

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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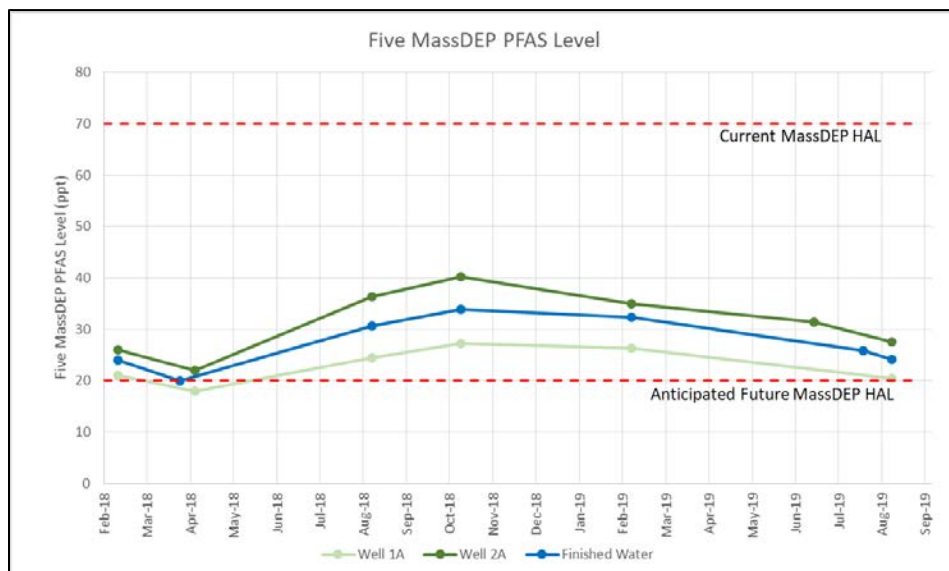
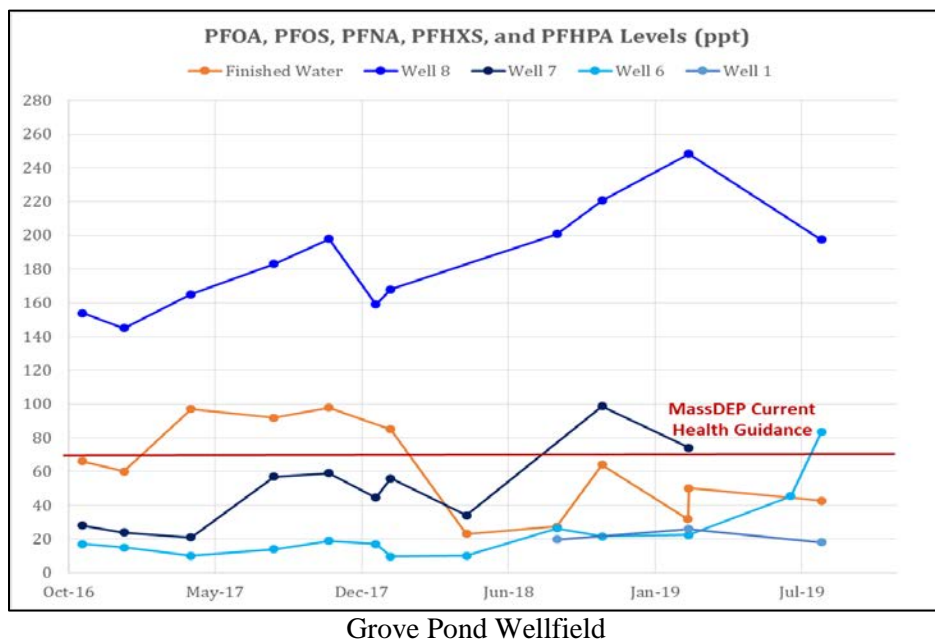
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Ayer Drinking Water PFAS Update

September 30, 2019

The Ayer Department of Public Works will be providing weekly 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 Mark Wetzel 978-772-8240 mwetzel@ayer.ma.us.

Water Quality Sampling –The results of the August sampling for the 5 MassDEP ORSG PFAS compounds at Ayer wells, are shown as follows.



At the Grove Pond Wellfield, we are managing the blending of the supplies to minimize the PFAS level in the treated water. With the GAC treatment on-line at GP Well 8, we have taken GP Well 7 off-line. GP well 1 is only used when needed to meet the high demands as this well has very high iron and manganese.

Grove Pond Temporary Treatment – The Grove Pond Well 8 temporary treatment system has been in continuous operation for several weeks during which the system operated at 200 gpm and treated more than 3M gallons. The Ayer DPW performs daily monitoring of flow and pressure, and Sovereign Consulting has an operator who maintains the bag filters which still periodically clog with manganese. Water samples continue to show the system is removing PFAS, and the next round of compliance samples will be collected in early October. Lastly, the system will be winterized in the coming months.

Grove Pond PFAS Treatment Facility –The contractor is constructing the foundation for the treatment building. Foundation construction is expected to take two weeks. Shop drawing review is on-going. We are also beginning the greensand media replacement to improve the iron, manganese and arsenic remove related to the use of GP Well 1.

Spectacle Pond Wellfield Treatment –CDM-Smith will be collecting 550 gallons of Spectacle Pond water for bench scale testing of 1 GAC media and 3 AIX media. Results of the bench scale testing will be completed in January 2020. Ayer DPW is appropriating \$3.6 M for this project at the Fall Town Meeting in late October.

Spectacle Pond Contamination Investigation – The MassDEP Waste Site Clean-up Division is completing preliminary investigations into potential sources of contamination in the Spectacle Pond aquifer. Based on this investigation, we can better determine the source and potential levels of PFAS contamination that could impact the wellfield, including long term treatment and responsibility.

Public Outreach – I continue to provide PFAS updates at Ayer Board of Selectmen meetings. The Ayer PFAS presentation at the NEWWA Annual meeting is posted on the town web page, <https://www.ayer.ma.us/water-department/pages/pfas-drinking-water>. There were numerous presentations and a panel discussion on PFAS drinking water contamination at the conference with great networking opportunities with other water suppliers, engineers and regulators. I will be presenting at the MWWA Fall Forum October 17 and joining a PFAS panel discussion for MWWA October 24. I have met with two other communities with recently discovered PFAS and provided information on Ayer's response, public notification and action plan.