



The Norton Water Department has Very Important Information about Manganese in Your Drinking Water

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

What happened?

Water Samples collected show Manganese levels at these locations and their respective dates,
3/4/24-well#1 0.38 mg/l

These locations are at or above the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) advisory level of 0.30mg/l. While manganese is necessary for proper nutrition, an excess amount could adversely affect health.

What should I do?

- **Infant formula should be prepared with bottled water** or made with water from an alternate source with manganese levels below 0.30 mg/L.
- **Use bottled water for infants less than 1 year of age** or water from a source with a manganese level below 0.30 mg/L.
- **Bottled water should only be used if it has been tested.** The Massachusetts Department of Public Health requires companies licensed to sell or distribute bottled water or carbonated non-alcoholic beverages to test their water. See <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/water-quality-standards-for-bottled-water-in-massachusetts#list-of-bottlers->
- **The general population may continue to use the water** since it is anticipated that this issue will be resolved before long-term exposures occur.
- **If you have health related concerns about manganese**, contact your health care provider.
- **For more information on manganese** see the MassDEP Manganese Consumer FAQ: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/manganese-in-drinking-water-typical-questions-and-answers-for-consumers-0/download>

What does this 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 0.30 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 0.30 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 0.30 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 for manganese, work to lower the manganese concentrations and work with the MassDEP to keep you informed of all current information on this issue. Norton's Water Treatment Facility is supplied by three of our largest production wells, this facility removes the Iron and Manganese from the well water before the water is pumped into the distribution system.

Wells 1 and 3 are not filtered water sources and are low production wells, used only as needed to meet system demands. When well #1 is in use, it accounts for no more than 15% of the water produced on an average day and then that water is blended with water that is below the advisory level.

If you have questions for our water department, contact Frank Fournier III at 508-285-0282 or ffournier@nortonmaus.com or 166 John Scott Blvd Norton, MA 02766.

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).