



WHAT'S ON TAP?

NEWS FOR OUR CUSTOMERS

DRINKING WATER LINE INFORMATION

For over a year, KC Water has been examining historic records to gather data on what type of material the city's drinking water service lines are made from. This is called the service line inventory program. The inventory is mandated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and every water utility in the country is required to complete it.

The results of this inventory are now available on KC Water's website via a searchable map where customers can learn what type of service line connects to their home.

After examining more than 180,000 historical records, KC Water was not able to determine the material for 27,659 of the drinking water lines. Residents with "unknown" or "galvanized" line materials - steel pipes coated for protection - will receive letters notifying them directly. Having an unknown line does not mean you have lead in your pipes. Homes built after 1989 do not have lead pipes because of the EPA's ban on this material.

"Our research detailing the fact that there are zero known lead lines in our system is a result of decades of work by our department to replace the identified ones" says KC Water Director Kenneth Morgan. "KC Water is committed to continuing this standard when we begin to identify the remaining service lines in our system over the coming years."

Starting in the Spring of 2025, KC Water will begin identifying unknowns in two pilot study neighborhoods. The pilot study will inform KC Water on the best practices for identifying unknown lines throughout the city. Identifying all unknowns in the City will take several years. For residents who have an unknown line leading to their home, KC Water wants to reassure you and all of our customers that the department treats the water you drink very thoroughly.

The process KC Water uses involves multiple phases of treatment and filtration and is specifically used to



prevent lead or any other material from a water line from getting into your drinking water.

"Our commitment to providing customers with quality water complies with - and in some areas exceeds - industry standards. Our treatment facility and lab work around the clock to make sure that the standards are always met" says Morgan.

To search the online map for your address, learn more about the drinking water line inventory or your water's quality, visit: <https://www.kcwater.us/water-quality/>

QUESTIONS?

Email: water.servicelineinventory@kcmo.org

Call: (816) 513-0150



CONTACT US

water.education@kcmo.org

Over a thousand students visited with KC Water at the start of the school year to learn about stormwater, best management practices, and everyday actions we can take to protect water quality.

Contact our education team to schedule a presentation with your classroom, community group, or volunteer group.



SEASONAL WATER PIPE PREPARATION

Temperatures across the metro are starting to get colder as we get deeper into fall and closer to winter.

With that, here are some good reminders for you to protect your home as the temperature drops. Firstly, find out where your water shut off valve is inside your home. Being able to shut off your water is critical in case a pipe bursts.

Wrap your pipes, both indoor and outdoor ones, in heating tape or insulation, especially when it gets to sub-freezing temperatures. This is the safest way to keep pipes warm and prevent them from breaking. Do not use any sort of open flame to warm up or thaw a frozen pipe. It is both a fire hazard and can do more damage to the pipe.

Check your windows for cracks and see if there are areas where your pipes could be exposed to cold air.

Lastly, leave a small stream of water going out of a kitchen faucet during extreme cold temperatures. Running water is a lot harder to freeze and even the smallest stream can help your pipes not freeze.



ANNUAL SEWER REHABILITATION

In 1736, Benjamin Franklin famously advised fire-threatened Philadelphians that “an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure,” and that equally applies to KC Water’s Annual Sewer Rehabilitation (ASR) program. It is easier to stop something from happening in the first place than to repair the damage after it’s done. This includes the prevention of problems in KC’s sewer system.

Portions of Kansas City’s sewer system are 150+ years old and in need of repair. When cracks, leaks, blockages, or other problems appear in sewer pipes, even a small rainstorm can cause diluted wastewater to back up or overflow into our creeks, streams, and rivers. Smart Sewer’s Annual

Sewer Rehabilitation (ASR) program is one of our solutions to fix these aging assets.

KC Water’s ASR program is guided by data-driven asset management best practices. Using smart technologies and proven approaches, engineers can prioritize which portions of our sewer system need repair.

Each year, data is collected through inspections and evaluations and added to the City’s records and databases. This organized data is processed using decision support software to help make informed choices about repairing, inspecting, or cleaning sewer assets, reducing the risk of failure.

KC Water’s ASR program oversees more than 2,800 miles total of sewer assets. To help manage infrastructure at this scale, the program is divided into four main asset classes, each requiring unique inspections and repairs: Large diameter assets are 48 inches and greater in diameter. While these assets are fewer in number than other categories, they are costly to repair and tend to have a higher consequence of failure. In Kansas City, we have approximately 150 miles of large diameter sewers.



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CUSTOMER SUPPORT: (816) 513-1313 (Option 1) or 311 • www.kcwater.us

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