DID YOU KNOW?

PFAS

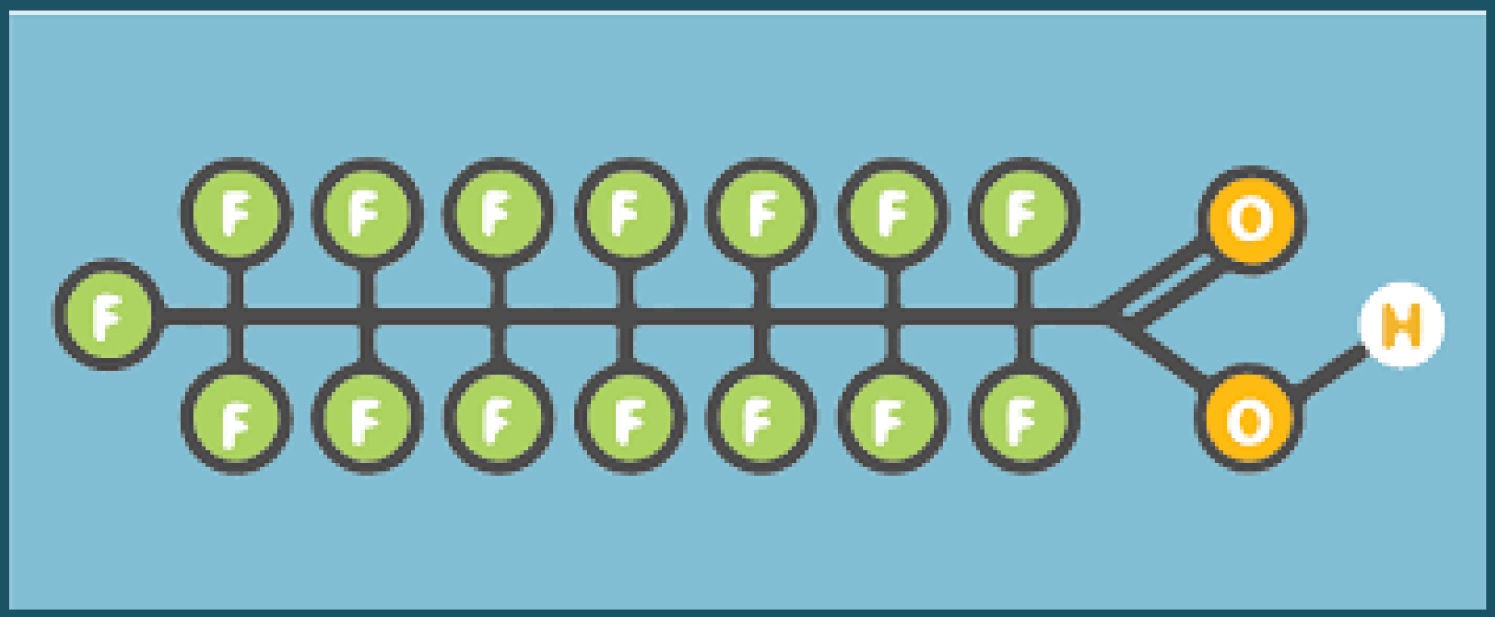
HAS BEEN FOUND IN **WEBSTER'S** DRINKING WATER

MassDEP

DID YOU KNOW?

PFAS
(Per- and Poly-fluoroalkyl Substances)

- Are a group of man-made chemicals used in many common products like cosmetics, food wrappers, waterproof fabrics & more;
- Are linked to multiple adverse health effects;
- Are hard to remove from the environment;
- Are commonly referred to as “forever chemicals”



DID YOU KNOW?

PFAS can affect your health

PFAS exposure has been linked to many adverse health effects, such as:

- Cancer
- Decrease in reproductive health
- Decrease in early childhood development
- Weakened immune system
- Kidney disease
- Many more

DID YOU KNOW?

PFAS is in many common products

DID YOU KNOW?

PFAS is regulated

MassDEP

State Regulation: Massachusetts regulates certain PFAS. Public water systems are required to test for certain PFAS and add treatment if they exceed state standards.

Federal Regulation: In 2024, The US EPA set even stricter standards for PFAS in drinking water. Public water systems will be required to meet these lower standards.

DID YOU KNOW?

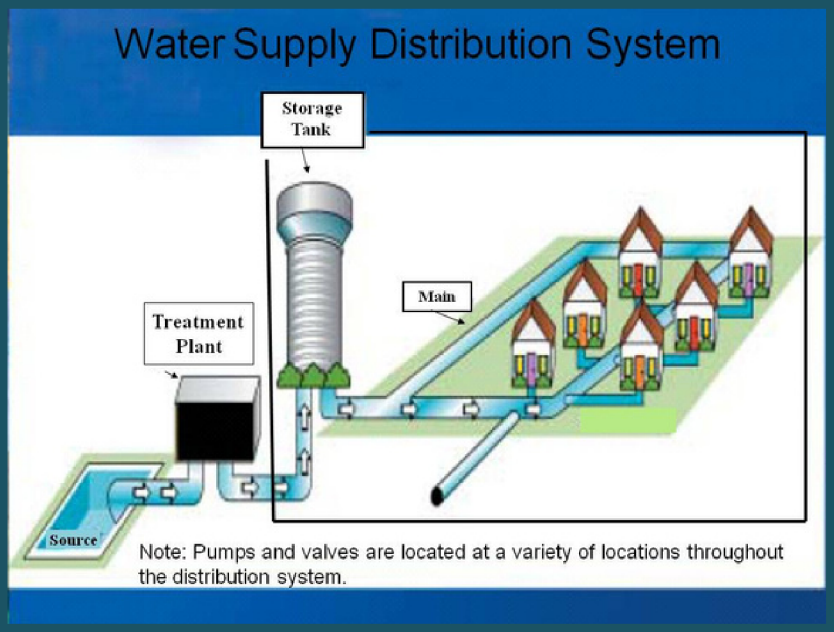
Webster is addressing PFAS in its Drinking Water

The Town must add PFAS treatment to its public water system to meet both state and federal standards.

The Town is developing a plan and identifying funding sources to add treatment for PFAS to its existing water treatment plant

DID YOU KNOW?

How clean water reaches your home



- Groundwater is pumped from underground wells to the Town’s treatment plant
- Water is treated for various contaminants, including iron and manganese, at the treatment plant
- Water is sampled and tested to ensure it meets state and federal drinking water standards before it enters the distribution system
- Carbon filtration will be added to Webster’s treatment process to remove PFAS

Learn more about PFAS

For more information about PFAS levels in Webster
Visit https://www.webster-ma.gov/

Visit MADEP website to learn more about state regulations:
https://www.mass.gov/drinking-water-health-safety

Visit EPA Website: https://www.epa.gov/pfas

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

WPI students created these infographics as part of an Interactive Qualifying Project (IQP), in collaboration with the Water Resource Outreach Center (WROC) and MassDEP.

WROC
Massachusetts Water Resource Outreach Center