



## Town of Milton DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

---

The Milton Department of Public Works, in conjunction with the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA), is pleased to provide this annual report of the quality of drinking water delivered to your home. The MWRA is the only source of water distributed within the Town of Milton. This report provides detailed information on the MWRA's source water reservoirs, and the quality of water as determined through federal and state testing guidelines. Test data, as well as definitions of the terms used in the drinking water industry, are presented in this report.

In addition to steps taken by the MWRA to protect water quality, Milton continues to fund an ongoing program of improvements to the Town's water distribution system that delivers water from the MWRA to our homeowners' taps. Recently, the Town completed the 8" water main project on Houston Avenue to Blue Hills Parkway. The Town also began a 12" water main replacement project on Reedsdale Road and Pleasant Street to Gun Hill Street and took the old 8" water main on Pleasant Street out of service. Within the Town of Milton there are approximately 120 miles of distribution water mains bringing water to more than 9,000 customers. Over time, the inside of water pipes develops a layer of sediment and encrusted material known as tuberculation. This tuberculation can cause an occasional red, yellow or brown color in water. Although many areas of Milton have water pipes that are more than fifty years old, there are no lead water mains in town.

In conjunction with the MWRA's treatment efforts to reduce concentrations of lead and copper in drinking water, the Town of Milton participates in yearly testing of selected homes and schools to determine the levels of lead and copper present in the system. We test fifteen homes twice a year. Two of the homes tested above the lead Action Level in September 2009, resulting in a community 90th percentile level of 17.4 ppb for Milton. The Milton Water Department receives many questions about lead in tap water. The simple answer is there is no lead in the water supplied to your home. Lead can enter tap water through contact with brass fixtures (which contain lead in the alloy), lead solder, other household plumbing or possibly service lines – the pipe running from the house to the water main in the street. The Town has completed the replacement of all known lead service lines from the water mains to the property line. However, there may be lead service lines on properties in town that have not been replaced by homeowners. The town provided MWRA's informational brochure to all users relative to the hazards of lead in drinking water. Additional information relative to lead exposure is presented elsewhere in this report. The Town performs coliform, bacteria & chlorine residual testing at eight sites weekly.

The Town of Milton is committed to providing you with the best water possible. We hope that, as water consumers, you will find this report informative and useful. If you would like more information on particular topics, or have questions, please access our website at <http://www.townofmilton.org>, under "Town Government", "Public Works", "Water & Sewer". There is a lot of helpful information and links to the MWRA website. You may also call the Department of Public Works at 617-898-4900, or contact the MWRA directly using the phone numbers listed in the report.

---