

Acton Water District
Water Words Notice

Summer 2021



Greetings District water takers! Thank you for your interest in the District's operation, water supply and the environment. Please carefully review the attached Summer *WaterWords* Newsletter and Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). You may find the latest summary of water quality data on our website at www.actonwater.com/ccr. There is a lot of very important information about the District's operation and water quality in this report.

The last year has been rough on us all. The COVID-19 Pandemic has taken its toll on everyone. As an essential utility, we had to maintain continuity of operation the entire time. I'd like to thank the District staff for their commitment to making this all happen, and keeping each other, the public and themselves safe during this very trying time. However, we are not out of the woods yet! As we see things returning to normal, we must remain vigilant for as long as it takes. As of June 1, 2021, the District office is open to the public, with some COVID restrictions still in place. We appreciate everyone's cooperation and patience as we all had undesired burdens placed upon us.

Last year at this time we broke ground on a new water treatment plant for our Conant I & II wells, the Central Acton Water Treatment Plant (CAWTP). The contractor, Waterline Industries, has been making great progress and the plant is due to be commissioned this fall. We look forward to providing clean, mineral free water from these sources. Upon commission of the CAWTP, 85% of our source waters will be filtered. Thereafter, the only sources remaining are our West Acton wells, Clapp & Whitcomb. They are currently pumped to the system through Granulated Activated Charcoal (GAC) filters, which does a great job removing per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), as well as other contaminants from these source waters, however iron is a challenge for this technology. Full scale filtration for these wells, will be much more extensive, and, per our Master Plan, is probable within the next ten years.

As a result of the system improvements, the quarterly Debt Fee will increase to \$60 as of July 1. This increase includes the initial interest payment on the CAWTP, as well as the existing debt payments. Please visit our website for more details: [https://actonwater.com/customer-service/my-water-bill-\(july-2021\)](https://actonwater.com/customer-service/my-water-bill-(july-2021))

We greatly value your feedback, participation in our proceedings, and engagement on issues that are important. Please contact us via phone, email, Twitter, web inquiry, or, if you subscribe, Water Smart with any questions you may have, comments that you have, or suggestions you may wish to make. Thank you!

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Allen
District Manager

Water Words Notice is published twice a year for all customers of the Acton Water District

District Manager:
Chris Allen
Editor:
Matthew Mostoller

Board of Commissioners:
Barry Rosen, *Chair*
Erica Amir-Lin
Stephen Stuntz

Report on Water Quality

Summer 2021 PWS 2002000

Acton Water District

Testing for Your Drinking Water

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the amounts of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. In 2020, water supplied by the Acton Water District (AWD) met most EPA, state, and our own local drinking water health standards for chemicals regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). Of note were the treatment technique violation for arsenic and the exceedance of the recently adopted Massachusetts maximum contaminant level for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). This report is a snapshot of water quality in 2020. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, how it is treated and distributed, and how it compares to standards set by the EPA.

The AWD works diligently to safeguard your water supplies by employing multiple barriers for protection, including source water protection, distribution system protection, ongoing monitoring, and treatment. Last year, we collected more than 650 samples and tested them for more than 100 different potential drinking water contaminants.

Information on PFAS

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are everywhere. They are ubiquitous in the environment because we as a modern society use them or have caused them to be present in everything. While a select few PFAS compounds (PFOS and PFOA) have been phased out of production in the United States, hundreds of others are still manufactured and used in US products. Importantly, PFOS and PFOA are allowed to be present in thousands of products which are imported into the US. While companies have touted “replacement” compounds, they often turn out to be just as persistent and potentially toxic as the substances they replace.

Drinking water is only one of a multiplicity of low-level PFAS exposure pathways that the average person experiences constantly. The food we eat (particularly packaged food), the personal care products we use, the commercial and household cleaners we employ, and a wide variety of environmental exposures all significantly contribute to the overall amount of PFAS we are exposed to in daily life. When considering the population’s exposure, regulators set drinking water standards to be protective of the most sensitive populations (adults who are pregnant or nursing, and their infants in addition to certain immune compromised individuals). Consumption of drinking water with PFAS concentrations at the state’s maximum contaminant level (MCL) is not an acute exposure for the average person and is factored into their overall lifetime risk.

Some communities in Massachusetts have a single large polluter, resulting in one or two wells having PFAS levels which are tens or hundreds of times higher than the state MCL. These single sources can be targeted for cleanup and the affected well can be shut down. In other towns, like Acton, there is no immediately obvious single source of PFAS contamination. We have detected PFAS in all of our wells at concentrations ranging from below or a little above the MCL to an isolated case of multiple times greater than the MCL. Except for our Conant 1 well, all other wells are blended before treatment and the water being delivered to customers has lower PFAS levels than the individual sources.

How can the Acton Water District (AWD) fix this difficult problem that we did not cause?

Short-term response actions are already underway, including selectively shutting some wells off, commissioning additional wells, designing and installing PFAS-removal systems at the most highly

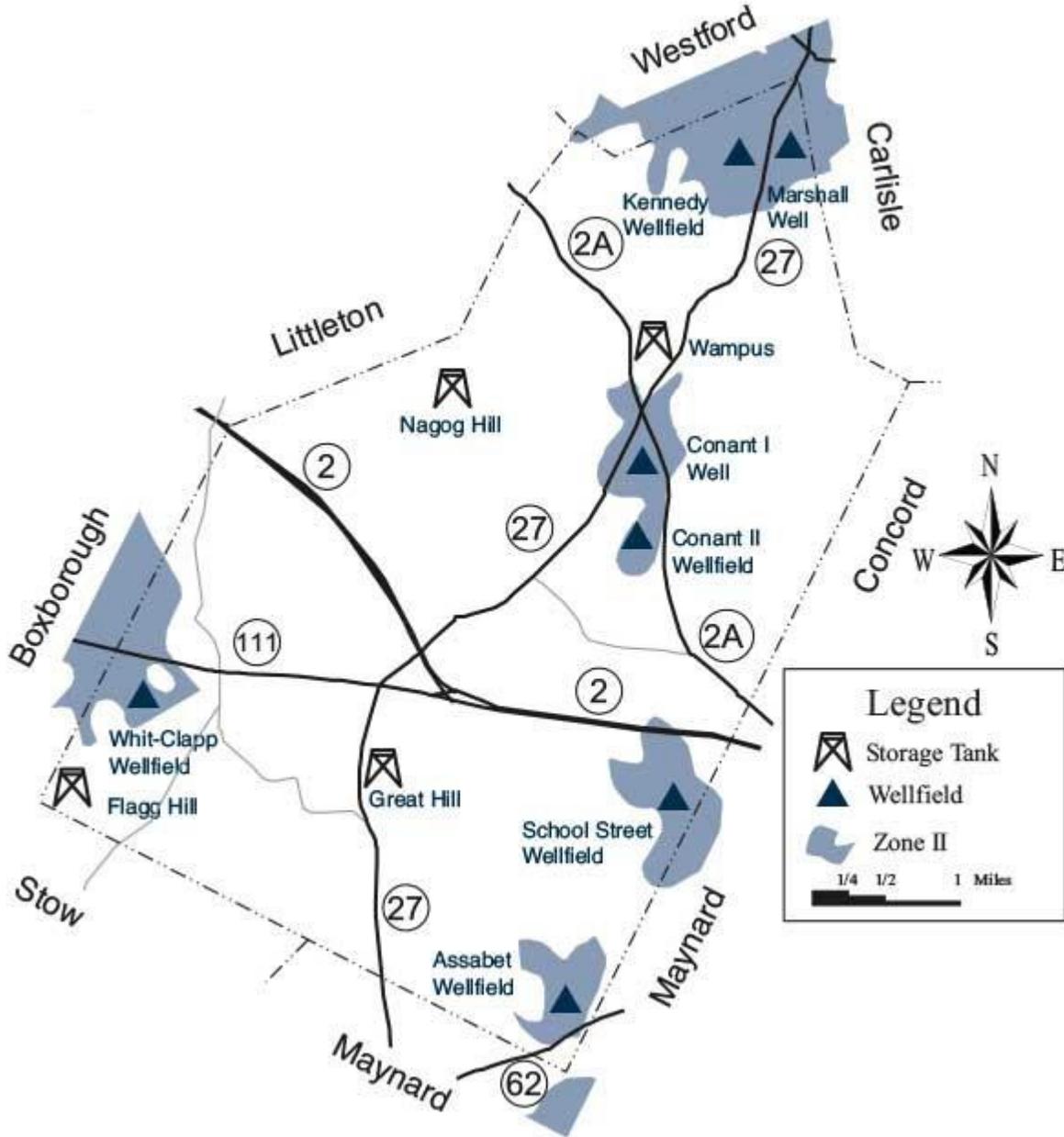
contaminated sources, and temporary restrictions on outdoor water use. Water quality sampling has demonstrated these actions have had an impact on lowering PFAS levels in the drinking water. In the longer term, more permanent solutions will need to be implemented. Selecting these solutions requires the AWD to undertake strategic planning to investigate all viable options for providing water. Significant costs are associated with each phase of any long-term solution, potentially reaching into the tens of millions of dollars.

PFAS, like most water contamination issues, can be solved with enough money and political will. In the absence of state and federal funding for PFAS mitigation efforts, and the federal government's reluctance to hold chemical manufacturers accountable, water suppliers are forced to go it alone. We are currently unsure of the source of the contamination in any of our wells. In 2020, the Board of Water Commissioners voted to enter into a national Multi-District Litigation (MDL) where the defendants are the manufacturers of PFAS, 3M, Dupont, Tyco, to name a few. Any awarding of funds for damages will take time to payout, and we cannot wait for that to conclude. The financial impacts of remediation will be costly, and, until such time as damages are awarded, will be borne by the District's ratepayers. Hence, it is critical that we carefully create a priority-based plan to get it right. We want to hear from you as well. The topic of PFAS has been an agenda item for the Board of Commissioners since late 2019. The meetings are typically biweekly, and agendas are posted 48-hours in advance on our website.

The District continues to work with state regulators to understand and respond to the discovery of PFAS in our community. Continued patience will be required as communities throughout Massachusetts and the nation contend with PFAS thereby drawing out the ability to acquire temporary or permanent treatment equipment. We urge you to stay updated via our website www.actonwater.com/pfas or by subscribing to our email update list. You may be added to this list by sending an email with your name and address to wq@actonwater.com.

The Source of Your Drinking Water

Your water comes from wells that tap the water held in the ground beneath the town of Acton and neighboring communities. The Acton Water District has 23 different wells that withdraw water from seven wellfields located in various parts of town. Water from each well is pumped to treatment facilities located in each of the various wellfields, and then into the distribution system (a network of over 130 miles of water mains, four storage tanks, and more than 1,100 fire hydrants), where it blends together and is delivered to homes, businesses, schools, and other public users. The map on this page shows the various storage tanks, wellfields, and the critical protective radius (called Zone II) around each wellfield.



Protection for Your Drinking Water

The Acton Water District employs three important “barriers” to maintain the highest possible quality of drinking water:

- A protective area called Zone II surrounds each of Acton’s wells. Land use activities that could adversely affect water quality are restricted within the Zone II area.
- Each of Acton’s wells is treated in order to remove impurities and improve the taste of the water. Water treatment specifics are listed below.
- The system of pipes that delivers water to your home is protected by a program that works to minimize “cross connections” between potable (intended for human consumption) and non-potable water. An example of a cross connection is a point where a drinking water pipe might connect to a fire suppression system or to an outside irrigation system.

Why Are Impurities in Your Drinking Water?

As water travels through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals. It can also pick up substances resulting from animal or human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- **microbiological** contaminants (such as viruses and bacteria) that may come from septic systems, agriculture, and wildlife.
- **inorganic** contaminants (such as salts and metals) that may be naturally occurring or result from stormwater runoff, wastewater discharge, mining, or farming.
- **pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- **organic chemical** contaminants, which are byproducts of industrial processes, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- **radioactive** contaminants, which can occur naturally or be the result of oil and gas production or mining activities.

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some impurities. The presence of an impurity does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The Acton Water District has compiled information on drinking water and health in its drinking water resource center. Please feel free to visit or call us for information or call the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Treatment for Your Water

To meet local, state, and federal requirements, and to improve taste and appearance, the Acton Water District treats all of its water before it is supplied to customers. The table below shows the treatment provided at each wellfield.

<i>Treatment</i>	Conant I Well	Conant II Wellfield	Marshall Wellfield	School Street Wellfield	Assabet Wellfield	Kennedy Wellfield	Clapp/Whitcomb Wellfield
Aeration <i>VOC removal</i>		●	●	●	●	●	●
Chlorination <i>disinfection</i>	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Fluoridation <i>tooth decay prevention</i>	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
pH Adjustment <i>corrosion control</i>	●		●	●	●	●	●
Carbon Filtration <i>taste/color control</i>							●
Membrane Filtration <i>mineral/color removal</i>			●	●	●	●	

Water Quality Data Table

The data presented in the table below are from calendar year 2020 unless otherwise noted. Only compounds that were detected in the water delivered to customers are reported in this table. Because water from all wellfields is blended within the distribution system, these data represent the range of water quality in all wellfields.

Terms and Abbreviations:

AL Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

LRAA Locational Running Annual Average: The highest level of contaminant as determined by a running annual average of all the samples taken from a sampling point.

MCL Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible, using the best available treatment technology.

MCLG Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

MRDL Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal: The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

ppb: part per billion by volume

ppm: part per million by volume

ppt: part per trillion by volume

90th Percentile: the concentration of a substance that falls at the top ninety percent of all values for that substance.

TT Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of contaminant in drinking water.

2020 Water Quality Data Table

Substance (units)	Range of Detects	Level Allowed (MCL)	Goal (MCLG)	Typical Source	Exceeds MCL?
Regulated Substances (MCL has been established)					
Arsenic (ppb)	0-11	10	0	Erosion of natural deposits	Yes
Barium (ppm)	0-0.01	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits	No
Chlorine (ppm)	0.0-1.07 0.12:highest running annual average	4 (MRDL)	4 (MRDLG)	Water additive used to control microbes	No
Fluoride (ppm)	0-1.0	4	4	Water additive which promotes strong teeth	No
Haloacetic Acid (ppb)	0-10 LRAA:13	60	No MCLG	Formed when natural organic material present in the water reacts with chlorine added as a disinfectant	No
Nitrate (ppm)	0-2.22	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits	No
Perchlorate (ppb)	0-1.1	2	No MCLG	Rocket propellants, fireworks, munitions, flares, blasting agents	No
PFAS6 (ppt)	0-26	20	No MCLG	Discharges and emissions from industrial and manufacturing sources associated with the production or use of these PFAS, including production of moisture and oil resistant coatings on fabrics and other materials. Additional sources include the use and disposal of products containing these PFAS.	Yes
Trihalomethanes (ppb)	9.1-57 LRAA:55	80	No MCLG	Formed when natural organic material present in the water reacts with chlorine added as a disinfectant	No
Turbidity (Nephelometric Turbidity Unit)	0.02-0.18 Lowest Monthly % Samples: 100	Maximum Day 1 NTU (TT)	95% of samples <0.3 NTU Monthly (TT)	A measure of the cloudiness of water. It is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our treatment processes.	No

Unregulated Substances (MCL has not been established)

1,4-dioxane (ppb)	0-0.161	No MCL	No MCLG	Chemical solvent, lab reagent, stabilizer, adhesive, may be found in cosmetics, detergents, and shampoo.	Unregulated contaminants have no established MCL
Aluminum (ppb)	0-59	No MCL	No MCLG	Residue from water treatment process; erosion of natural deposits.	
Chloroform (ppb)	0-7.03	No MCL	No MCLG	Formed when natural organic material present in the water reacts with chlorine added as a disinfectant.	
Chlorodibromomethane (ppb)	0.98-4.03	No MCL	No MCLG	Formed when natural organic material present in the water reacts with chlorine added as a disinfectant.	
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	0-7.28	No MCL	No MCLG	Formed when natural organic material present in the water reacts with chlorine added as a disinfectant.	
Bromoform (ppb)	0-2.84	No MCL	No MCLG	Formed when natural organic material present in the water reacts with chlorine added as a disinfectant.	
Iron (ppm)	0-1.38	No MCL	No MCLG	Erosion of natural deposits.	
Manganese (ppb)	0-471	No MCL	No MCLG	Erosion of natural deposits.	
Nickel (ppb)	0-1	No MCL	No MCLG	Erosion of natural deposits.	
Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) (ppt)	0-11 Average: 6.2	No MCL	No MCLG	Discharges and emissions from industrial and manufacturing sources associated with the production or use of these PFAS, including production of moisture and oil resistant coatings on fabrics and other materials. Additional sources include the use and disposal of products containing these PFAS, such as fire-fighting foams.	
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) (ppt)	0-20 Average: 9	No MCL	No MCLG		
Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS) (ppt)	0-7.1 Average: 3.1	No MCL	No MCLG		
Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA) (ppt)	0-2.3 Average: 2.3	No MCL	No MCLG		
Perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA) (ppt)	0-9 Average: 4	No MCL	No MCLG		
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS) (ppt)	0-7.7 Average: 3.6	No MCL	No MCLG		
Perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA) (ppt)	0-11 Average: 6.6	No MCL	No MCLG		
Sodium (ppm)	30.1-80.8	No MCL	No MCLG	Erosion of natural deposits, road salting.	
Sulfate (ppm)	8.3-41.9	No MCL	No MCLG	Natural Sources.	

Lead and Copper (30 sites sampled during August/September, 2019. Sampling underway at 60 sites during 2021.)

Substance (units)	90th percentile	# sites above Action Level	Action Level	Typical Source	Exceeds AL?
Lead (ppb)	4.00	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	No
Copper (ppm)	0.398	0	1.3	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching; Corrosion of household plumbing systems; from wood preservatives	No

Discussion of Data Table Detections

ARSENIC: During 2020, a treatment technique violation occurred at a facility that normally filters out arsenic to meet the MCL. Customers were notified that this occurred, and the filtration process was corrected by the time the notice was mailed. This is an example of sampling the water to ensure our processes are working as intended. However, water systems such as ours, with arsenic above 5 ppb (50 percent of the MCL), but at or below 10 ppb (the MCL) must include the following statement. While your drinking water meets EPA’s standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA’s standard balances the current understanding of arsenic’s possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

COLIFORM: Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) to identify any problems that were found during these assessments.

FLUORIDE: The Acton Board of Health voted in 1970 to adjust the fluoride level in drinking water to prevent tooth decay/cavities. On June 8, 2015, the Acton BOH voted to adopt the Centers for Disease Control’s recommended adjusted fluoride dose to 0.7 mg/L. AWD implemented the new adjusted dose at all of its treatment plants in 2015.

SODIUM: Although sodium does not have a Maximum Contaminant Level, the MassDEP does have a guideline of 20 parts per million (ppm) for sensitive individuals, such as those on very salt-restricted diets. The AWD notifies the Acton Board of Health of sodium results, and results of the most recent sodium tests are posted at various locations in town. Sodium levels in drinking water vary considerably from well to well and month to month. For the most accurate data on sodium levels at your home, an individual tap sample would be necessary.

LEAD AND COPPER: If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The AWD is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

MANGANESE: Manganese is a nutrient that is part of a healthful diet. Drinking water may naturally have manganese and, when concentrations are greater than 50 parts per billion (ppb), the water may be discolored

and taste bad. Over a lifetime, EPA recommends that people drink water with manganese levels of less than 300 ppb; over the short term, EPA recommends that people limit their consumption of water with levels of more than 1,000 ppb, primarily due to concerns about possible neurological effects. Children up to one year of age should not be given water with manganese concentrations greater than 300 ppb, nor should formula for infants be made with that water for longer than 10 days. As we continue to implement filtration for manganese removal, sources with higher concentrations are relied upon less to meet our water demand.

1,4-DIOXANE: During 2020 the AWD collected samples for this compound in the raw and treated waters of the Assabet and School Street wells. This sampling was conducted due to the presence of this compound at the WR Grace and Nuclear Metals, Inc. Superfund sites near our South Acton wells. 1,4-dioxane is not a regulated contaminant, and the MassDEP has not established an MCL. The AWD is following the potential regulation of this contaminant and the effect it may have on our water system. Some people who drink water containing 1,4-dioxane at high concentrations for many years could experience chronic kidney and liver effects and liver cancer. More information is available at www.actonwater.com/water-quality/14-dioxane

PFAS6: Some people who drink water containing these PFAS in excess of the MCL may experience certain adverse effects. These could include effects on the liver, blood, immune system, thyroid, and fetal development. These PFAS may also elevate the risk of certain cancers. The AWD began monitoring for PFAS in January 2020, before MassDEP required it. The PFAS6 was regulated on October 2, 2020. Results presented in the regulated table above are from October 2 through December 31, 2020. Any detects before that time were reported in the unregulated table above. More information is available at www.actonwater.com/pfas

VOLUNTARY MONITORING: In addition to the monitoring required by the Safe Drinking Water Act, the AWD voluntarily conducts hundreds of additional tests each year to ensure high-quality water. For more information on our voluntary monitoring, please contact us.

VULNERABILITY: Some people may be particularly vulnerable to impurities in drinking water. Immuno-compromised persons, such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, and some elderly people and infants can be particularly at risk for infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Source Water Assessment and Protection Report Available

The Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP) program requires states to assess the susceptibility of public water supplies to potential contamination. The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) has completed its assessment on each of the Zone II areas for the Acton Water District's wells. A susceptibility ranking of "high" was assigned to each Zone II using the information compiled by MassDEP. Copies of the SWAP report are available at the Acton Water District office or on the website: www.ActonWater.com.

The AWD has long recognized the susceptibility of its sources and has worked closely with the town and state to maximize the protection of all of its Zone IIs. For more information, please call Matthew Mostoller, AWD Environmental Manager, at 978-263-9107.

Do You Want to Become More Involved?

The Board of Water Commissioners meetings are typically scheduled on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 7:00 pm; all citizens of Acton are welcome to attend. The beginning of each meeting is set aside for citizen comments that may not be on the agenda for discussion. If you wish to attend, please call us to confirm the next meeting date. The Acton Water District Annual Meeting is held on the third Wednesday of March. All interested persons are welcome to attend.

For more information, additional copies, or to comment on this report, please contact:

Acton Water District

Attn: Matthew Mostoller

P.O. Box 953, 693 Massachusetts Ave., Acton, MA 01720

Phone: 978-263-9107 Fax: 978-264-0148 Email: mmostoller@ActonWater.com

Do you know about Cross Connections?

A cross connection is any actual or potential connection between a distribution pipe of potable water supplied by the public water system and any waste pipe, soil pipe, sewer, drain or other unapproved source. If not properly protected or eliminated, a cross connection can cause health problems and spread disease.

There are two methods by which contamination can enter the drinking water, backpressure and backsiphonage. Backpressure occurs when the pressure in the property exceeds the drinking water pressure. This can be caused by air conditioning units, boiler systems, and other pressure-building devices connected to the drinking water system. Backsiphonage occurs when the drinking water pressure drops off and the resulting vacuum sucks the water from the building. This can be caused routinely by a fire department's use of water due to a fire, water main breaks, and other heavy water demand.

Most cross connections are prevented by installing backflow devices. A hose bibb vacuum breaker, sold at any hardware store, prevents the typical garden hose cross connection. Backflow devices come in all different types to protect even the most dangerous liquids from being able to contaminate the drinking water. To our knowledge, there has never been a cross connection incident in Acton, but there have been several in the state of Massachusetts and even more nationally.

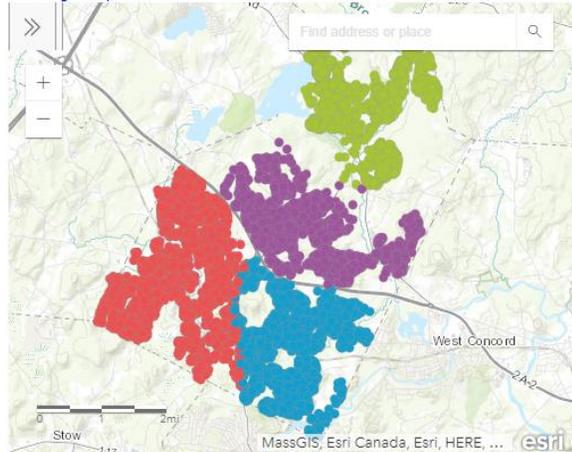
Everyone should be aware of and do their part to prevent drinking water from becoming contaminated by cross connections. By surveying all industrial, commercial, and institutional facilities for cross connections, the Acton Water District ensures that the water supplied — down to the last free-flowing tap in every home and office — is of the highest quality. All residential homes with irrigation systems are required to have backflow protection. Learn more about cross connections by contacting Charlie Rouleau, our Cross Connection Coordinator, at 978-263-9107.

Seasonal Outdoor Water Use

Lawn Watering, 1 day per week, before 7 am and after 7pm.

- Tuesday: North Acton – North of Brook Street including Great Road from Brook Street to Littleton line
- Wednesday: Acton Center/East Acton – North of Route 2 to South of Brook Street (562 Main Street follows this schedule) including Pope Road and Great Road to Concord line
- Thursday: West Acton – South of Route 2 and West of Main Street (even side of Main Street follows this schedule)
- Friday: South Acton – South of Route 2 and East of Main Street (odd side of Main Street follows this schedule)

[View larger map](#)



Need help figuring out what day you may water your lawn?

Use the map above to find your address, or enter your address below, or call the office at (978) 263-9107.

current restriction, you may water your lawn on your geographically assigned day and wash your car on the days of the week associated with your address. Customers with even-numbered addresses may use water outdoors on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday while odd-numbered addresses may use water outdoors on Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday. No lawn watering is allowed between the hours of 7am and 7pm, and no outdoor water use of any kind is allowed on Mondays. The restrictions apply to both new and established lawns. The seasonal outdoor water use restriction applies not only to automatic and manual irrigation, but also, to *any* outdoor water use. Examples include filling or topping off pools, car washing, power washing, and recreation.

All in moderation!



Dick O'Brien (left) is pictured with Bill Mullin (right) after he was recognized for his years of service as District Moderator during the Annual District meeting held on May 5th.

Our seasonal water use restrictions are in effect from May 1 to October 1 of each year, some years the dates are extended due to varying conditions and regulations. The consistent application of these restrictions helps us to prudently manage our water supply and educate consumers to be mindful of water use before they are asked to further conserve water use during an emergency. On April 1st, we had to ask customers to only use our water for lawn watering one day per week. Details on when you may water your lawn can be found at www.actonwater.com/conservation/outdoor-water-restrictions. This was due to ongoing impacts of PFAS causing some sources of supply to be at reduced production capacity and the deactivation of the Conant 2 treatment plant due to construction of the new CAWTP at that location.

Typically, our seasonal restriction allows the following, and we ask customers to continue abiding by the non-lawn watering aspects of this program. For example, during the

2021 has brought a few changes to the leadership of the Acton Water District. Richard O'Brien, District Moderator for the past 20 years, decided to retire. His thoughtful guidance and insights, as well as his ability to keep District

Meetings focused will be missed. We wish Dick a long and healthy retirement! Dick was replaced by William Mullin, a former alternate member of the Finance Committee. Bill brings a wealth of financial and municipal knowledge to the District. His first Annual Meeting was a great success, and we look forward to the next!

David Butler, a Finance Committee member since 2008, decided to retire this year as well. His knowledge of District finances and short-term needs, coupled with his view of the long-term financial integrity of the District will be missed. We wish Dave the best in retirement! The appointment of a new Finance Committee member is the job of the newly elected Moderator. We look forward to welcoming a new member soon.