This report contains very important information about your drinking water. Please translate it, or speak with someone who understands it.

Si usted desea obtener una copia de este reporte en español, llame al teléfono 617-788-1190.

La relazione contiene importanti informazioni sulla qualità dell'acqua della Comunità. Tradurla o parlarne con un amico che la comprenda.

O relatório contém informações importantes sobre a qualidade da água da comunidade. Traduza-o ou fale com alguém que entenda.

Sprawozdanie zawiera ważne informacje na temat jakości wody w Twoim mięśnicy. Proszę o przetłumaczenie go lub porozmawiać z osobą która je dobrze rozumie.

هدف این گزارش به اطلاع رسانی از اهمیت اطلاعاتی در مورد کیفیت آب مصرفی در منطقه است.

Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA)
Massachusetts Dept. of Environmental Protection
Department of Conservation and Recreation
Massachusetts Dept. of Public Health (DPH)
US Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)
List of State Certified Water Quality Testing Labs
Source Water Assessment and Protection Reports
Information on Water Conservation
Public Meetings
MWRA Board of Directors
MWRA Advisory Board
Water Supply Citizens Advisory Committee

Where To Go For Further Information

www.mwra.com
www.mass.gov/dep
www.mass.gov/dcr/watersupply.htm
www.mass.gov/dph
www.cdc.gov
www.mwra.com/sourcewater.htm
www.mwra.com/conservation.html
617-242-5323
617-292-5500
617-626-1250
617-624-6000
800-232-4636
617-242-5323
617-242-5323
617-242-SAVE
617-788-1117
617-788-2050
413-213-0454

This report is required under the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act. MWRA PWS ID# 6000000

For a large print version, call 617-242-5323.
Dear Customer,

I am pleased to share with you the results of our water quality testing. MWRA takes hundreds of thousands of tests each year, and for 2013, we again met every federal and state drinking water standard. System-wide, we have been below the Lead Action Level for the past ten years. Please read your community’s letter on page 4 for more information on your local water system.

The big news this year is that we have completed the start-up of a new ultraviolet (UV) disinfection facility at the John J. Carroll Water Treatment Plant in Marlborough, improving the quality of the drinking water we deliver to you. UV light is essentially a more potent form of natural disinfection from sunlight. UV enables MWRA to inactivate the most difficult to kill pathogens - which could potentially be in the source water - without the use of additional chemicals or any associated disinfection by-products. The UV process and MWRA’s high quality source water allow MWRA to meet new regulatory requirements cost effectively.

Since 2005, your water has been treated with ozone - produced by applying an electrical current to pure oxygen. Ozone provides a high level of protection against microbes and viruses, improves water clarity, and has actually made the water taste better. The addition of UV to the ozone process provides additional assurance that any pathogens potentially in our reservoirs will be rendered harmless.

In addition, fluoride is added to promote dental health and the water chemistry is adjusted to reduce corrosion of lead and copper from home plumbing. Last, we add monochloramine, a mild and long-lasting disinfectant combining chlorine and ammonia to protect the water as it travels through miles of pipelines to your home.

In a few short years, water treatment has gone from chlorine with its taste and odor issues, to ozone and now ultraviolet light— with no additional chemicals and no disinfection by-products. Just better, safer water.

Your local water supply may have different treatment. Please see page 4 for more information.

I hope you will take a few moments to read this report. We want you to have the same confidence we have in the water we deliver to over 2 million customers. Please contact us if you have any questions or comments about your water quality, or any of MWRA’s programs.

Sincerely,

Frederick A. Laskey
Executive Director
Where Does Your Water Come From?

Your water comes from the Quabbin Reservoir, about 65 miles west of Boston, and the Wachusett Reservoir, about 35 miles west of Boston. These reservoirs supply wholesale water to local water departments in 51 communities. The two reservoirs combined supplied about 200 million gallons a day of high quality water to consumers in 2013. Your water also comes from local water supplies. Please see page 4 for more information.

The Quabbin and Wachusett watersheds are naturally protected with over 85% of the watersheds covered in forest and wetlands. To ensure safety, the streams and reservoirs are tested often and patrolled daily by the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR).

Rain and snow falling on the watersheds - protected land around the reservoirs - turn into streams that flow to the reservoirs. This water comes in contact with soil, rock, plants, and other material as it follows its natural path to the reservoirs. While this process helps to clean the water, it can also dissolve and carry very small amounts of material into the reservoir. Minerals from soil and rock do not typically cause problems in the water. But, water can also transport contaminants from human and animal activity. These can include bacteria and viruses - some of which can cause illness. The test data in this report show that these contaminants are not a problem in your reservoirs’ watersheds.

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has prepared a Source Water Assessment Program report for the Quabbin and Wachusett Reservoirs. The DEP report commends DCR and MWRA on the existing source protection plans, and states that our “watershed protection programs are very successful and greatly reduce the actual risk of contamination.” MWRA follows the report recommendations to maintain the pristine watershed areas using existing watershed plans. Your water also comes from local supplies that have a separate report.

Testing Your Water – Every Step of the Way

Test results show few contaminants are found in the reservoir water. The few that are found are in very small amounts, well below EPA’s standards.

Turbidity (or cloudiness of the water) is one measure of overall water quality. All water must be below 5 NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units), and water can only be above 1 NTU if it does not interfere with effective disinfection. Typical levels at the Wachusett Reservoir are 0.3 NTU. In 2013, turbidity was below 1 NTU over 99.99% of the time, with the highest level at 1.17 NTU. This did not interfere with effective disinfection.

MWRA also tests reservoir water for pathogens such as fecal coliform, bacteria, viruses, and the parasites Cryptosporidium and Giardia. They can enter the water from animal or human waste. No Cryptosporidium or Giardia was found in the water in 2013.

Test Results – After Treatment

EPA and state regulations require many water quality tests after treatment to check the water you are drinking. MWRA conducts hundreds of thousands of tests per year on over 120 contaminants (a complete list is available on www.mwra.com). For results on your local water supply, please see page 4. Details about 2013 test results are in the table below. The bottom line is that water quality is excellent.

Water Quality Test Results for 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Compound</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>(MCL) Highest Level Allowed</th>
<th>(We found) Detected Level-Average</th>
<th>Range of Detections</th>
<th>(MCLG) Ideal Goal</th>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>How it gets in the water</th>
<th>How it gets in the water</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barium</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.008</td>
<td>0.007-0.009</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Common mineral in nature</td>
<td>Water disinfectant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monochloramine</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>4-MRDL</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>0.01-4</td>
<td>4-MRDL</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Water disinfectant</td>
<td>Water disinfectant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluoride</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1.04</td>
<td>0.37-1.1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Additive for dental health</td>
<td>Additive for dental health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrate^</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.08</td>
<td>0.01-0.08</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Atmospheric deposition</td>
<td>Atmospheric deposition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrite^</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.005</td>
<td>ND-0.005</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Byproduct of water disinfection</td>
<td>Byproduct of water disinfection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Trihalomethanes</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>10.1</td>
<td>30-13.9</td>
<td>ns</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Byproduct of water disinfection</td>
<td>Byproduct of water disinfection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haloacetic Acids-5</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>1.4-13.2</td>
<td>ns</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Byproduct of water disinfection</td>
<td>Byproduct of water disinfection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Coliform</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>0.5% (Nov)</td>
<td>ND-0.5%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Naturally present in environment</td>
<td>Naturally present in environment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

KEY: MCL=Maximum Contaminant Level. The highest level of a contaminant allowed in water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available technology. MCLG=Maximum Contaminant Level Goal. The level of 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 health risk. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination. ppm=parts per million ppb=parts per billion ns=no standard

^As required by DEP, the maximum result is reported for nitrate and nitrite, not the average.

Sodium Facts

Sodium in water contributes only a small fraction of a person’s overall sodium intake (less than 10%). MWRA tests for sodium monthly and the highest level found was 35.9 mg/l (about 9 mg per 8 oz. glass). This would be considered Very Low Sodium by the Food and Drug Administration.
Tests in Community Pipes
MWRA and local water departments test 300 to 500 water samples each week for total coliform bacteria. Total coliform bacteria can come from the intestines of warm-blooded animals, or can be found in soil, plants, or other places. Most of the time, they are not harmful. However, their presence could signal that harmful bacteria from fecal waste may be there as well. The EPA requires that no more than 5% of the samples in a month may be positive. If a water sample does test positive, we run more specific tests for E.coli, which is a bacteria found in human and animal fecal waste and may cause illness. If your community found any total coliform, it will be listed within the community letter on page 4.

Contaminants in Bottled Water and Tap Water
Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or MWRA. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Massachusetts DEP and EPA prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Information About Cross Connections
Massachusetts DEP recommends the installation of backflow prevention devices for inside and outside hose connections to help protect the water in your home as well as the drinking water system in your town. For more information on cross connections, please call 617-242-5352 or visit www.mwra.com/crosscon.html.

Research for New Regulations
MWRA has been working with EPA and other researchers to define new national drinking water standards by testing for unregulated contaminants. To read more about this testing, and to see a listing of what was found, please visit www.mwra.com/UCMR/2013.html.

Drink Local and Be Green
Tap water is delivered straight to your home without trucking or plastic waste. Bottled water produces over 10,000 times the amount of greenhouse gases compared to tap water. Half of our energy needs for water and wastewater treatment are met with green power including hydro-energy, wind turbines, and solar panels.

Drink local! Drink tap water! Be green!

Drinking Water and People with Weakened Immune Systems
Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. 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, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Your Tap Water – Award Winning and Affordable!
In 2013, we won New England’s Best-Tasting water award from the New England Water Works Association and the National Sustainability Award from the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy. Great tasting, green, and also cheap! Tap water costs less than a penny per gallon delivered straight to your home, while bottled water can cost from $1 to $8 a gallon.

Make the smart choice and drink tap water.

UV treatment units
CITY OF MARLBOROUGH WATER SYSTEM
Drinking Water Report

This is an annual report on the quality of water delivered by the City of Marlborough to its residents and businesses. It complies with the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requirement for “Consumer Confidence Reports” and contains information on the source of our water, its makeup and health risks associated with any contaminants. Safe water is vital to our community. Please read this report carefully and if you have any questions, call the numbers listed below.

The City of Marlborough’s water supply comes from three sources: Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA), Lake Williams and Millham Reservoir. During calendar year 2013, the City of Marlborough Department of Public Works supplied 1.67 billion gallons of water for use by our customers.

Pursuant to the SDWA, the City of Marlborough is required to monitor its drinking water on a regular basis for specific man-made and naturally occurring contaminants. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets applicable health standards. Testing results for 2013, show the city in compliance with lead and copper limits. The city plans to continue its incentive program to encourage participation by residents in our sampling program, its program for removing lead service pipes as part of our street reconstruction projects, and treating its drinking water to keep the lead and copper limits below the maximum contaminant levels.

Water Quality Table
The Water Quality Table below provides information on the results of the city’s testing program and is based upon samples taken during 2013. Terms used in the table are defined below or within the table itself.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regulated Contaminants</th>
<th>Date(s) Collected</th>
<th>Result or Highest RAA*</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>MCL</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
<th>Violation (Y/N)</th>
<th>Possible Sources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inorganic Contaminants</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrate (ppm)</td>
<td>4/10/13</td>
<td>0.28</td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Runoff from fertilizer use; erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barium (ppm)</td>
<td>4/10/13</td>
<td>0.027</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluoride (ppm)</td>
<td>4/10/13</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4**</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Water additive that promotes strong teeth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haloacetic Acids (HAA5s) (ppb)</td>
<td>Quarterly In 2013</td>
<td>18*</td>
<td>9 - 31</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>By-products of drinking water chlorination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) (ppb)</td>
<td>49*</td>
<td>11 - 53</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Chlorine (ppm)</td>
<td>42 Samples per Month</td>
<td>2.21*</td>
<td>0.16 – 3.6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Water additive used to control microbes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MARLBOROUGH DPW -- 2013 FINISHED WATER TEST RESULTS

* Highest RAA= highest running annual average over four consecutive quarters.
** Fluoride also has an SMCL of 2 ppm.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lead and Copper</th>
<th>Date(s) Collected</th>
<th>90th Percentile*</th>
<th>Action Level</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
<th># of sites sampled</th>
<th># of sites above AL</th>
<th>Exceeds AL (Y/N)</th>
<th>Possible Sources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lead (ppb)</td>
<td>6/30/13 10/23/13</td>
<td>18 7.8</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>61 60</td>
<td>11 3</td>
<td>Y N</td>
<td>Corrosion of household plumbing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copper (ppm)</td>
<td>6/30/13 10/23/13</td>
<td>0.079 0.077</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>61 60</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>N N</td>
<td>Corrosion of household plumbing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Nine out of every 10 homes sampled were at or below this level. This number is compared to the action level for each contaminant.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unregulated and Secondary Contaminants</th>
<th>Date Collected</th>
<th>Result</th>
<th>SMCL</th>
<th>ORSG</th>
<th>Possible Sources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nickel (ppm)</td>
<td>4/10/13</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>Natural sources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sodium (ppm)</td>
<td>4/10/13</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>20*</td>
<td>Natural sources; runoff from road salt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iron (ppb)</td>
<td>4/10/13</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>Natural sources; corrosion of cast iron pipes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manganese (ppb)</td>
<td>4/10/13</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>300**</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Sodium-sensitive individuals, such as those experiencing hypertension, kidney failure or congestive heart failure should be aware of the levels of sodium in their drinking water where exposures are being carefully controlled.
** US EPA and MassDEP have established health advisory levels for manganese to protect against concerns of potential neurologic effects.

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Turbidity</th>
<th>MCL</th>
<th>Lowest Monthly % of Samples &lt; 0.3 NTU</th>
<th>Highest Detected Daily Value</th>
<th>Violation (Y/N)</th>
<th>Possible Source of Contamination</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Turbidity (NTU)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>0.74</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Soil runoff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly Compliance*</td>
<td>At least 95% &lt; 0.3 NTU</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Monthly turbidity compliance is related to a specific treatment technique (TT). This treatment facility filters the water so at least 95% of our samples each month must be below the turbidity limits specified in the regulations.

Definitions
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.

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

ppm = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)
ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/l)
NTU = Nephelometric turbidity unit

Unregulated Contaminants = Unregulated contaminants are substances without MCLs for which EPA requires monitoring. For some of these substances, the Massachusetts Office of Research and Standards (ORS) have developed state guidelines or secondary MCLs.

SMCL = Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level. These standards are developed to protect the aesthetic qualities of drinking water and are not health based.

ORSG = Office of Research and Standards Guideline. This is the concentration of a chemical in drinking water, at or below which, adverse health effects are unlikely to occur after chronic (lifetime) exposure. If exceeded, it serves as an indicator of the potential need for further action.

Although many tests were run on a number of contaminants, only those substances listed above were detected. The water was tested for *Giardia* and *Cryptosporidium* and were not found.

The state recommended per capita water use is 65 gallons per person per day. In order to achieve this value, we encourage all residents to use water more efficiently. Please visit the Marlborough Department of Public Works website for tips on water conservation at www.marlborough-ma.gov.

**Lead and Copper Non Compliance**
The City of Marlborough was above the Action Level for testing on Lead during for the 2nd quarter sampling in 2013. Marlborough passed the 4th quarter sampling for Lead and Copper however in 2013.

**Water System Compliance**
The City was placed under an Administrative Consent Order (ACO) by MassDEP in April, 2014 to bring the City’s water system into compliance with the federal Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (“LT2”). The Marlborough Water Division is working to modify the Millham Water Treatment Plant to comply with the new regulations.

A complete design for the installation of the UV system and improvements to the treatment plant will be submitted for review and approval to MassDEP by July 1, 2014. Construction will commence by November 1, 2014 and be complete by September 30, 2015.

**Important Information about your Drinking Water-Monitoring Requirements not met for City of Marlborough**

Our water system violated several drinking water standards in 2011 and 2012. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct these situations.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During 2011 we did not monitor and report for Perchlorate analysis for the Millham Water Treatment Plant. During April through June 2012 and October through December 2012, we did not properly sample from Tier 1 sites as required by the Lead and Copper Rule.
What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

Missed Monitoring Requirements

Our water system violated several drinking water monitoring requirements in 2011 and 2012. We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards.

Marlborough DPW was in non-compliance in 2011 because samples for perchlorate were not taken during the 3rd quarter 2011 as scheduled. The sample was collected during the 4th quarter 2011, and the results were in compliance. It was sampled for in 2012 and 2013 and not detected.

Marlborough DPW was in non-compliance from April-June 2012 and October-December 2012 for lead and copper sampling because 3 of the 60 samples collected were not from Tier 1 sites. Tier 1 sites must have lead water services and 3 of the 60 sites sampled did not have lead service lines.

The table below list the contaminants we did not properly test for during 2011 and 2012, how often we are supposed to samples and how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken and the date on which the follow-up samples were taken.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contaminant</th>
<th>Required sampling frequency</th>
<th>Number of samples taken</th>
<th>When Samples should have been taken</th>
<th>When samples were taken</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Perchlorate</td>
<td>Annually</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3rd quarter annually</td>
<td>Taken on 12/15/11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead and Copper</td>
<td>Semi-Annual</td>
<td>57 Tier 1</td>
<td>2nd and 4th quarter 2012</td>
<td>2nd and 4th quarter 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3 Not Tier 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

There is also a website for the City of Marlborough Source Water and Assessment Program (SWAP). This is a program established under the Safe Drinking Water Act. This program requires the City of Marlborough to inventory land uses within the recharge areas of all public water supply sources. The program also assesses the susceptibility of drinking water sources to contamination from these land uses and publicizes the results to provide support for improved protection. The Marlborough SWAP Report can be found on the website [http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/water/drinking/swap/cero/2170000.pdf](http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/water/drinking/swap/cero/2170000.pdf)

This notice is being sent to you by CCR. PWS ID# 2170000

For any questions or for further information, please visit the Marlborough DPW at [www.marlborough-ma.gov](http://www.marlborough-ma.gov) or contact David R. Lavallee, Marlborough Water/Sewer Division General Foreman at 508-624-6910 ext. 7401 or email at dlavallee@marlborough-ma.gov.
What You Need to Know about Lead in Tap Water

MWRA water is lead-free when it leaves the reservoirs. MWRA and local pipes that carry the water to your community are made mostly of iron and steel and do not add lead to the water. However, lead can get into tap water through pipes in your home, your lead service line, lead solder used in plumbing, and some brass fixtures. Corrosion or wearing away of lead-based materials can add lead to tap water, especially if water sits for a long time in the pipes before it is used.

In 1996, MWRA began adding sodium carbonate and carbon dioxide to adjust the water’s pH and buffering capacity. This change has made the water less corrosive, thereby reducing the leaching of lead into drinking water. Lead levels found in sample tests of tap water have dropped by almost 90% since this treatment change.

MWRA Meets Lead Standard in 2013

Under EPA rules, each year MWRA and your local water department must test tap water in a sample of homes that are likely to have high lead levels. These are usually homes with lead service lines or lead solder. The EPA rule requires that 9 out of 10, or 90%, of the sampled homes must have lead levels below the Action Level of 15 parts per billion (ppb).

All 18 sampling rounds over the past ten years have been below the EPA standard. Results for the 452 samples taken in September 2013 are shown in the table. 9 out of 10 houses were below 6.3 ppb, which is below the Action Level of 15 ppb. For lead and copper results for your local water supply, see page 4.

Important Information from EPA about Lead

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. MWRA is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. If 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 at 1-800-426-4791 or www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

How do I reduce my exposure to lead in drinking water?

- Run the tap until after the water feels cold. To save water, fill a pitcher with fresh water and place in the refrigerator for future use.
- Never use hot water from the faucet for drinking or cooking, especially when making baby formula or other food for infants.
- Ask your local water department if there are lead service lines leading to your home.
- Check your plumbing fixtures to see if they are lead-free. Read the labels closely.
- Test your tap water. Call the MWRA Drinking Water Hotline (617-242-5323) or visit our website for more tips and a list of DEP certified labs that can test your water.
- Be careful of places you may find lead in or near your home. Paint, soil, dust and some pottery may contain lead.
- Call the Department of Public Health at 1-800-532-9571 or EPA at 1-800-424-LEAD for health information.