

Dear Residents of Housatonic/West Stockbridge,

Dating back over 20 years, you may have had roily water (brown water) in the past and have been told by Housatonic Water Works (HWW) it is safe to drink. HWW now presents even greater concern as the element Halocetic Acid 5 (HAA5) is colorless in water.

MassDEP is responsible for monitoring HWW water quality. As you have been notified, MassDEP has reported levels of HAA5 in HWW water that exceeds maximum contaminant level (MCL). U.S. EPA considers HAA5 to be a potential carcinogen.

HWW violations of MassDEP regulations arise from poor management processes, unremedied filtration systems, and a lack of system-wide investment over a long period of time. As a result of persistent HWW water quality infractions, HWW water may have put the health of Housatonic/West Stockbridge residents at risk.

HWW water users deserve better. The purpose of this letter is to collect data to evaluate whether HWW water users have suffered incidents of cancer or other environmental illnesses exceeding anticipated statistical norms.

If you or your family members have suffered from cancers or environmental illnesses (such as Crohn's Disease or ulcerative colitis), please provide on the attached page information related to such incidents for our analysis. The information provided will be maintained as confidential and used by professionals seeking to map incidents of cancer and disease by HWW water users.

If the results of the attached survey and data analysis warrant it, your information will be combined with other survey respondents' information to help identify what steps should be taken to ensure the safety of HWW water.

Please help us with our effort to improve HWW water for our community. You can help us by providing the information requested on the other side of this notice. Send it to us at the following email address or mailing address:

Email address: Residentsforcleanwater@gmail.com

Mailing Address: Residents For Clean Water, PO Box 583, Housatonic, MA 01236

We appreciate your help and hope that we can find a solution to improve HWW water. Please know that your participation will make a difference. For the good of every HWW water user, we ask that you please help us!!!

Warm regards,

Sharon Gregory and Denise Forbes

SURVEY REGARDING INCIDENTS OF POTENTIAL WATERBORNE DISEASES

Please provide the following information:

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

Years HWW water user: _____

Type of cancer/illness: _____

Date of cancer/environmental illness diagnosed: _____

Treatment Received: _____

Does/Did your household drink HWW or bottled water at home?

Does/Did your household bathe in HWW water? _____

Were there family members/friends who have passed away after suffering from an illness/cancer who lived in Housatonic and USED or drank HWW water?

Will you or someone else be able to provide the above information in these cases? If so, Please provide contact information and we will be in touch.

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(This page can be folded, placed in an envelope and mailed.)