

Chelmsford Water District PFAS Summary and Update

July 1, 2022

The Chelmsford Water District (the “District”) will be providing updates regarding per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). The District will continue to monitor for PFAS6 in its finished water and will update the public regarding any actions or issues related to potential PFAS contamination that may be found in its water. If you need any additional information or clarification on any of these items, contact Todd Melanson, Environmental Compliance Manager at 978-256-2931 tmelanson@chelmsfordwater.com

Regulatory summary and update:

On October 2, 2020, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) published its PFAS public drinking water standard known as a maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 20 nanograms per liter (ng/L) or ppt - individually or for the sum on the concentrations of six specific PFAS compounds. These six PFAS compounds are: perflourooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS); perfluorooctanic acid (PFOA); perfluorohexane sulfanic acid (PFHxS); perfluoronanonic acid (PFNA); Perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA); and perfluorodecanoic acid (PFDA). MassDEP abbreviates this set of six PFAS compounds as “PFAS6”.

Chelmsford Water District Action Summary:

The July pre-regulatory sampling as well as the initial regulatory and confirmatory sampling rounds which occurred in November and December 2020 were posted on the District’s Summary and Update of **January 21, 2021**. All of the individual and quarterly results for 2021 were posted on the District’s Summary and Update. All Summary and Updates are online at the District’s website: [District PFAS Summary and Updates | Chelmsford Water District](#)

The 2022 Monthly Compliance Sampling and Quarterly results are shown in ppt and special notes (*):

2nd Quarter Results		2022		2022 Quarterly Average				
Sample Dates:	April-2022	May-2022	June-2022	Jan-Mar	April-June	July-Sept	Oct-Dec	MADEP MCL
				1st Qtr	2 nd Qtr	3 rd Qtr	4 th Qtr	
CS WTP	11.9	10.4	18.9	18	14			20
RN WTP	16.2	15.6	16.2	17	16			20
SS WTP	NA*	11.8	11.6	NA *	12			20

*: The Smith Street Plant was shut down in late October for the winter period and not subject to sampling. It will be resampled when it comes back online in the Spring of 2022.

The sampling result required the District to continue monthly compliance monitoring which was initiated on January 2021. The **2021 Third Quarterly Results of 21 ppt violated the PFAS6 MCL of 20 ppt but only at the Crooked Spring WTP**. This violation was a Tier 2 violation and required a formal MassDEP approved Public Notice which has been distributed. The District has formally received its Notice of Noncompliance (NON) and has responded to MassDEP’s issues and concerns.

Given the return of the Crooked Spring Water Treatment Plant (WTP) to PFAS levels below the Massachusetts State MCL level consistently for 3 sequential quarters, any short term action plan requiring alternative water supplies has been tabled until such time as another Quarterly MCL violation occurs. The District has focused on completing the process of the final solution for the Crooked Spring WTP. The District's PFAS treatment pilot study performed under the MassDEP PFAS Grant/Reimbursement for Engineering and Design Work for PFAS Remediation, was completed and submitted, with the best option for treatment at the Crooked Spring WTP being referred to MassDEP for review. The next phase has been completed with the Engineering Firm **AECOM** being selected and approved through the Request for Qualifications for the treatment design. They will now begin the process of the final design of the PFAS treatment which once completed, allows the District to apply for a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSFR) loan. Once or if approved by the Clean Water Trust (CWT), this will be followed by an Invitation for Bid for the construction of additional treatment based on the recommendation of the final engineering and design report from AECOM.