

Hatfield Water Department

Has Very Important Information about Manganese in Your Drinking Water

-- Translate it or speak with someone who understands it --

What happened?

You were previously notified that water samples collected on May 8, 2018 and June 12, 2018 from the West Hatfield Well showed an average manganese level of 0.706 milligrams per liter (mg/L) which is in excess of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) Health Advisory level of 0.3 mg/L. Based on those results, the West Hatfield Well has been out of service since July 17, 2018. **Subsequent well sampling conducted in July, August and November of 2018 indicated manganese levels are now below the advisory level of 0.3 mg/L.**

Sample Date	Manganese (mg/L)	Sample Date	Manganese (mg/L)
May 8, 2018	1.2	August 14, 2018	0.169
June 12, 2018	0.212	November 13, 2018	0.133
July 24, 2018	0.194		

Hatfield's water sources have been monitored for manganese since 2014; none of the sources previously had manganese results above the Health Advisory level. The primary source of water for Hatfield Water Department is the Hatfield Running Gutter Brook Reservoir. The Omasta and West Hatfield Wells are secondary sources that have infrequent use. We have consulted with MassDEP about the use of the well. **The West Hatfield Well will again be used, as needed, by the Hatfield Water Department as a secondary source.**

What should I do?

You may continue to use the water as usual.

- **If you have health related concerns about manganese**, contact your health care provider.
- **For more information on manganese** see the "MassDEP Manganese Fact Sheet - Questions and Answers for Consumers." at: <https://www.mass.gov/files/documents/2016/08/pf/mangfactsheet.doc>

What do elevated manganese levels mean?

Drinking water may naturally have manganese which is necessary for proper nutrition, but an excess could adversely affect health. **MassDEP advises that people drink water with manganese levels less than 0.3 mg/L over a lifetime, and also advises that people limit their consumption of water with levels over 1 mg/L, primarily to decrease the possibility of adverse neurological effects. Infants up to 1 year of age should not be given water with manganese over 0.3 mg/L, nor should formula for infants be made with that water for more than a total of 10 days throughout the year.** *The general population water concentration exposure limits of 0.3 and 1 mg/L have been set based upon typical daily dietary manganese intake levels not known to be associated with adverse health effects. This does not imply that intakes above these levels will necessarily cause health problems. Individual requirements for, as well as adverse effects from manganese can be highly variable.*

What is being done?

We will continue to monitor the West Hatfield Well for manganese every quarter, work to keep manganese concentrations low, and work with the MassDEP to keep you informed of all current information on this issue. We are following specific procedures when turning on the West Hatfield Well to minimize manganese concentrations.

If you have questions for our water department, contact Anthony Lastowski, Certified Water Operator at (413)-345-0345 or 59 Main Street, Hatfield, MA 01038. *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).*