



# Town of Danvers

## Office of the Town Manager

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### Clarification Regarding Accounts of PFAs in Danvers Drinking Water *Danvers water tested below EPA health advisory*

Danvers, MA – You may have read recent news accounts regarding the safety of the Danvers drinking water supply. These stories are based on water testing completed in 2013 and 2014.

The Danvers drinking water supply consists of three sources: a surface water filtration facility (the water treatment plant), which serves as our primary drinking water source, accounts for the vast majority of our produced water, and operates every day of the year, and two wells (Well 1) and (Well 2), which serve as supplemental sources to the treatment plant that operate, as needed, to offset higher demand as a condition of our water withdrawal permit from MassDEP.

In 2013 and 2014, as a requirement of the EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR), the Danvers Water Department collected water samples for combined Perfluorochemicals (PFAs) monitoring from all three drinking water supply sources. Additional samples were collected in 2016 by the Town.

The EPA and MassDEP have set a health advisory limit for combined PFAs at 70 parts per trillion.

All testing completed in Danvers showed results well below the advisory limit. Detected PFA levels at Well 1 were roughly half of the advisory limit, and in 2016 the detected levels at Well 1 and Well 2 were roughly 30% and 7% of the limit, respectively. To date, PFAs have never been detected at the water treatment plant.

"The Town has always participated in voluntary testing of our water supply for unregulated substances and compounds identified by the MassDEP and the EPA, such as those referenced in recent news accounts," said Danvers Town Manager Steve Bartha. "Our water system is staffed by licensed professionals who conduct water quality testing multiple times every day across the system to ensure the water we provide to our residents is clean, safe, and in compliance with all state and federal guidelines."

The Town continues to monitor for the presence of PFAs and comply with all EPA and MassDEP regulations and guidelines.

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