

TOWN OF SOUTHBOROUGH DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS



To Our Water Customers,

The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) and the Southborough Department of Public Works are pleased to bring you the 2006 Drinking Water Quality Report.

The Town of Southborough purchases 100% of its water from the MWRA. The water is fully treated by the MWRA before the Town pumps the water into our distribution system at the Town's two pumping stations. The Town distributes the water through our pipe network into your home or business. Water pressure is created from the height of the water in the Town's three storage tanks. In 2006 the Town pumped about 359 million gallons of water for distribution to Southborough residences and businesses. This is a decrease in consumption from Southborough's 2005 consumption. This decrease could be attributed, in part, to the voluntary water ban put in place during the 2006 summer months and also to the cool and wet summer months of 2006.

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) requires that the Southborough water system be sampled at five locations per year for PCE (tetrachloroethylene) in areas where there is vinyl-lined asbestos cement pipe. The results are reported here.

COMPOUND	UNIT	MCL	MCLG	DETECTED LEVELS	VIOLATION
PCE	ppb	5.0	0	ND-0.9	No

^{*} Note: Definitions of terms and abbreviations (e.g., MCL and MCLG, etc.) are found in the attached MWRA Annual Water Quality Report.

The Town collects at least 10 samples per month to test for total coliform bacteria. In August 2006 coliform bacteria were detected in 2 samples of the 16 taken that month. Our water system has a coliform violation if more than one sample in a month tests positive for coliform. Coliform bacteria are generally harmless, but can indicate the presence of harmful bacteria. Further testing of the samples testing positive for coliform indicated that no harmful bacteria were present. As required by the DEP, a public notice was given through an advertisement in the Metro-West Daily News and on the Town of Southborough cable channel.

The Town of Southborough also tests for lead in tap water. We test fifteen homes twice a year. The 90th percentile level from the Town of Southborough's sampling was 4.32 ppb, which is below the Action Level of 15 ppb. Please see page 5 for more information on lead in tap water.

The Southborough Public Works has updated its Water System Analysis. This analysis summarizes system improvements that are needed to keep up with demand, update aging infrastructure and generally improve the system. The Water System Analysis is available on the southboroughtown.com website.

Please conserve water and protect our local waterways and other natural resources.

Regards,

THE TOWN OF SOUTHBOROUGH DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Karen Galligan Superintendent