

Water Service Line Photo Inspection Process

Eligibility

Note: The content of this document does not apply if the inspection is conducted by the local authority. Most water service line installations inspected by MDH can qualify for a photo inspection. If an on-site inspection is required, you will be notified at the time of plan approval. If you prefer an on-site inspection or would like review of inspection photos to be completed prior to covering the work, please schedule an inspection by emailing drinkingwaterplanreview.mdh@state.mn.us.

Required information

Please email photos to drinkingwaterplanreview.mdh@state.mn.us and include the following information in the subject line: **“Photo Inspection”/Project Name/MDH Plan Number** (found on the plan approval letter).

Required photo documentation

Please include photos showing the following:

- Service line connection to wellhead
- All service line pipe joints and fittings
- Service line material and size, including closeup of all pipe markings
- Watertight entry of pipe into building
- Thrust blocking (as applicable)
- Any yard hydrants, with identifying markings
- Trenches and/or entry/exit pits
 - Completion of excavation
 - Bedding with pipe on top
 - Layers of bedding on top of pipe.
 - Site-identifying objects/structures in photos
- Required well sampling faucet
- Any interior plumbing, including pressure tank(s) and shutoff valve with product identification visible

Pressure Testing

Pressure tests must be accompanied by an affidavit signed by the contractor and the owner or owner’s agent who witnessed the test. The affidavit must state the type of test, testing pressure and timed length of test. Only testing procedures from [Minnesota Plumbing Code \(https://epubs.iapmo.org/2020/MPC/\)](https://epubs.iapmo.org/2020/MPC/) Section 609.4 will be allowed.

Corrective Action

Corrective action, including re-excavation, will be required for any installations that do not meet code requirements. Photos must display the installations sufficiently to verify compliance.

Resources

- [Water Service Line Photo Inspection Checklist \(PDF\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/docs/planreview/wslphotochecklist.pdf)
(<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/docs/planreview/wslphotochecklist.pdf>)
- [Water Service Line Pressure Testing \(PDF\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/docs/planreview/wslpressuretest.pdf)
(<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/docs/planreview/wslpressuretest.pdf>)

Minnesota Department of Health
Drinking Water Protection Section
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