

A Few Facts About Lead and Berea Water

- Lead does not come from the Berea Water Treatment Plant or water mains in the Berea Water Distribution System.
- Instead, if there is lead in drinking water, it comes from various places between the water main and your faucet. This includes lead service lines, copper plumbing with high lead solder, and brass fittings and fixtures within your home.
- The biggest potential source of lead in drinking water comes from lead service lines that run between the water main in the street and your home to establish a connection to the water system. Prior to the 1960s, lead was a common material used for service lines in the Greater Cleveland area, including portions of Berea.
- These connections include a portion on private property for which the property owner is responsible, and a portion from the water main to the curb stop for which Berea Water is responsible. The portion maintained by the City of Berea is referred to as a “city-side connection”.
- Like many older water systems across the country, the Berea Water Distribution System does contain some lead city-side connections. If your home was built after 1954, it is unlikely your home has a lead city-side connection, however, you can contact the Berea Water Plant at 440-234-5652 for more information.
- Berea water is safe to drink. Trace amounts of lead, copper and other metals occur naturally in water. The Environmental Protection Agency has set a lead content limit of 15 micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$). for drinking water.
- The Berea Water Plant adds orthophosphate during the water purification process, as mandated by the EPA to prevent lead from leaching into the water supply.
- Concerned customers may their water independently tested. See the “Request for Reimbursement” form at www.cityofberea.org.