch the pipe with a coin. If the scraped area is shiny silver and flakes off, this service line is lead.



GALVANIZED IRON

- If a magnet sticks to the surface, your service line is galvanized iron.
- A scratch test is not needed. If you scratch the pipe, it will remain a dull gray.



COPPER

- A magnet will not stick to a copper pipe.
- Scratch the pipe with a penny. If the scraped area is copper in color, like a penny, your service line is copper.



BRASS

- A magnet will not stick to a brass pipe.
- Scratch the pipe with a coin. If the scraped area is a shiny gold color, this service line is brass.



PLASTIC

- A magnet will not stick to a plastic pipe.
- Do not scratch test.



Bedford
Regional
Water Authority

Bedford Regional Water Authority

1723 Falling Creek Road • Bedford, Virginia 24523
(540) 586-7679 | www.brwa.com



bedfordwater



bedfordwater