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BUREAU OF SAFE DRINKING WATER

CONSUMER NOTIFICATION OF A LEAD STATUS UNKNOWN SERVICE LINE

November 1, 2024

Dear Water Customer,

The Borough of Cheswick would like to inform you that the material of the water service line to the postmarked address has yet to be determined. Subsequently, the service line has been classified as **Lead Status Unknown**. This means that all or a portion of the service line may be made of lead or galvanized piping requiring replacement. Water supplied through a service line of unknown material may have the potential to increase your risk of exposure to lead. However, in the coming months you will receive notice for a water meter replacement. At this time your service line material will be confirmed. For further information regarding your service line, our service line inventory is accessible at 220 S Atlantic Avenue, Cheswick PA, 15024. THE BOROUGH OF CHESWICK IS CONTINUING ITS EFFORT TO IDENTIFY SERVICE MATERIALS. YOUR SERVICE LINE MAY BE RECLASSIFIED IN THE FUTURE.

What is a Service Line?

A service line is the piping that connects your household or building plumbing to the water main in the street. Ownership varies by water system but is typically split between the water system and the customer. The Borough of Cheswick owns the section of the service line from the water main to the curb stop, while the section from the curb stop to the water meter is owned by the customer.

How Can I Determine My Service Line Material?

The Borough of Cheswick is continuing service line identification and replacement. If your service line is found to contain lead or galvanized piping requiring replacement, you will receive a separate notice providing additional information. The Borough is currently under a contract with Newman Plumbing to replace all residential water meters in the Borough. In the coming months, Newman Plumbing will be contacting you by door hanger or flyer to contact them to schedule a meter replacement. This replacement is being paid for by the Borough and all that is required of the homeowner/tenant is to schedule the replacement.

What are the Health Effects of Lead?

Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems.

What Can I do to Reduce Exposure to Lead in Drinking Water?

- **Run your water to flush out lead.** If the water hasn't been used for several hours, run the water for 15-30 seconds to flush lead from interior plumbing or run the water until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking. Only use cold water for drinking and cooking.
- **Do NOT use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula.**
- **Do NOT boil water to remove lead. Boiling water will not reduce lead.**
- **Look for alternative sources or treatment of water, such as use of a pitcher filter that is certified to remove lead and replace the cartridges on a routine frequency or use bottled water.**

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- **Identify and replace premise plumbing fixtures containing lead.** Brass faucets, fittings, and valves, including those advertised as “lead free” installed prior to 2014, may contribute lead to drinking water because the law allowed fixtures with up to 8% lead to be labeled as lead free.
- **Regularly clean your aerators/screens on plumbing fixtures.** Sediment, debris, and lead particles can collect in your aerator. If lead particles are caught in the aerator, lead can get into your water.

For more information, call us at 724-274-5125, or visit our website at <https://cheswick.us>. For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's website at <http://www.epa.gov/lead> or contact your health care provider.

Sincerely,

Borough of Cheswick
220 S Atlantic Avenue
Cheswick PA, 15024

RE: Cheswick Borough
Subject: Water Meter Replacement

We will be working in your service area ON THE WEEK OF _____
and will need access inside the property to install necessary updated water
meter equipment.

**Please call our toll free number -1-888-437-0078 - MONDAY - FRIDAY
BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 7:30 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.
or email: newmanmeters@gmail.com
to schedule your appointment.**

Please respond within *three days* of this notice.

Please note - This is a mandatory replacement and if you fail to respond the
Cheswick Borough may proceed with water termination.

Thank you for your attention in this matter. Mike Newman, Newman Plumbing, Inc.

Figure 1: Example Newman Plumbing Scheduling Notice