



PRESS RELEASE

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LPS and LELWD Announce Groundwater Testing Results for Middle and High Schools

The Littleton Public Schools and the Littleton Electric Light and Water Departments have announced the results of groundwater testing at the Littleton Middle School and the Littleton High School.

The test results indicate the presence of chemical compounds PFAS in groundwater at the middle and high schools. The PFAS in the groundwater does not pose a health risk to the students or staff at the schools.

Both schools use drinking water supplied by the LELWD public water system. The LELWD provides safe and reliable water that meets all state drinking water standards. The groundwater on the school property is undisturbed and not tapped for any purpose other than testing.

"We want parents and the community to be assured the PFAS in the groundwater poses no health risk to our students and staff. Littleton Public Schools will work with the LELWD and the Mass. Department of Environmental Protection to determine the appropriate next steps and to seek the source of the chemical compounds," said Dr. Kelly R. Clenchy, Superintendent of Schools.

LELWD regularly tests groundwater from 56 monitoring wells around town, including six located on school department properties. The monitoring wells allow LELWD's environmental analysts to track contaminants that pose a future risk to the town water supplies.

Of the 31 monitoring wells tested for PFAS in 2021, 11 were found to have PFAS at levels greater than the state limit of 20 parts per trillion of six PFAS compounds. A monitoring well at the middle school tested 26.81 ppt and a monitoring well at high school tested 30.07 ppt. A second monitoring well at the high school tested at 8.05 ppt, below the state limit.

“The public water supply provided by LELWD is safe for all consumers and meets all state drinking water standards. The LELWD will work with the schools and MassDEP on identifying the source of PFAS and take the appropriate next steps. We are confident the PFAS in the groundwater at the schools does not pose a risk to students and staff, and the testing information will help in our continuing work to deliver reliable and safe drinking water,” said Nick Lawler, P.E., General Manager of the LELWD.

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