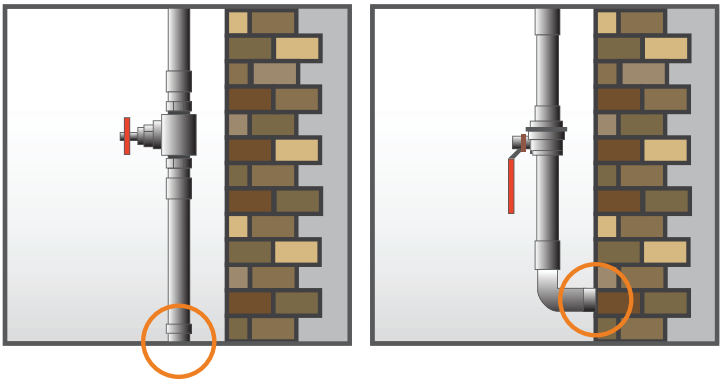
Water Pipe Material Survey Instructions

STEP 1 - Find the Waterline

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 - Determine the material

Refer to Pipe Material Identification Sheet (next page):

- ✓ 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 kitchen magnet adheres to the pipe.

STEP 3 - Optional

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.

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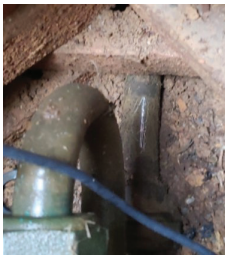
STEP 4 - Complete Survey

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

Water Service Pipe Material Identification

	Lead	Galvonized Iron/ Steel	Copper	Brass	Plastic
Outer Appearance	Color is dull gray, and the material is bendable. Usually curves between wall/ floor and valve.	Color is dark gray or black. The pipe is straight and rigid.	Brown in color and may have green corrosion spots.	Brown in color and may have green corrosion spots.	Typically black, white, or blue in color, and smooth.
Threads at connections	None	Yes	None	Yes	None
Scratch Test (coin or key)	Shiny silver	Hard to scratch and remains gray.	Copper, like a penny.	Gold-toned	Do not scratch test.
Magnet Test	Does not stick.	Magnet will stick.	Does not stick.	Does not stick.	Does not stick.

LEAD



Lead pipes are wider at the base and can form a bulb.

GALVANIZED IRON/STEEL

COPPER

BRASS