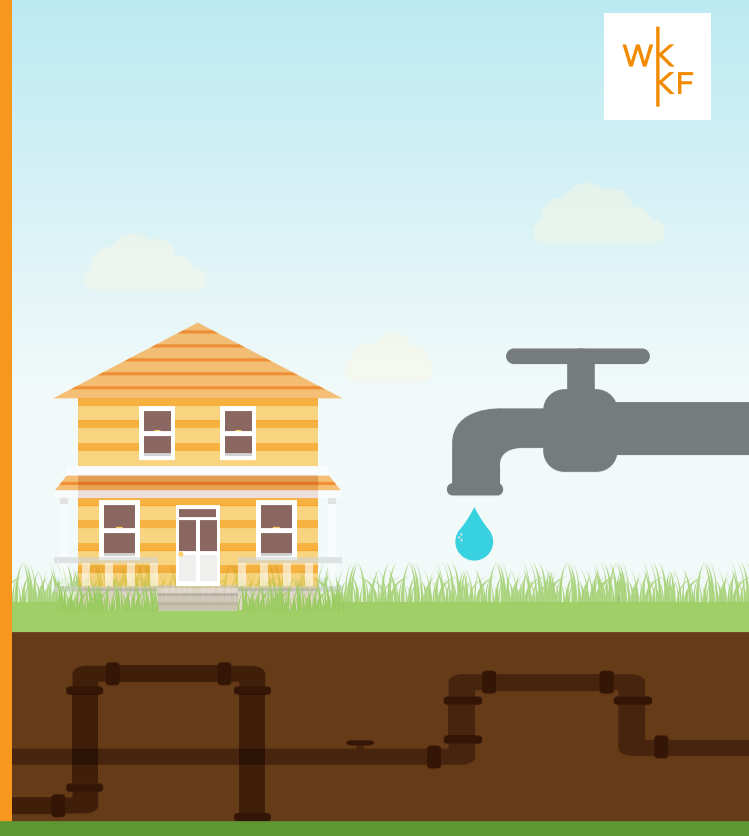


# LEAD IN DRINKING WATER: WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW?

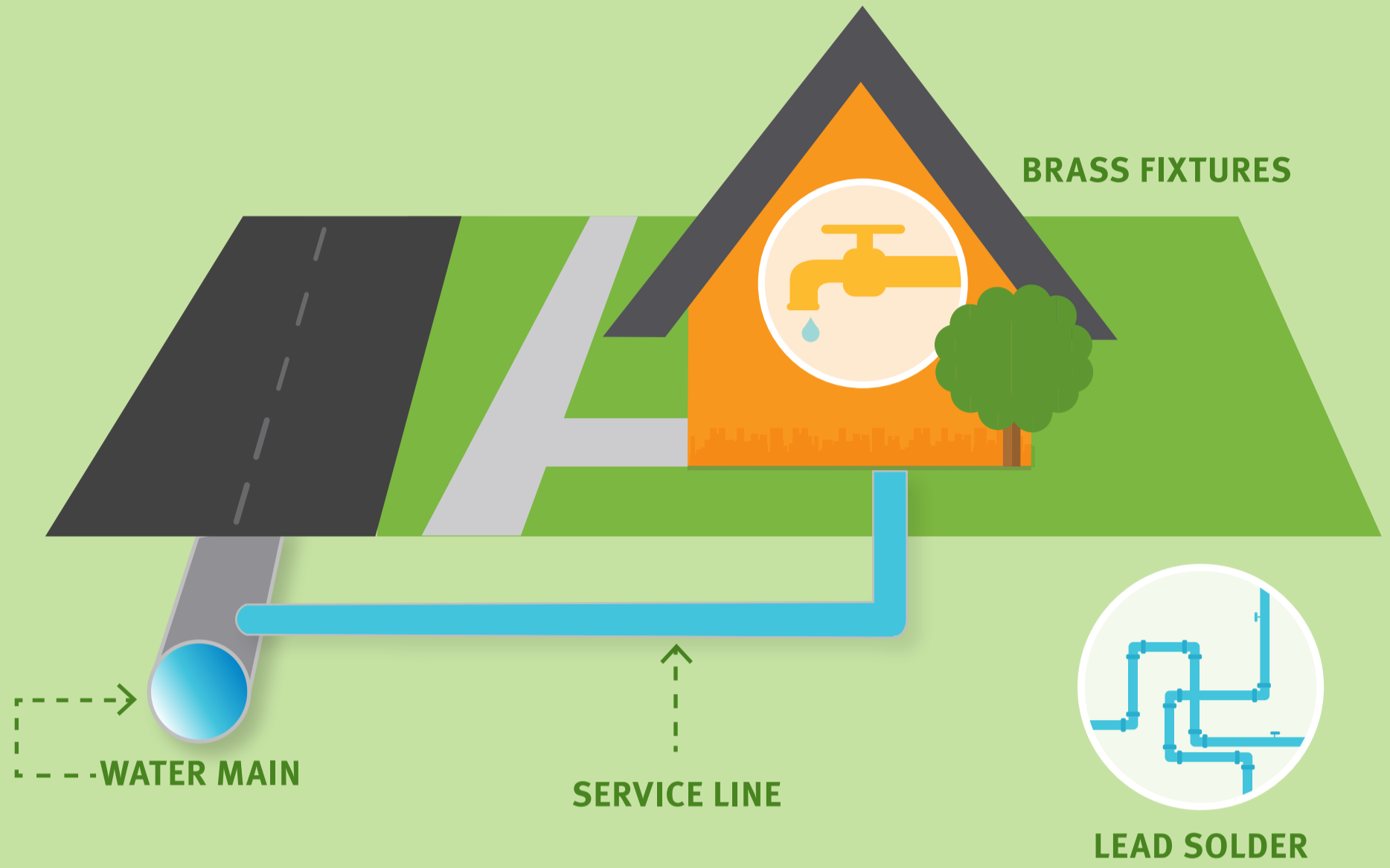
## Is there lead in my drinking water?

You cannot see, taste, or smell lead in drinking water. The only way to confirm that your tap water contains lead is to have it tested by your drinking water provider or by a state certified laboratory.



## How does lead get into drinking water?

Lead seldom occurs naturally in water sources. If lead is found in your water, the most likely reason is the corrosion of one of the following: lead service line, lead solder, or brass fixtures.



## How does lead affect my family's health?

Lead exposure affects everyone, but infants, young children, and pregnant women are especially vulnerable. A simple blood test is recommended for young children. Exposure can lead to:



**DAMAGE TO THE BRAIN AND NERVOUS SYSTEM**



**SLOWED GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT**



**LEARNING AND BEHAVIOR PROBLEMS**

## What can I do?

- Do NOT use hot tap water for drinking, cooking and making baby formula
- Do NOT boil water to remove lead, as it will not remove lead and may actually concentrate it
- Run the cold water tap before drinking, but ask your drinking water provider how long you should run it
- Install a water filter
- Clean your faucet aerator – the round screen at the bottom of the faucet
- When renovating, replace brass fixtures installed before 2014
- Renters: Talk to your building manager or landlord about whether your building has a lead service line and whether the water has been tested for lead
- Homeowners: Replace your lead service line



**LANDLORD**



**RENTER**

## Water Filters

Ensure that your water filter has been certified to NSF/ANSI Standard 53 for reducing lead in drinking water. Common types include:

NSF/ANSI STANDARD  
**53**



**PITCHER STYLE**



**FAUCET-MOUNTED**



**W.K. KELLOGG FOUNDATION®**

For more information on how to protect yourself and your family from lead, visit: [www.drinkingwateralliance.org/lead](http://www.drinkingwateralliance.org/lead)