



City of Woburn Massachusetts

City Hall
10 Common Street
Woburn, MA 01801

Tel: 781-897-5901
www.cityofwoburn.com

Scott D. Galvin
Mayor

November 15, 2023

PFAS Letter from Mayor Galvin - November 2023

City of Woburn PFAS Testing Update
City of Woburn, Massachusetts

The City of Woburn (the City) is committed to providing regular updates to our community about PFAS testing and providing high quality drinking water to our residents. The City conducts monthly testing for PFAS in its treated drinking water in accordance with all MassDEP requirements. Over the past three years of testing, PFAS6 levels in Woburn's drinking water have averaged 17.8 ppt (parts per trillion), which is below the MassDEP drinking water standard of 20 ppt for PFAS6.

From January 1 through September 30, 2023, the City has been in compliance with the state standard, which is calculated quarterly. The individual monthly results in 2023 have ranged from 11.2 to 22.9 ppt. In October, we found slightly higher results, with the average of two samples being 23 ppt. We will know the compliance status for the 4th quarter of 2023 after we receive results for the November and December samples.

The MassDEP advises that those people in sensitive populations, which include pregnant women, nursing mothers and infants, and people diagnosed by their health care provider to have a compromised immune system should not drink or cook with water that exceeds 20 ppt. If you are an adult or older child, not in sensitive populations, you may continue to consume the water because the 20 ppt value is applicable to a lifetime of consuming the water and shorter duration exposures present less risk.

We have and are taking several actions to address the PFAS6 levels in the drinking water and their impacts, as follows:

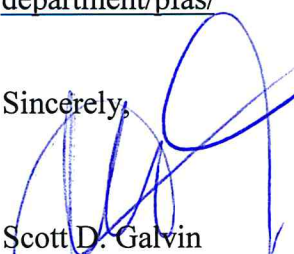
- A free water bottle filling station is available at the Senior Center on School Street.
- For people considered in a sensitive population (see above) who must purchase bottled water, the City will issue a monthly rebate for the water bill to be issued in February 2024 for the billing period of July 1, 2023 thru December 30, 2023. The rebate will be available for those periods we are above the MassDEP drinking water standard of 20 ppt.
- We are upgrading our water treatment plant to treat and remove PFAS6. The design was submitted to MassDEP for approval on September 29, 2023 and MassDEP's review is underway.
- To fund these treatment upgrades, we qualified to receive from the Massachusetts Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) loan program a 0% interest loan. The City's project was 1 of 33 out

of 114 proposed projects to be selected for DWSRF financing during the calendar year 2023 Intended Use Plan financing cycle. The DWSRF is a joint federal/state loan program that will allow the City to borrow funds at 0% interest rate for this PFAS-mitigation project, with an opportunity to receive an additional 6.6% in principal forgiveness. The City submitted the loan application package to MassDEP on October 13, 2023, for review and approval.

If you have questions about your drinking water, please contact the City of Woburn Water Department at 781-897-5945. If you have questions for Mayor Galvin, please call at 781-897-5907.

The City is dedicated to providing the highest quality drinking water to our residential and business customers. The Department serves water to over 40,000 residents of Woburn, as well as the industrial and commercial customers within the city, through over 200 miles of water mains and service connections. Additional information can be found on the City website: <https://www.woburnma.gov/government/water-department/pfas/>

Sincerely,



Scott D. Galvin
Mayor
SDG/dm