

Safe Drinking Water Act Assessment Program Annual Report to the Massachusetts Legislature Calendar Year 2023 30th Year of the Assessment Program

Introduction

Thirty years ago, the Massachusetts Legislature established the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) Assessment and a SDWA Assessment Advisory Committee to monitor the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's (MassDEP) Assessment Program. Pursuant to A, the Advisory Committee is required to submit a yearly update to the legislature in the form of an Annual Report.

The following Annual Report for calendar year 2023 provides an overview of the Assessment Program and the Advisory Committee, and highlights MassDEP's Drinking Water Program activities, including Lead and Copper Rule Revisions, Lead in Schools Expanded Assistance Program, addressing Per-and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS), Cybersecurity, and Emerging Contaminants. The Drinking Water Program prioritizes accessibility, environmental justice, and diversity in its programs.

The Safe Drinking Water Act Assessment Program

The Safe Drinking Water Act Assessment (Assessment) is paid each year by the 6.5 million consumers of public water in Massachusetts and is collected by the more than 1,600 Public Water Systems (PWS) across the state. The average cost to each consumer is 34 cents per year. For the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 billing cycle, the Assessment Program is expected to generate over \$2 million in revenue.

The Assessment revenue helps MassDEP's Drinking Water Program maintain primacy for the federal SDWA - the SDWA is implemented by MassDEP, including all enforcement responsibilities, instead of by the federal government. By maintaining primacy, MassDEP ensures the safe production of drinking water at PWS while implementing state-specific programs that save consumers millions of dollars. For example, the Water Quality Monitoring Program saved consumers \$4,712,914 in water quality monitoring costs for the last cycle (2020-2022). The Assessment is also used as a state match for federal funds for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Set Aside Program, which provides significant technical assistance and grants to PWS. To date, \$6,438,780 has been secured and spent.

MassDEP is pleased to report that according to EPA statistics compiled for the fourth quarter of 2023, 97% of Community PWS met all applicable health-based standards and 91.3% of the population served by Community PWS received drinking water that met all applicable health-based standards.

The Safe Drinking Water Act Assessment Advisory Committee

In 1993, as part of the Assessment Program, the legislature formed a SDWA Assessment Advisory Committee to:

- Recommend an annual Assessment rate to MassDEP's Commissioner;
- Monitor the Assessment Program;
- Provide advice and recommendations on the Drinking Water Program's technical and compliance assistance and outreach programs to PWS and others;
- Produce an annual report to the legislature; and
- Conduct public meetings to discuss their work.

More information about the Committee is posted at https://www.mass.gov/service-details/safe-drinking-water-act-assessment-advisory-committee-section-70-committee.

MassDEP Drinking Water Program Updates for 2023-2024

MassDEP's Drinking Water Program supports PWS in preparing for, planning for, and complying with new and upcoming drinking water rules and regulations. Examples of tools, funding, technical and compliance assistance partnerships between the Drinking Water Program and PWS include:

- Conducting new in-person trainings, virtual trainings, and videos for PWS on upcoming drinking water rules and regulations. Drinking Water Program staff develop and give presentations on many Safe Drinking Water Act topics throughout the year and attend waterworks and public health professional events to provide group and one-on-one outreach. The Drinking Water Program provides Training Contact Hours (TCHs) to water supply operators to maintain licenses. The training calendar is located at http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/drinking-water-training-class-schedules.html.
- Develop and offer new loans and grants to prepare for the Lead and Copper Rule, Lead Service Line Inventories, Emerging Contaminants Grant, free Cybersecurity assessments and grants, and Lead in Schools Expanded Assistance Program Grants. MassDEP offers several grant and loan programs for Public Water Systems. For more information on grant, loan and other support programs, go to https://www.mass.gov/info-details/water-resources-grants-financial-assistance. Drinking Water Program staff provide trainings and technical assistance to Public Water Suppliers for these programs.
- Contract with technical service providers, including entering into an Interagency Service Agreement (ISA) with the University of Massachusetts, to provide additional trainings and one-on-one technical assistance to PWS for Lead and Copper Rule Revisions, Service Line Inventories, Lead in Schools Expanded Assistance Program, Cybersecurity, and more.
- Provide enhanced technical assistance to small PWS to address emerging contaminant issues and access grants and loan funds.
- Develop new templates, reporting forms, guidance, etc., for PWS.
- Provide regular program updates to PWS through Drinking Water Program's bi-weekly newsletter and Drinking Water Program web pages.

Drinking Water Programs' bi-weekly newsletter, *In the Main*, includes drinking water articles, updates on Drinking Water Program's work, compliance reminders, and more (click here to join the Drinking Water Program Listserv). Past issues are posted on MassDEP's website at Communication to Public Water Suppliers. Issues from more than one year ago can be found on the State Library of Massachusetts Archive website searchable database at In the Main/Drinking Water Program Updates.

Lead and Copper Rule Revisions

All community (COM) and non-transient non-community (NTNC) Public Water Systems (PWS) in Massachusetts required to comply with the Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) will be required to comply with the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) starting October 16, 2024.

On December 16, 2021, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced final revisions to the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations for lead and copper under authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act - called the Lead and Cooper Rule Revisions (LCRR). The LCRR will identify the most at-risk communities and ensure PWS have plans in place to rapidly respond by taking actions to reduce elevated levels of lead in drinking water. Some of the major changes include:

- Requiring COM and NTNC systems to inventory (identify) and make public the locations of lead service lines (LSLs) and to develop a LSL replacement plan by October 16, 2024 (note that the requirements take effect on the first day of implementation).
- In addition to the system-wide 90th percentile action level of 15 parts per billion (ppb), the LCRR also establishes a 90th percentile system-wide trigger level of 10 ppb of lead to assist systems to plan to further address lead in drinking water.
- Requiring COM systems to offer testing to all schools and childcare facilities served.

All PWS, even those without lead service lines, are required to submit an initial full service line inventory by October 16, 2024. MassDEP Drinking Water Program encouraged PWS to submit their draft inventories by April 1, 2024 in order to receive any technical assistance, if needed, to ensure compliance on or before the regulatory deadline. As of the publication of this report, the Drinking Water Program received 75 inventories and MassDEP's technical assistance providers are developing an additional 102 inventories.

The Drinking Water Program has templates and instructions for the development of LCRR Service Line Inventories and Replacement Plans on the <u>Lead & Copper Forms & Templates</u> <u>webpage</u>. The program has also developed trainings, templates, one-to-one technical assistance and other resources for PWS to prepare for, and comply with, the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions. These resources are available at the following links.

- Lead & Copper Rule (LCR) and Lead & Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) Links of <u>Interest</u>
- Getting Ready for the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions: Service Line Inventories
- LCRR Lead Service Line Inventories: An Infographic
- MassDEP Drinking Water Program Tools for Getting Ready for the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions
- Monitoring Frequency Guide for Systems Subject to the LCRR
- Guidance: How PWS can make their Service Line Inventories Accessible to the Public
- Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) Requirements for "Lead Status Unknown"
 <u>Service Lines</u>
- <u>Statistical (Predictive) Modeling Guidance for Evaluating Unknown Service Lines</u>
- Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) Service Line Inventory (SLI) Compliance Plan Survey Form

MassDEP also developed a "crowdsourcing application" (hereafter referred to as "the App") to assist both consumers and PWS to identify lead service lines. The App is a web-based tool for consumers to assist in the identification of lead service lines. No downloading of software is required. The App is a collection of online forms, sheets, and workflow automations that allow customers to submit photos of their service line for identification purposes. This can be helpful for PWS in compiling their line inventories and in prioritizing lead service line replacements.

- <u>LCRR Service Line Inventory Public Outreach Toolkit</u>
- How to Identify Service Line Materials: An Infographic for Customers (English)
- <u>Como Identificar Los Materiales de la Linea de Servicio: Infografia Para Clientes</u> (Espanol)

The Massachusetts Clean Water Trust (the Trust) and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) are offering zero-percent interest construction loans for lead service line replacement and planning grants for assisting PWS with completing planning projects for lead service line inventories and replacement programs. MassDEP is accepting Lead Service Lines planning grant applications, on a rolling basis, while funding is available. Please find additional information <u>here</u>.



Lead in Schools Expanded Assistance Program

The Expanded Assistance Program for Lead in Schools and Early Education and Care Facilities (EECF) Drinking Water provides free analysis of lead drinking water samples and technical assistance to schools and EECFs by assisting with sampling, results interpretation, and guidance on remediation actions. The program is funded by a grant from the Water

Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. MassDEP also worked with the Clean Water Trust to secure additional funding to expand assistance to private schools.

Currently, 876 schools and EECFs are participating in the program and 559 (64%) of participating facilities are within environmental justice communities. To date, 656 schools and EECFs have completed testing. Of facilities that have tested and received results, 438 (67%) had one or more lead detections.

Go to https://www.mass.gov/service-details/technical-assistance-for-lead-in-school-and-child-care-center-drinking-water for more information.

Per-and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Program

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: PFOS, PFOA, PFHxS, PFNA, PFHpA, and 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.

As of February 2024, there are 1,608 PWS in the Commonwealth, of which1,418 were required to test for PFAS. More than 1,100 (80%) systems took advantage of MassDEP's free sampling program which ended in June 2022. Over 96% of the population served by Community PWS provide water that meets the PFAS6 MCL.

• 173 PWS detected one or more finished water sources (the water coming out of the tap) above the PFAS6 MCL of 20 ppt. See Tab 3 of the <u>storymap on our PFAS</u> webpage for details.

56 new water treatment facilities or additions to existing facilities have been constructed and activated by PWS to remove PFAS. See Tab 6 on the <u>PFAS storymap</u> for details.

On April 10, 2024, the EPA issued National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NPDWR) PFAS establishing Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) for six PFAS. The EPA regulations limit PFAS levels in Community (COM) and Non-Transient Non-Community (NTNC) public drinking water sources. MassDEP is working with Massachusetts PWS on these new requirements. More details can be found further down in this report.

Cybersecurity Support for Public Water Suppliers

Public water suppliers (PWS) need to prepare for and respond to water supply contamination incidents, natural disasters, and other emergency situations. This includes securing against and responding to public health threats from cybersecurity breaches.

Drinking Water Program staff have increased efforts to address cybersecurity threats by providing new cybersecurity training, factsheets, and partnerships for PWS and discusses the topic during sanitary surveys. More information is posted at https://www.mass.gov/info-details/public-drinking-water-system-operations#cybersecurity-.

The Drinking Water Program has partnered with the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund to offer up to \$50,000 to PWS that have a cybersecurity risk assessment and use operational technology equipment with an identified cybersecurity risk. More information is posted at https://www.mass.gov/info-details/public-water-suppliers-cybersecurity-improvements-grant-program.

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) is conducting free in-person Cybersecurity Assessment for selected PWS in Massachusetts. PWS may contact program.director-Drinking Water Program@mass.gov for more information.

Emerging Contaminants

On February 13, 2023, EPA announced the availability of the Emerging Contaminants-Small and Disadvantaged Community (EC-SDC) Grant Program. This program provides states with grants for PWS in small or disadvantaged communities to address emerging contaminants, including PFAS. EPA allotted \$38 million to Massachusetts for the next two fiscal years. MassDEP successfully applied for the Massachusetts allocation as required and received conditional approval to proceed with a grant program on August 10, 2023. MassDEP may provide EC-SDC grant funds for work that includes but is not limited to testing, planning and design, treatment, and PWS consolidation or creation. Small systems are PWS serving less than 10,000 persons and disadvantaged communities are those that meet the criteria specified by the Disadvantaged Community program. More information about this grant program is posted on MassDEP's website.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Upcoming Drinking Water Proposals & Actions PFAS, Lead and Copper Rule Improvements, Consumer Confidence Reports

Drinking Water Program continues to plan and prepare for upcoming drinking water proposals and actions from the U.S. EPA to the federal Safe Drinking Water Act.

On April 10, 2024, the EPA issued National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NPDWR) for **Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)** establishing Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) for six PFAS. The EPA regulations limit PFAS levels in Community (COM) and Non-

Transient Non-Community (NTNC) public drinking water sources. MassDEP is working with Massachusetts PWS on these new requirements.

EPA provided the following timeline:

- Within three years of rule promulgation (2024 2027): Initial monitoring must be complete
- Starting three years following rule promulgation (2027 2029):
 - Results of initial monitoring must be included in annual Consumer Confidence Reports
 - Regular monitoring or compliance must begin, and results of compliance monitoring must be included in Consumer Confidence Reports
 - Public notification for monitoring and testing violations
- Starting five years following rule promulgation (starting 2029)
 - Comply with all MCLs
 - Public notification for MCL violations

More information on the new EPA PFAS Drinking Water Regulation is available from EPA at Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) | US EPA (https://www.epa.gov/sdwa/and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas).

On November 30, 2023, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced the proposed **Lead and Copper Rule Improvements** (LCRI). EPA anticipates finalizing the LCRI prior to October 16, 2024.

The proposed LCRI is a major advancement in protecting children and adults from the significant, and irreversible, health effects from being exposed to lead in drinking water. These advancements are based on the science and existing practices utilized by drinking water systems. Key provisions in the proposal include:

- Achieving 100% Lead Pipe Replacement within 10 years
- Locating Legacy Lead Pipes
- Improving Tap Sampling
- Lowering the Lead Action Level
- Strengthening Protections to Reduce Exposure

More information is available at https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/proposed-lead-and-copper-rule-improvements.

On March 28, 2023, EPA announced a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that would strengthen the **Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) Rule** making annual drinking water quality reports with important public health information more accessible to residents and businesses across the country. A Consumer Confidence Report, sometimes called an "Annual Drinking Water Quality Report," summarizes information about the local drinking water for the previous year. EPA's proposal would support public education by more clearly communicating important information

in water quality reports and improving access to the reports. More information is available at https://www.epa.gov/ccr/consumer-confidence-report-rule-revisions.

Assessment Program Rate Structure for FY25

The Assessment Program rate structure for FY25 remains the same as for FY24. The bills for FY25 will be mailed to all PWS in December 2024.

- \$9.50 per million gallons of water used by PWS with meters
- Minimum bill for metered PWS is \$50
- Flat rate of \$50 for unmetered PWS serving up to 101
- Flat rate of \$100 for unmetered PWS serving 101 through 200
- Flat rate of \$250 for unmetered PWS serving 201 through 899
- Unmetered PWS serving 900 or more pay a rate based on an average water use

Members of the Safe Drinking Water Act Assessment Advisory Committee - 2023

The following list provides the name, organization represented, affiliation, and year of appointment for the members of the Safe Drinking Water Act Assessment Advisory Committee.

- <u>Neal Merritt</u>, Chair, *Rural Water Systems*, Plymouth County Water Works Association, 2008
- <u>David Condrey</u>, Vice Chair, *Non-profit Association Representing Investor-owned Water Companies*, National Association of Water Companies, 2011
- <u>Martha Morgan</u>, an *Environmental Agency*, Nashua River Watershed Association, 2022
- <u>Thomas Holder</u>, a *New England Regional Water Works Association*, New England Water Works Association, 2013
- David Masciarelli, an Environmental Agency, Canoe River Aquifer Advisory Committee, 2013
- <u>Blake Lukis</u>, a Massachusetts Statewide Water Works Non-Profit Association, Massachusetts Water Works Association, 2015
- Sean Osborne, an Organization Representing Industry, OSD Environmental Services LLC, 2015
- Rebekah McDermott, a Regional Water Works Assoc., Western Mass. Water Works Assoc., 2016
- <u>Robert Prophett</u>, *MassDEP Designee*, 2022
- Josie Ahlberg, Massachusetts Municipal Association, 2022
- James Starbard, an Organization Representing Non-Community Water Suppliers, Rural Community Assistance Program, 2019

In addition, non-voting alternates for the Committee include:

- Jennifer Pederson, Executive Director, Massachusetts Water Works Association
- Kirsten King, Executive Director, New England Water Works Association

APPENDIX A

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection ACCOMPLISHMENTS SUPPORTED BY THE SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT ASSESSMENT January 1 through December 31, 2023



Protected Public Health through Compliance Review

- Reviewing a new three-year (2023-2025) cycle of the Water Quality Monitoring Waiver Program.
 - Public Water Systems (PWS) submitting a waiver application (<u>2020-2022</u>): 334 at 866 sources of drinking water. Monitoring waiver applications submitted by compound: Inorganics 785; Perchlorate 785; Synthetic organics 753; Volatile organics 675.
 - This program saved consumers \$4,712,914 in water quality monitoring costs for the last cycle (2020-2022).
 - Massachusetts PFAS Waivers were not offered this compliance period as EPA is promulgating a new national PFAS rule.
- Approved watershed protection programs for 29 reservoirs with disinfection log credit.
- Approved watershed protection programs for 7 reservoirs with filtration waivers at 4 public water systems.
- Maintained incentives for developing local wellhead and surface water protection plans.
- Conducted 12 wellhead protection reviews and compliance updates for new sources.
- Reviewed 2 proposed easements for compliance with Zone I regulations.
- Reviewed 2 proposed conservation restrictions to protect hundreds of acres of land for drinking water supplies.
- Reviewed over 300 monitoring waiver applications for wellhead and surface water compliance criteria.
- Reviewed and ranked 8 Drinking Water Supply Protection Grant Program applications.
- Registered 17 new Public Water Systems (PWS).
- Registered 4 existing Public Water Systems (PWS) that were previously unregulated.
- Worked on 78 new source approvals for public water sources.
- Reviewed and approved Cross Connection Control Plans for 6 non-community PWS.
- Issued 375 Cross Connection Surveyors/Testers Certificates.
- Reviewed and approved 6 new technologies for use with drinking water.
- Entered 4 permit applications into MassDEP's permit management system.
- Conducted 1 CCCP audit Cambridge Water Dept. 10/11/2023
- Conducted 438 sanitary surveys which included technical and compliance assistance.
- Conducted inspections at 6 public surface water systems that have waivers from filtration.
- Held regular coordination meetings with the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority and the EPA conducted compliance reviews, evaluated water quality reports and trends.

- Conducted regular meetings of the Drinking Water Program Drinking Water Filtration/Treatment Committee.
- Conducted 139 Capacity Reviews for Drinking Water State Revolving Fund applicants.
- Reviewed 4 Water Supply Business Plans during the New Source Approval process.
- Assisted the Mass. Dept. of Public Health at water bottlers and ice makers' facilities.



Saved Money for Consumers with Compliance Assistance

- Supported technical assistance to K-12 schools, early education and care facilities, Boards of Health, Plumbing Inspectors, PWS and the public on lead and copper in drinking water.
- Continued to implement the Wellhead Protection Program to provide compliance and technical assistance. Assisted 32 municipalities or PWS with wellhead protection issues.
- Field verified 4 watershed and/or tributary delineations for reservoirs and updated Geographic Information Systems (GIS) maps.
- Completed 66 hydrogeologic reviews for the MassDEP.
- Continued technical support of the bulk upload tool for laboratories to submit drinking water quality sampling results on-line. Provided support for easy-to-use macro enabled Word form template to assist small labs without LIMS in uploading bacteria data to eDEP.
- Provided compliance assistance for Statistical Reporting, Ground Water under the Influence, Consumer Confidence, Cross Connection, Certified Operator and Source Water Protection.
- Captured the 14th year of electronic Annual Statistical Reporting (e-ASR).
- Continued improving the e-ASR for the next reporting year.
- Provided over 400 instances of Source Water Protection technical assistance.
- Continued sending biweekly Program Director emails to PWS with regulatory reminders, trainings, etc., and separate emails with timely info about the Lead & Copper Rule, Lead in School Drinking Water, Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and grant opportunities.
- Maintained an on-line template for PWS to use for Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) compliance, updated support materials and emailed CCR reminder e-postcards.
- Notified new community water systems of CCR requirements for 2023.
- Reviewed 513 CCRs, provided Technical Assistance Reports and tracked CCR compliance.
- Posted sample schedules, Lead and Copper Approved Sampling Sites Plan, Certificates of Registration for all PWS, and water quality reports, i.e., CCRs, for Transient, Non-Community (TNC) and Non-Transient, Non-Community (NTNC) PWS.
- Continued to offer free training programs for small system operators using EPA funding.
- Continued the implementation of the Capacity Development Program which provides financial, managerial, and technical assistance to small PWS.
- Reviewed the technical, financial, and managerial operations of 167 community and nontransient non-community and 82 transient non-community PWS.
- Reviewed Underground Injection Control (UIC) registration applications.
- Assisted Boards of Health on private and public drinking water and geothermal wells issues.
- Responded to requests from PWS regarding the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 5 (UCMR5) Program and provided compliance assistance.
- Helped PWS write watershed protection plans & local water supply bylaws.
- Submitted the Annual Operator Certification Report to the U.S. EPA.

- Gave Boards of Health one-on-one assistance with well drilling requirements.
- Assisted well drillers at two-day New England Water Well Association Exposition.
- The implementation work for 90 PWS under the Long Term 2 (LT2) Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule has been completed for all schedules (1-4).
- Identified 615 technical, financial, and managerial deficiencies during sanitary surveys.

Supported Public Water Suppliers with Technical Assistance and Training

- Conducted a regional BOH presentation on how BOHs can assist the Drinking Water Program protect small and large public wells
- Distributed fact sheets, guidance documents, and other technical assistance materials.
- Continued to improve web pages for access by PWS, town officials, the public and others.
- Provided materials for statewide Board of Health workshops as requested.
- Prepared biennial mailing to all Boards of Health to support their role in protecting drinking water and to update them on drinking water issues.
- Delivered Drinking Water Program presentations to regional water works organizations.
- Worked with the Office of the State Geologist and United States Geological Survey (USGS) on geological studies relative to ground water.
- Presented 40 excellence in compliance awards and 21 nominated awards during 2023 for calendar year 2022.
- The Board of Certification of Operators of Drinking Water Supply Facilities approved 88 training courses. This is a short list of new topics.
 - Introduction to Water Treatment
 - Asset Management & Data Integration
 - Major Changes in the Lead and Copper Rule
 - Cybersecurity Basics for Drinking Water
- The Board of Certification of Operators of Drinking Water Supply Facilities approved 680 license applications.
- The Board of Certification of Operators of Drinking Water Supply Facilities revised its training policy to incorporate asynchronous trainings.
- Provided assistance on improving cybersecurity hygiene of PWS
 - 81 PWS registered (and 42 completed to-date) for free EPA free cybersecurity assessments.
 - Collaborated with CISA Region 1 to provide free in-person cybersecurity assessments to 9 PWS
 - Conducted free cybersecurity trainings on basic cybersecurity, ransomware, and incident response
- Provided instructors for 6 NEWWA Backflow Tester and Cross Connection Survey classes.
- Provided 1 instructor for NEWWA Hydrogeology/Source Approval classes.
- Provided 1 instructor for the Mass. Health Officers' Association regional conferences.
- Provided technical assistance on CCCP to PWSs, 352 by e-mails and 78 by phone.
- Maintained online training videos for PWS at https://goo.gl/Xhw4br.

- Maintained a Drinking Water Program Training Calendar with information on courses and conferences from MassDEP and other sources. PWS and others can download the calendar and receive automatic updates.
- Provided expertise to MassDEP's Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup and Title 5 and Groundwater Discharge programs for consistency with Drinking Water Program regulations.
- Provided expertise to the USGS Climate Response Network.
- Collaborated with the USGS to measure monthly water level readings throughout the state.
- Provided speakers and operator training on Mass. drinking water topics at local and regional water works events and for the Massachusetts Rural Water Association.
- Continued to collaborate with the Mass. Department of Public Health (DPH) on the Lead Contamination Control Act, fluoridation and other topics.
- Provided help with writing capital improvement plans to 125 PWS during sanitary surveys.
- Updated records and added wells totaling 2,211 new entries in the Well Driller database.
- Provided technical assistance and instructors to the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission's (NEIWPCC) Soil Evaluator Course.
- Continued to provide expertise to the National Science Foundation Drinking Water Technology Review Section.

Participated on Committees that Bring Massachusetts Interests to State, Regional, and National Levels

MassDEP staff participated in meetings and events of the following committees, organizations, and other state, regional and national entities: 495/MetroWest Partnership, NEIWPCC Emerging Contaminants Workgroup, NEIWPCC Chloride Contamination Joint Workgroup, New England WARN, Massachusetts Water Works Association, Massachusetts Municipal Association, Conservation Law Foundation, New England Communications Collaborative; Association of State Drinking Water Administrators; ASDWA PFAS workgroup, ASDWA LCRR/LCRI workgroups; State Vegetation Management Panel; State Pesticide Board; Office of the State Geologist State Map Advisory Committee; NEWWA Source Water Advisory Group, Groundwater Advisory Committee, Groundwater Resource Initiative, Drinking Water Operators Certification Committee, Board of Certification of Backflow Prevention & Cross Connection Control, Management & Finance; Multi-Agency Task Force on Schools; National Drinking Water Advisory Council Small Systems Implementation Work Group; MassDEP Laboratory Advisory Committee; NEIWPCC Source Water Protection Work Group; Ground Water Protection Council's Source Water Protection Work Group; Well Driller Program Technical Advisory Committee; American Water Works Association Fluoride Standards Committee. Participated on EPA work groups for Emergency Preparedness, Data Management/SDWIS Modernization, Lead and Copper Rule, Lead and Copper Rule Revisions, PFAS, and the Ground Water Rule.

Provided Support to Safe Drinking Water Act Advisory Committees

MassDEP staff schedule, support and participate in meetings of the Safe Drinking Water Act Advisory Committee (SDWAAC) and the Safe Drinking Water Act Assessment (Section 70) Advisory Committee.

The SDWAAC meets quarterly and provides knowledge and advice to the Drinking Water Program about Safe Drinking Water Act topics and priorities. Members include PWS, water works associations, laboratories and public health agencies and organizations.

The Section 70 Committee holds quarterly public meetings per MGL Chapter 21A, section 18A to monitor and provide advice to Drinking Water Program on the Massachusetts Safe Drinking Water Act Assessment Program and to submit an Annual Report to the Massachusetts legislature. See https://www.mass.gov/service-details/safe-drinking-water-act-assessment-advisory-committee-section-70-committee for public meeting dates and agendas, Annual Report to the Legislature and a list of Committee members.