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Ayer Drinking Water PFAS Update

April 26, 2024

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 six regulated compounds are PFOS, PFOA, PFNA, PFHxS, PFHpA, and PFDA.

The results for January through March sampling are as follows:

SUPPLY	DATE	MassDEP PFAS-6 (ppt)
Grove Pond Finished Water	1/12/2024	Non-Detect
	2/12/2024	Non-Detect
	3/7/2024	Non-Detect
Spectacle Pond Finished Water	1/12/2024	Non-Detect
	2/12/2024	Non-Detect
	3/7/2024	Non-Detect

The DPW also sample for PFAS at the midpoint of the PFAS treatment system, between the two (2) treatment vessels, to know when to replace media. Once detections of PFAS6 are apparent at the midpoint of treatment, we begin the process of media changeout in the lead vessel. We have begun to experience detections of the PFAS6 at the mid-point in treatment at both Spectacle Pond and Grove Pond WTPs and we are working to replace the media in the lead vessels through the proper procurement channels.

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.

On Wednesday, April 10th, the US EPA announced that they have finalized a new federal National Primary Drinking Water Rule for PFAS, which will apply to Public Water Suppliers across the county. EPA's Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL) for PFAS compounds, PFOA, PFOS, PFNA, PFHxS, and GenX Chemicals are quite a bit lower than the Massachusetts MCL of 20 ppt for the sum of six PFAS compounds (PFAS6).

Ayer DPW Water Division has been monitoring for these PFAS compounds and are glad to report that our most recent results are **non-detect/non-reportable**.