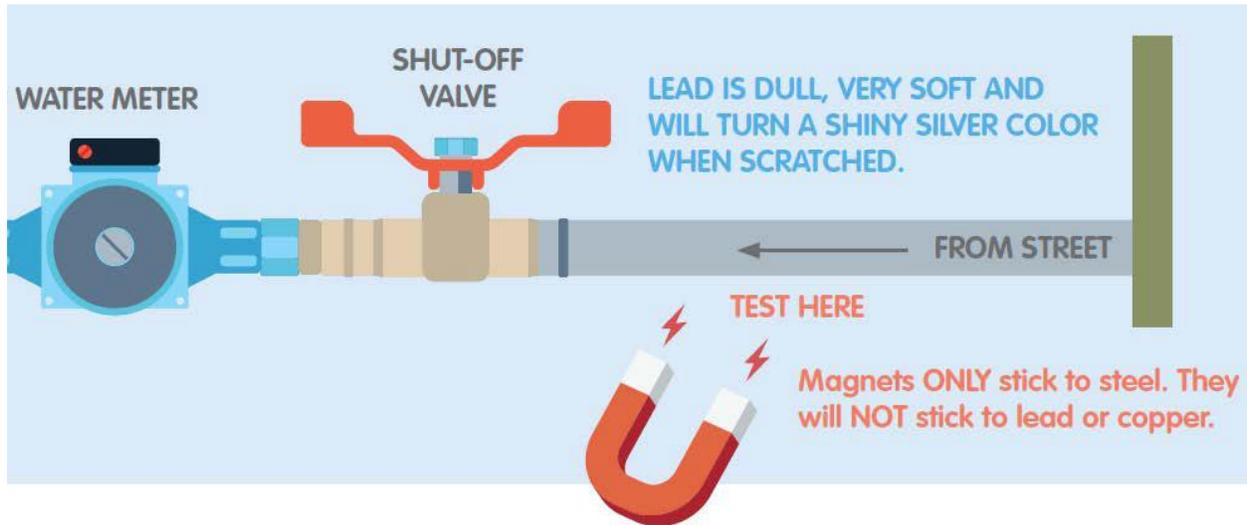# How to Test Your Residential Water Service Line

1. Find the water meter. This is usually in the basement but it could be on the first floor. From the meter, work your way to where the service line enters the building in the wall or in the floor.

2. Find an area to test on the pipe between the wall or floor and the shut-off valve.

3. Use a magnet to see if it sticks to the pipe. If it sticks, the pipe maybe made of galvanized steel that may have lead lining. Corroded galvanized pipe may also leach lead into water.

4. If the magnet does not stick, use a key or a coin to scratch the pipe. If the scratch is copper-colored like a penny, the pipe is copper. This is safe.

5. If the scraped area is shiny and silver, the service line is made of lead or galvanized steel.

6. After touching a lead service line, wash your hands with soap and water.

This National Public Radio online guide may also be helpful. Do you have lead pipes in your home?

Contact the Utilities Division for more information about qualifying for the LSLRP.
leadserviceline@eauclairewi.gov or call 715-839-5045