

Dan Van Schalkwyk, P.E., Director
Pamela J. Martin, Business Manager
Kimberly Abraham, Water and Sewer Superintendent
Matt Hernon, P.E., Town Engineer

25 BROOK STREET
AYER, MASSACHUSETTS 01432
T: (978) 772-8240
F: (978) 772-8244

Ayer Drinking Water PFAS Update

January 12, 2023

The Ayer Department of Public Works will be providing updates regarding the various actions and issues related to the PFAS contamination in Ayer's drinking water. The update will be itemized and in no particular order or priority. If you need additional information or clarification on any of these items, contact Kimberly Abraham at 978-772-8240 or kabraham@ayer.ma.us.

We continue to sample the water monthly for post- treatment PFAS6 levels and will continue to offer updates on this webpage with monitoring results.

The results for September through December sampling are as follows:

SUPPLY	DATE	MassDEP PFAS-6 (ppt)
Grove Pond Finished Water	9/8/2022	Non-Detect
	10/12/2022	Non-Detect
	11/7/2022	Non-Detect
	12/1/2022	2.5
Spectacle Pond Finished Water	9/8/2022	Non-Detect
	10/12/2022	Non-Detect
	11/7/2022	Non-Detect
	12/1/2022	Non-Detect

We acknowledge the 2.5 ppt result in the Grove Pond finished water in the sample collected on December 1, 2022. The media used to filter the PFAS out of the water had become spent. This is referred to as "breakthrough."

Per our treatment permit with the MA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the two treatment vessels operate in series. We first noticed breakthrough in vessel 1 several months ago and began the procurement process to replace the media. The media was replaced in vessel 1 in November and test results show Non-Detect for PFAS-6 in the water coming out of that vessel. While vessel 1 was offline for media exchange, vessel 2 was solely treating the water. The media in vessel 2 was then scheduled to be replaced with new media in early December. Although we were not expecting this breakthrough from vessel 2, it is fortunate that the media was scheduled to be changed when it was.

The level detected on December 1st is below the State Standard of 20 ppt and we are confident that the finished water from Grove Pond is Non-Detect for PFAS-6. January samples have been collected and we are awaiting the results which will be included in the next update.

Ayer DPW Water Division Operators and staff will continue to monitor conditions in the treatment plants and the distribution system. We also continue to closely monitor the science of PFAS as it continues to evolve and respond to regulatory requirements as they unfold.