



Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

# Department of Environmental Protection

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June 17, 2022

Annual PWS Compliance Report  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
WJCB-South 7112A  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20460  
Attn: Raquel Taveras

Dear Ms. Taveras,

Attached please find the Calendar Year 2021 Annual PWS Compliance Report (ACR) from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Environmental Protection, Drinking Water Program (MassDEP/DWP).

The Massachusetts drinking water regulations differ from the federal regulations for three contaminants:

- Perchlorate – where a state Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) and monitoring requirements exist,
- Ethylene dibromide – where the state MCL of 0.00002 mg/L is more stringent than the federal MCL of 0.00005 mg/L and
- Para-dichlorobenzene – where the state MCL of 0.005 mg/L is more stringent than the federal MCL of 0.075 mg/L.
- On October 2, 2020, MassDEP published its PFAS public drinking water standard or Massachusetts Maximum Contaminant Level (MMCL) of 20 nanograms per liter (ng/L), or parts per trillion (ppt) applicable to community (COM) and non-transient non-community (NTNC) systems for the sum of the concentrations of six specific PFAS. The six PFAS are: perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS); perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA); perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS); perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA); perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA); and perfluorodecanoic acid (PFDA). MassDEP abbreviates this set of six PFAS as “PFAS6.” This drinking water standard is set to be protective against adverse health effects for all people consuming the water.

This information is available in alternate format. Contact Glynis Bugg at 617-348-4040.

TTY# MassRelay Service 1-800-439-2370

MassDEP Website: [www.mass.gov/dep](http://www.mass.gov/dep)

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Our 2021 ACR does not include violations of both the state MCL and monitoring requirements for perchlorate or PFAS6.

No variances or exemptions were issued or were in effect during 2021.

The following terms and abbreviations appear in the ACR:

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** – means the maximum permissible level of a contaminant in water which is delivered to any user of a public water system.

**Monitoring and Reporting Violations** – occur when a PWS fails to properly collect, analyze or report a water quality sample to the MassDEP.

**Other Violation** – Includes consumer confidence report (CCR) violations, public notification requirement violations, state notification violations relating to the total coliform rule, and record keeping related to interim enhanced surface water treatment rule.

**Primacy Agency** – MassDEP has been granted authority by the U.S. EPA to implement the Safe Drinking Water Act in Massachusetts.

**Public Water System (PWS)** - means a system for the provision to the public of water for human consumption, through pipes or other constructed conveyances, if such system has at least 15 service connections or regularly serves an average of at least 25 individuals daily at least 60 days of the year. Such term includes any collection, treatment, storage, and distribution facilities under control of the operator of such a system and used primarily in connection with such system, and any collection or pretreatment storage facilities not under such control which are used primarily in connection with such system.

**Return to Compliance (RTC)** – indicates that a formal record has been reported to the federal Safe Drinking Water Information System reflecting that a violation has been closed. RTC reporting is not required for most violations.

**Treatment Technique (TT)** - means a required process, practice, or device intended to reduce the level of a contaminant or other constituent in drinking water. Treatment Techniques are typically promulgated in lieu of a numerical standard such as an MCL.

The ACR is in four parts; State Summary, Detail by Chemical, Detail by Rule, and Detail by PWS. The Detail by PWS lists all PWSs with one or more MCL, MRDL or TT violations (note that the standard SDWIS ACR Details report also includes PWSs that only incurred monitoring violations). The full ACR will be posted on the web at: <https://mass.gov/doc/2021-safe-drinking-water-act-annual-compliance-report>

If you have any questions about this report, please contact Andrew Durham at (617) 418-9310 or [Andrew.Durham@mass.gov](mailto:Andrew.Durham@mass.gov).

Sincerely,



Yvette DePeiza  
Program Director  
Drinking Water Program

Attachments

cc: Denise Springborg, Kevin Reilly, Ken Rota, Andrea Traviglia, Sandra Petrakis U.S. EPA Region 1  
DWP regional chiefs, Kathleen Baskin, MassDEP/BWR.

[DEP BWR - 2021 ACR - All Documents \(sharepoint.com\)](#)