

Water Supply District of Acton

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Board of Water Commissioners

Meeting Agenda

Monday, January 12, 2026 @ 7:00 PM

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- **Comments from the public**
- **Approve minutes from the meeting of 11/24, 12/8, 12/17, and 12/22**
- **Appoint one Commissioner to sign warrants while conducting meetings virtually**

OLD BUSINESS:

- Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)
 - Current sample data, if available
 - Discussion of Additional PFAS Upgrades
 - Bottled Water Rebate Update
- US EPA Lead & Copper Rule Improvements
- Review Draft Budget for FY '27 and proposed articles for 2026 Annual District Meeting Warrant
- Recruitment for Treasurer/Collector

NEW BUSINESS:

- Update on District's water conservation and efficiency programs
- 126 Massachusetts Avenue, Boxborough
- Discussion of FY'27 Projected Debt Fee

Any agenda item(s) which did not come to the attention of the Board of Water Commissioners 48 hours prior to this meeting and were not reasonably anticipated.

Board of Water Commissioners

Meeting Agenda

Monday, November 24, 2025 @ 7:00 PM

- Comments from the public
- Approve minutes from the meeting of 11/10
- Appoint one Commissioner to sign warrants while conducting meetings virtually

OLD BUSINESS:

- Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)
 - Current sample data, if available
 - Discussion of Additional PFAS Upgrades
- Discussion of PFAS MDL Settlement Funds
- US EPA Lead & Copper Rule Improvements
- Route 2 Main Break
- Foster Street Water Main Improvement Project

NEW BUSINESS:

- Appoint District Clerk
- Recruitment for Treasurer/Collector

Present at Tonight's Meeting:

Commissioners: Stephen Stuntz (Chair), Erika Lin, Barry Rosen

Finance Committee: John Petersen

District Manager: Matt Mostoller

Treasurer/Collector: Christine McCarthy

Deputy District Manager: Corey Godfrey

Members of the Public: Michael Watkins, Joe Robb, Ron Parenti, Alissa Nicol, Melissa Dunnet, Gill Watt

START OF MINUTES

Mr. Stuntz opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and ensured that everyone could hear and be heard.

Comments from the public

No public comment was offered at this time.

Approve minutes from the meeting of 11/10

Mr. Rosen motioned to approve the minutes of 11/10/25 as amended* during the meeting. Ms. Lin seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved via a roll call vote, Mr. Rosen, Ms. Lin, and Mr. Stuntz.

**Amendment noted: A correction was made to the operational flow rate reference: “300–500 gallons per day” corrected to “300–500 gallons per minute.”*

Appoint one Commissioner to sign warrants while conducting meetings virtually

Ms. Lin motioned to appoint Mr. Rosen to sign warrants until the next regularly scheduled meeting. Ms. Lin seconded, and it was unanimously approved via a roll call vote, Mr. Rosen, Ms. Lin, and Mr. Stuntz.

OLD BUSINESS:

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

Current sample data, if available

Mr. Mostoller reported recent PFAS sampling results included in the meeting packet:

- **South Acton (11/4/2025): 15 ppt**
- **Center Acton (11/5/2025): 14.7 ppt**
- **North Acton (11/5/2025): Below detection limits**

Mr. Mostoller noted an email update was distributed to the PFAS update list (approximately 400+ recipients), and a strategy for December sampling was under discussion.

Discussion of Additional PFAS Upgrades

Mr. Mostoller reported continued progress on PFAS treatment upgrades:

- At the Center plant, 80,000 pounds of granular activated carbon (GAC) were delivered and placed into empty vessels without issue.
- Backwashing of the new media was scheduled to begin the following morning, with potential minor localized water quality disturbances near Center Acton (not expected to be widespread and expected to clear quickly based on the South Acton experience).

Commissioner Rosen asked whether flushing rates would be similar to South Acton. Mr. Mostoller responded that Center Acton rates are expected to be slightly lower due to colder water while still achieving intended outcomes. South Acton targeted approximately 1,300 gpm and achieved it.

Status of South Acton:

Mr. Mostoller reported South Acton backwashing was completed on November 12, 2025, but the conditioning process had not progressed as hoped. Staff were working with the project team and developing a plan for conditioning at Center Acton given the challenges experienced at South Acton.

Mr. Petersen inquired about the estimate of purchased water to date. Mr. Godfrey replied that usage has been minimal: the interconnection was active for roughly five days, at a low flow rate (approximately 30–100 gpm on average). Staff noted additional purchased water may be needed in coming weeks as the second plant conditioning proceeds.

Discussion of PFAS MDL Settlement Funds

Mr. Mostoller provided an update on settlement receipts and ongoing planning:

- 3M settlement: first payment received in spring (approx. \$614,000); second payment received late September (approx. \$1.4 million). Total in hand: ~ \$2.0 million.
- DuPont settlement: additional payment in October (approx. \$350,000).
- Funds were deposited/invested via the District's money market account, earning slightly above 4% at the time of the meeting.

Work group: Mr. Mostoller stated he hoped to bring recommendations to the Board at the December 8, 2025 meeting, including how settlement funds may align with preliminary budget discussions.

Purchased water eligibility: Staff reported preliminary feedback indicated purchased water would not be an eligible PFAS project cost under current guidance, meaning it would need to be paid from the operating budget unless a separate approach is adopted. One option is

to utilize PFAS settlement funds to reimburse the FY26 operating budget for these expenses.

Accelerated payment option (3M):

Mr. Mostoller discussed evaluating an accelerated payment plan that would provide funds sooner, with a tradeoff:

- The District may have approximately \$1.2 million remaining from 3M under the standard schedule.
- If not accelerated, the next payment would be expected around June 2026, with annual payments continuing through 2033 (decreasing amounts).
- The accelerated option would forfeit approximately \$300,000 over an eight-year period, but staff indicated potential investment returns could offset that reduction and would provide more certainty and liquidity.

Board direction / consensus:

Commissioners expressed interest in pursuing the early payout option and requested counsel to continue reviewing the agreement terms. Commissioners also discussed the intent to earmark funds for PFAS-related needs (i.e., maintaining the funds in a PFAS-designated account/fund).

US EPA Lead & Copper Rule Improvements

Deputy District Manager Godfrey provided an update on compliance planning for the Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI):

- Regulation adopted October 2024, effective November 2027.
- Requires public water systems to identify and replace lead service lines within 10 years of the effective date (completion by 2037).

AWD inventory status:

- Approximately 6,700 service lines systemwide.
- Material is known for approximately 3,700 lines (just over half).
- To date, no lead service lines have been identified in the known inventory.

Approach and resources:

- Field verification is ongoing for older/unrecorded services.
- MassDEP released guidance allowing a statistical modeling approach to demonstrate absence of lead service lines for systems with substantial verified inventory and no lead findings to date.

- AWD hired Blue Conduit to support modeling and inventory validation.
- Expected preliminary model results in January–February 2026.
- Even with modeling, AWD anticipates validating approximately 340 service lines in the field to meet confirmation requirements.

Goosenecks / galvanized services:

- Lead goosenecks are not currently required to be replaced in Massachusetts, but AWD wants to understand where they may exist.
- Modeling will also help identify galvanized service lines, which can guide future renewal planning.

Customer notification letters:

- Annual notices are required for customers with lead/galvanized/unknown materials.
- AWD will send an updated round in December 2025, including updates where statuses have changed since last year.
- Staff confirmed MassDEP templates are used, and AWD is exploring clearer communication to reduce customer confusion (e.g., parsing unknowns by segment).

Mr. Watkins asked whether lead is present in source water or endpoint sampling. Mr. Godfrey and Mr. Mostoller responded that there is no lead in source water. Trace lead can appear at endpoints in older homes due to premise plumbing materials. AWD performs routine lead/copper sampling (e.g., 60 homes twice per year). The action level referenced was 0.015 mg/L, and results have been below that level in recent years.

Mr. Petersen asked whether the current sample is representative enough for the statistical model. Mr. Godfrey replied that *Blue Conduit* will assess representativeness (by age/installation period, etc.) and may recommend additional targeted field checks if gaps exist.

Route 2 Main Break

Mr. Mostoller reviewed the Route 2 water main condition and recent breaks:

- Major main break occurred July 2025, between Route 2 travel lanes.
- A second break occurred late October 2025, just south of the July repair location.
- After consultation (operations, engineering, internal review), AWD decided not to repair the second break at this time.
- The affected main has been isolated since late October.

- AWD completed hydraulic modeling and stated it can still meet fire demands in the area while pursuing a more durable solution.

Interim action: AWD plans to retain DOT's paving contractor (Lynch) to complete limited road surface repairs while AWD develops a longer-term plan.

Infrastructure notes:

- The main is a 6-inch AC (asbestos cement) main, considered undersized for a major highway crossing.
- A longer-term replacement solution is being explored, potentially coordinating with anticipated work around 2028 (crossover rework), but AWD is also evaluating whether earlier action is feasible.

Mr. Petersen asked about the approximate length of watermain involved. Mr. Mostoller replied that the scope of work is not yet defined; AWD is still evaluating appropriate project limits and constructability/traffic constraints.

Foster Street Water Main Improvement Project

Mr. Mostoller reported:

- Contractor and subcontractor mobilized.
- Temporary water service connection installed.
- Lining work underway/anticipated; staff targeting completion to remove temporary water service as soon as feasible due to cold conditions.

Planned shutdown:

- During the week of December 8, 2025, AWD anticipates a 2–3 hour shutdown to improve the connection near Foster Street and School Street (valve assembly work).
- Expected impact area: from School Street & Wadsworth Road to Parker Street, including Pondside and Heritage, plus nearby streets.
- AWD does not anticipate significant water quality disturbance; primary impact is brief service interruption.

Communication plan: Door tags and/or email notices will be provided approximately 2–3 days prior.

NEW BUSINESS:

Appoint District Clerk

The Chair invited candidates to speak regarding their interest in the District Clerk position. Two residents addressed the Board:

- Michael Watkins described his background (geology and IT), volunteer work, and community involvement (including RAC and Green Acton Water Committee).
- Joe Robb described his background (geology/hydrogeology), environmental consulting leadership experience, role as Chair of the Water Resources Advisory Committee, and prior clerk experience with a local nonprofit.

Disclosure: Commissioner Rosen disclosed a professional relationship with Mr. Robb through WRAC collaboration and noted familiarity with Mr. Robb's organizational skills.

Commissioners asked both candidates about availability for the Annual District Meeting (March) and special meetings; both indicated they could be available with planning. Mr. Watkins stated he would support Mr. Robb's appointment and volunteered to assist as a teller at meetings if needed.

Mr. Stuntz moved to appoint Mr. Joe Robb as the Acton Water District Clerk until the next regularly scheduled election. Mr. Rosen seconded, and it was unanimously approved via a roll call vote, Mr. Rosen, Ms. Lin, and Mr. Stuntz.

Mr. Robb was sworn in by Mr. Godfrey, Assistant Clerk.

Recruitment for Treasurer/Collector

Mr. Mostoller updated the Board on the Treasurer/Collector recruitment:

- Posting was open approximately two weeks and closed on November 24, 2025.
- AWD received 10 applicants.
- Staff completed an initial review and identified candidates to advance.

Proposed interview process:

- Interview up to four candidates in the first round.
- Use a single round with staff and a participating Board member, then bring finalists to the full Board for consideration.
- Goal: complete selection and onboarding steps before the holidays and ensure overlap/training with outgoing Treasurer/Collector Christine McCarthy, who is expected to remain through the first two weeks of January.

Scheduling discussed:

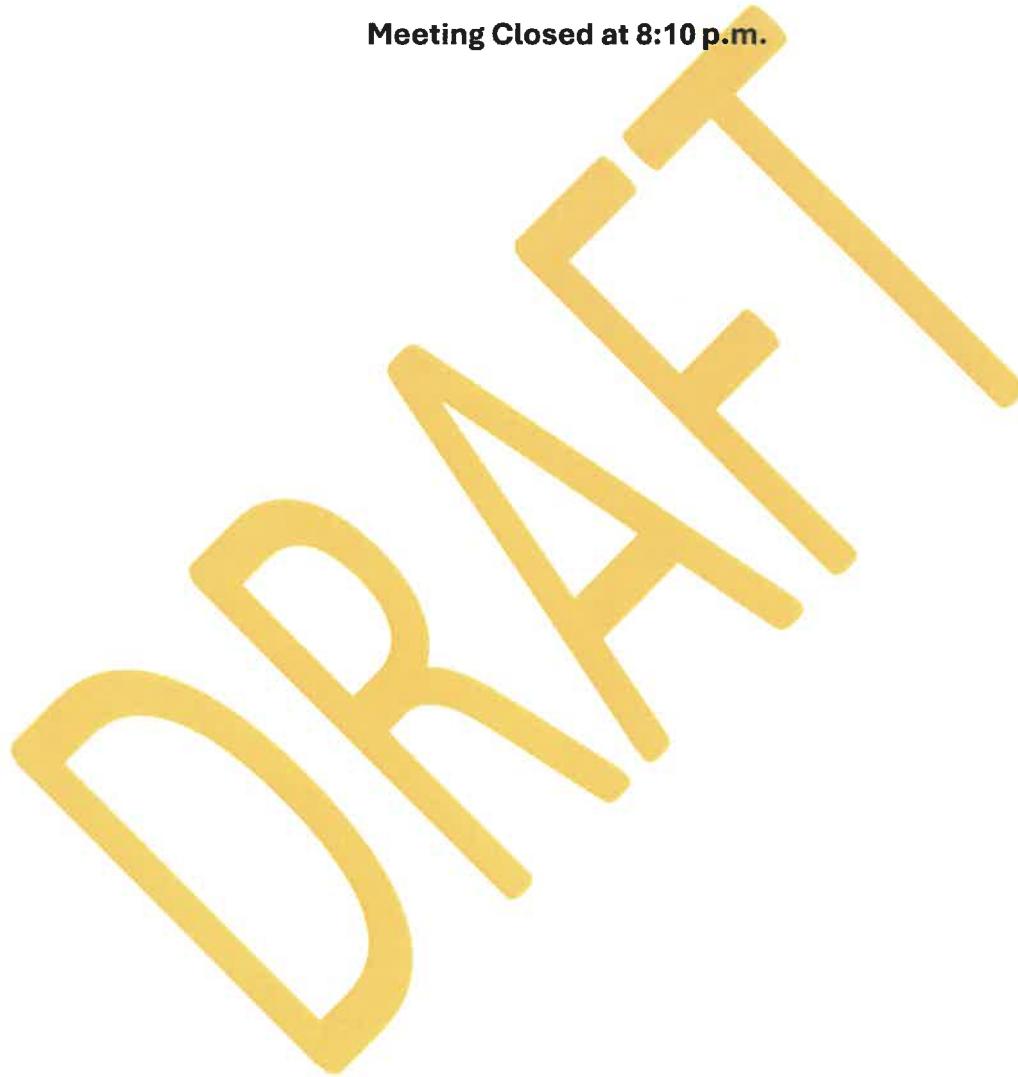
- First-round interviews targeted for the week of December 8, 2025 (noting limited availability in early December).

- A follow-up full Board meeting to consider finalists was discussed for December 16, 2025 (daytime, in-person at the District), with flexibility considerations noted for travel and remote participation.

Commissioners expressed support for expediting the process to preserve training overlap.

Mr. Rosen motioned to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Lin seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved via a roll call vote, Mr. Rosen, Ms. Lin, Mr. Stuntz.

Meeting Closed at 8:10 p.m.



Board of Water Commissioners

Meeting Agenda

Monday, December 8, 2025 @ 7:00 PM

- Comments from the public
- Appoint one Commissioner to sign warrants while conducting meetings virtually

OLD BUSINESS:

- Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)
 - Current sample data, if available
 - Discussion of Additional PFAS Upgrades
- Discussion of PFAS MDL Settlement Funds
- Foster Street Water Main Improvement Project

NEW BUSINESS:

- Review Draft Budget for FY '27 and preliminary approach to articles for 2026 Annual District Meeting Warrant
- Annual Report
- Meeting Schedule January-June 2026
- Operator Recruitment
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KD_xbJOk0Bg

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- To conduct strategy sessions for contract negotiations with non-union personnel.

Present at Tonight's Meeting:

Commissioners: Stephen Stuntz (Chair), Erika Lin, Barry Rosen

Finance Committee: Ron Parenti

District Manager: Matt Mostoller

Treasurer/Collector: Christine McCarthy

Deputy District Manager: Corey Godfrey

Members of the Public: John Petersen, Brewster Conant Jr., Bill Guthlein

START OF MINUTES

Mr. Stuntz opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and ensured that everyone could hear and be heard.

Comments from the public

No public comment was offered at this time.

Appoint one Commissioner to sign warrants while conducting meetings virtually

Mr. Rosen motioned to appoint Ms. Lin to sign warrants until the next regularly scheduled meeting. Mr. Stuntz seconded, and it was unanimously approved via a roll call vote, Mr. Rosen, Ms. Lin, and Mr. Stuntz.

OLD BUSINESS:

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

Current sample data, if available

Mr. Mostoller reported that there is no new PFAS sampling data at this time, and that December sampling is currently underway.

Discussion of Additional PFAS Upgrades

Mr. Mostoller noted that both the Center Acton and South Acton treatment plants are continuing to progress. At South Acton, the team has continued conditioning the granular activated carbon media; this process generally takes five to seven days per vessel to bring the pH down from above 10 to the target value of approximately 8.5. As of December 8, 2025, three of the six vessels at the South Acton facility had reached that target range, and conditioning of the fourth vessel began earlier in the day.

Mr. Mostoller apprised the Board that at the Center Acton plant, staff are working closely with AqueoUS Vets and Calgon, the vessel and media suppliers, to resolve ongoing issues with the backwash process. Due to those backwash challenges that have not yet been fully addressed, the District has been unable to move into the media conditioning phase at Center Acton.

Mr. Parenti asked a question regarding how conditioning changes pH, and Mr. Mostoller explained that the carbon media itself initially has a high pH. As water is run through the media and the pores fill over time, excess hydrogen is reduced, and the pH gradually drops into the desired range.

Discussion of PFAS MDL Settlement Funds

Mr. Mostoller summarized that the PFAS Working Group had met twice in-person and continued its work via email to develop recommendations for the use of PFAS MDL settlement funds. The working group recommended using a portion of the funds currently in hand to supplement the upcoming FY27 budget for PFAS-related costs, such as the lease payments for the North Acton PFAS treatment system and media replacement. The balance of settlement funds would be invested, with the intent that, each year, the District would review ongoing PFAS needs and determine how much of the invested funds should be drawn down to support operating or capital expenses.

He noted that, while the District has already committed approximately \$20 million in PFAS-related capital improvements, this is only a snapshot of the total PFAS financial impact. Ongoing operating costs, waste management expenses, and possible upgrades at additional facilities are expected, and future financing terms are unlikely to be as favorable as those obtained for the Center and South Acton projects. For that reason, the working group felt it prudent to reserve a portion of the settlement funds to help offset future capital and operating costs.

Mr. Mostoller also reported that the same recommendations were presented to the Finance Committee the prior Friday (December 5, 2025). Two Finance Committee members voted in favor and one abstained, indicating general support for the approach. He further explained that the working group additionally recommended accepting the accelerated payment schedule for the 3M settlement, rather than waiting for the full payment stream over a longer period. The goal of this recommendation is to bring funds under the District's control sooner, rather than relying on later scheduled payments that may not materialize as scheduled. According to Mr. Mostoller, preliminary calculations suggest that approximately \$300,000 in foregone value from accelerating the payments could reasonably be recouped through conservative investment returns. He also noted that more than 200 settling parties in the first round of settlements have elected to take the accelerated option, and that many other communities fall into a second round with less favorable terms.

In response to a question from Mr. Rosen, Finance Committee member, Mr. Guthlein spoke to his abstention. He expressed concern that the accelerated schedule implies a discount rate of roughly 8–9% per year, which is relatively attractive in the current market. Mr. Guthlein argued that if the District is confident it can reliably earn similar returns on invested funds, there could be a rationale for maintaining the original payment stream. However, he acknowledged that there is also uncertainty around 3M's long-term non-PFAS liabilities, and that the Board's desire to reduce that risk by taking the funds earlier is reasonable. Commissioners and staff discussed both perspectives, including the value of

having funds available not only for investment income but also to support near-term PFAS expenses and future capital planning.

Ms. Lin motioned that the Board approve accepting the accelerated payment schedule for the 3M settlement funds. Mr. Rosen seconded, and it was unanimously approved via a roll call vote, Mr. Rosen, Ms. Lin, and Mr. Stuntz.

The Board then turned to the broader recommendation regarding use of PFAS settlement funds. Mr. Mostoller reiterated that the working group's recommendation is to use a portion of the funds in the upcoming fiscal year for specific PFAS costs and to invest the remainder in a dedicated PFAS fund, with allocations to be revisited during future budget cycles. Mr. Guthlein again explained his abstention at the Finance Committee level, noting that he would prefer to focus settlement funds on reducing long-term capital costs rather than offsetting current operating expenses, in part to avoid artificially lowering water rates and thereby weakening conservation price signals. He also raised questions about the mechanics of appropriating funds from a PFAS reserve and how unexpended appropriations would be handled over multiple fiscal years.

Mr. Mostoller clarified that staff intend to propose a warrant article to create a PFAS special reserve fund, and that settlement funds would be placed there. Appropriations from that fund, for example, for the North Acton lease or PFAS media replacement, would be authorized at the Annual District Meeting. Once appropriated, the funds would be drawn down as actual expenses arise; any amounts not spent would remain in the PFAS reserve unless or until the District chose to redirect or re-appropriate them at a subsequent meeting. He emphasized that this approach is designed to ensure that PFAS-related funds are available when needed for unpredictable but essential costs, without requiring a special district meeting each time media must be replaced.

Finance Committee member, John Petersen added that the Finance Committee's discussion had focused more on the principle that some funds should be used in the near-term and some should be saved, rather than on specific dollar amounts. He confirmed that no particular spending level had been endorsed and that the current budget numbers (such as \$328,000 for lease and \$672,000 for media replacement) were being used as planning figures for FY27, subject to further refinement.

Ms. Lin motioned that the Board accept the recommendation of the PFAS Settlement Working Group to use a portion of the PFAS settlement funds for upcoming PFAS-related costs in the next fiscal year and to invest the remaining funds for future PFAS needs. Mr. Rosen seconded, and it was unanimously approved via a roll call vote, Mr. Rosen, Ms. Lin, and Mr. Stuntz.

Foster Street Water Main Improvement Project

Mr. Mostoller provided an update on the Foster Street Water Main Improvement Project. He reported that the contractor was on site earlier that day to pre-excavate the connection between Foster Street and School Street. The District is planning a water shutdown the following day that will impact properties on School Street, Heritage, and Pond View, and possibly one home on Hosmer Street. Staff have advised affected customers to prepare for a full-day interruption of water service from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., although the actual work is expected to take only two to three hours if conditions are favorable.

He noted that the District has been operating temporary water systems on Powder Mill Road and Foster Street during the lining work and that, despite cold weather, only two freeze-ups have occurred. Aqualine is performing the connection work on Foster Street, and the lining subcontractor, Fer-Pal, has completed its work on both the Foster and Powder Mill projects. The focus now is on making the final physical connections, including installation of a new hydrant and returning the new mains to service.

NEW BUSINESS:

Review Draft Budget for FY '27 and preliminary approach to articles for 2026 Annual District Meeting Warrant

Mr. Mostoller presented a preliminary draft of the FY27 operating budget and noted that it is very much a first-round working document. He explained that, based on year-to-date performance, the District is in good shape for the current fiscal year, with both revenue and expenses tracking closely to budget. At this stage, the draft FY27 operating budget reflects approximately a seven percent increase in operating costs, while projected revenue, assuming recent trends in water sales continue, would increase by around eight percent. On that basis, staff are not currently projecting a need for a rate increase in FY27.

He cautioned, however, that the coming fiscal year is expected to be the peak year for debt service, given the addition of PFAS financing to the District's existing debt load. After FY27, the scheduled annual debt payments should begin to decrease, absent new major borrowings. Mr. Mostoller also noted that the District only recently received its draft audit and does not yet have a certified free cash figure, which will be an important factor in shaping both the final budget and the Warrant Article recommendations.

Ms. McCarthy added that staff are working toward having free cash estimates available by either the December 22nd joint meeting with the Finance Committee and the Board or the first Board meeting in January. Mr. Mostoller confirmed that the December 22nd meeting is

intended as a joint session where the auditor will present the audit findings and where early budget and warrant concepts can be discussed.

Commissioners discussed the role of PFAS settlement funds in the FY27 budget. Mr. Rosen expressed that he is still considering how much of the PFAS money should be drawn into the FY27 plan, initially assuming the District might use roughly half of the early settlement funds rather than the full \$1.3 million now in hand. Staff reiterated that the present draft budget does not directly embed PFAS expenditures in the operating budget, but rather anticipates using appropriations from the PFAS reserve fund, subject to voter approval at the Annual Meeting.

The Board agreed that further discussion will be needed as free cash figures are finalized and the PFAS fund mechanics are clarified in the warrant language.

Mr. Mostoller then provided an overview of early Warrant Article concepts, noting that the drafts are even more preliminary than the budget. He explained that staff are still working to close out the prior fiscal year and to obtain certified free cash from the Department of Revenue, so some articles will need to be framed as contingent upon the availability of free cash.

He stated that staff expect to bring forward the usual housekeeping items, including reauthorization of revolving funds. The District also anticipates proposing a warrant article creating a PFAS Special Reserve Fund and additional articles to appropriate PFAS settlement funds for specific purposes such as the North Acton lease payments, PFAS media replacement, and reimbursement of FY26 interconnect water purchase costs.

In addition, staff are reviewing existing WR Grace Fund appropriations to determine whether further appropriations for well rehabilitation, media replacement, or other ongoing infrastructure needs are warranted. Mr. Mostoller also discussed the importance of setting aside funds for emergency water main breaks and targeted replacements of smaller segments of aging pipe, hydrants, and service lines, separate from larger capital main replacement projects.

Mr. Mostoller noted that the District is also evaluating the cost of bringing the District website into compliance with ADA web accessibility requirements, which must be met by April 2027. Depending on the estimated cost, staff will either propose a dedicated article or incorporate the expense into the operating budget.

Although the District had hoped to pause major capital projects after completing the PFAS facilities, Mr. Mostoller explained that the Flagg Hill storage tank has been identified for major improvements for several years and that has not changed. The 2018 Master Plan

identified Flag Hill as a high-priority rehabilitation project, originally targeted for 2021, and MassDEP has since raised additional concerns related to access and worker safety. Staff are working with the District's engineers to update cost estimates for Flagg Hill in 2026 dollars and will likely bring forward a warrant article for that work, subject to final review of the engineering recommendations.

Commissioners discussed the relationship between the Master Plan update and the District's capital priorities. Mr. Mostoller noted that, although the updated Master Plan may not be finalized before Annual Meeting, many of the 2018 recommendations remain valid, several high-priority items (such as new wells and the Center Acton plant) have already been addressed, and Flagg Hill continues to stand out as an essential project based on both prior planning and current system knowledge.

Annual Report

Mr. Mostoller reminded the Board that the Commissioners' annual report submission is due by the end of January. Historically, the Chair drafts the initial report, circulates it among commissioners for comment, and then submits it to staff for final formatting and compilation in the District's Annual Report. He asked that the Board continue this practice and requested that the existing report file and formatting be used to help streamline layout and page count. The Board agreed that Chair Stuntz will again prepare the first draft, to be reviewed by the other commissioners and staff in January.

Meeting Schedule January-June 2026

Mr. Mostoller and Ms. McCarthy presented a proposed meeting schedule for the first half of 2026, generally following the District's regular pattern of meeting on the second and fourth Mondays of the month and avoiding conflicts with major holidays and Town Meeting. During review of the dates, Commissioner Lin noted that she will be traveling and unavailable for the March 23 meeting.

The Board agreed to keep the March 23 date on the calendar but to treat that meeting as light and as-needed, with no major or controversial decisions planned unless circumstances require it.

Mr. Mostoller also noted that the Annual District Meeting will be held at the Public Safety Facility this year due to scheduling conflicts at the junior high school and uncertainties around library construction. The Board agreed to proceed with that location.

Operator Recruitment

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KD_xbJOk0Bg

Mr. Mostoller updated the Board on operator staffing and recruitment challenges. He reported that two long-tenured operators with approximately 30 years of service each have announced their retirement plans, and that two younger laborers who were expected to develop their careers at the District have recently announced plans to leave; one to pursue a career in law enforcement and another to pursue broader heavy equipment opportunities. He described the increasing difficulty of recruiting and retaining operators willing and able to meet the physical, mental, and on-call demands of water system operations, including emergency response in all weather conditions and the need to maintain technical certifications.

He also noted that there is a broader statewide effort underway to advocate for changes in the retirement classification of public water operators so that they are treated more similarly to other public safety and critical infrastructure personnel, such as lineworkers and firefighters, rather than clerical staff. This would potentially allow operators to retire earlier in recognition of the physical and mental demands of the work.

Mr. Mostoller highlighted two initiatives the District is participating in to support recruitment. First, the Massachusetts Water Works Association produced an operator recruitment video over the summer, and the Acton Water District served as one of the featured locations. Several District employees, as well as Commissioner Lin, appear in the video. The District will be sharing a link to the video on its website and using it as a tool to promote water careers. Second, the District intends to make a financial contribution to the New England Work for Water Collaborative, a regional partnership working to attract and prepare the next generation of water and wastewater professionals across New England and New York.

Mr. Mostoller expressed appreciation for Corey Godfrey's work in recruiting for the operator positions and for Foreman Andrew Peterson, who has agreed to postpone his planned February retirement and remain with the District through July to help smooth the transition.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At the conclusion of open session business, Mr. Rosen moved that the Board adjourn the open meeting of the Acton Water District Commissioners and reconvene in Executive Session to conduct strategy sessions for contract negotiations with non-union personnel, and that the Board not return to open session thereafter. Ms. Lin seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved via a roll call vote, Mr. Rosen, Ms. Lin, Mr. Stuntz.

Meeting Closed at 8:12 p.m.

Board of Water Commissioners

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 17, 2025 @ 3:00 PM

693 Massachusetts Avenue, Acton, MA 01720

Agenda

NEW BUSINESS:

- Interview with Treasurer/Collector Candidate

Present at Tonight's Meeting:

Commissioners: Stephen Stuntz (Chair), Erika Lin, Barry Rosen

District Manager: Matt Mostoller

Treasurer/Collector: Christine McCarthy

Members of the Public: Elizabeth Clemence

START OF MINUTES

Mr. Stuntz opened the meeting at 3:02 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS:

Interview with Treasurer/Collector Candidate

Mr. Mostoller introduced Elizabeth Clemence to the Board and reviewed the process of bringing her before the Board for an interview. He also informed them that the second candidate for consideration withdrew from consideration prior to this afternoon's meeting. Ms. Clemence introduced herself and provided an overview of her relevant work experience, including 7 years of municipal work. Mr. Rosen was interested in understanding how her various roles, both municipal and private sector, would support her in this position. Ms. Lin inquired about challenges experienced in prior positions and how she handled those challenges. Mr. Stuntz reviewed her status on obtaining the Treasurer/Collector Certification. Finally, Ms. Clemence inquired about annual meeting, the Board's tenure, procurement sensibilities, and open meeting law experience.

The Board thanked her for her time and proceeded to discuss their impressions.

Mr. Mostoller provided additional information to the Board on other candidates that submitted applications. Mr. Stuntz directed a conversation about ways to proceed with filling the position, including extending an offer to Ms. Clemence, bringing in a temporary

Treasurer/Collector, utilizing a third party to recruit additional candidates for consideration, or revisiting the existing applicants. After discussing the options, the Board requested to have at least one additional candidate to interview, even if that means no overlap with Ms. McCarthy before she departs.

Mr. Rosen motioned to continue the interview process for Treasurer/Collector and the board directs the District Manager to bring forth one or two additional candidates for the Board of Commissioners to review. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lin and unanimously approved via a roll call vote, Mr. Rosen, Ms. Lin, Mr. Stuntz.

Mr. Rosen motioned to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Lin seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Meeting Closed at 6:21 p.m.

DRAFT

Board of Water Commissioners & Finance Committee

Meeting Agenda

Monday, December 22, 2025 @ 7:00 PM

- Comments from the public
- Appoint one Commissioner to sign warrants while conducting meetings virtually

NEW BUSINESS:

- Representatives of CBIZ CPAs for annual audit report
- Update on Investments from Cap Trust (formerly Boston Financial)

OLD BUSINESS:

- Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)
 - o Current sample data, if available
 - o Discussion of Additional PFAS Upgrades
 - o MDL Update
- Review Draft Budget for FY '27 and proposed articles for 2026 Annual District Meeting Warrant
- MWRA MetroWest Expansion
- Recruitment for Treasurer/Collector

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

To conduct strategy sessions for contract negotiations with non-union personnel.

Present at Tonight's Meeting:

Commissioners: Stephen Stuntz (Chair), Erika Lin, Barry Rosen

Finance Committee: Ron Parenti, John Petersen, Bill Guthlein

District Manager: Matt Mostoller

Treasurer/Collector: Christine McCarthy

CBIZ CPAs: Laura Stone

CAP TRUST: Tim Gray

Members of the Public: Joe Robb, Gill Watt, Alissa Nicol

START OF MINUTES

Mr. Parenti opened the Finance Committee meeting at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Stuntz opened the Commissioners meeting at 7:01 p.m. and ensured that everyone could hear and be heard.

Comments from the public

No public comment was offered at this time.

Approve minutes from meeting of 11/24 and 12/8

Mr. Mostoller informed the Board that these minutes were not available for review at this time.

Appoint one Commissioner to sign warrants while conducting meetings virtually

Mr. Stuntz motioned to appoint Mr. Rosen to sign warrants until the next regularly scheduled meeting. Ms. Lin seconded, and it was unanimously approved via a roll call vote, Mr. Rosen, Ms. Lin, and Mr. Stuntz.

NEW BUSINESS:

Representatives of CBIZ CPAs for annual audit report

Ms. Laura Stone of CBIZ CPAs presented the District's annual audit report to the Commissioners and Finance Committee, providing an overview of the audit scope, process, and timing, and noting that the audit was conducted in accordance with applicable standards. Ms. Stone reported that the audit was completed as planned and reviewed the District's overall financial position and major funds, noting general consistency with prior years. She also discussed fund balance considerations and state guidance, including flexibility allowed by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue, and observed that many communities are evaluating how available resources may be directed toward PFAS mitigation and other capital or regulatory-driven needs.

Commissioners and Finance Committee members asked questions regarding audit findings and long-term financial planning, including questions from Mr. Petersen regarding audit guidance and future options. Ms. Stone confirmed that detailed audit materials had been provided and remains available for follow-up.

Update on Investments from Cap Trust (formerly Boston Financial)

Mr. Timothy Gray, a financial representative from Cap Trust, provided a high-level market and economic update, noting that overall economic performance exceeded earlier expectations, influenced by an "AI boost" and recent Federal Reserve rate cuts. At the same time, Mr. Gray flagged uncertainty tied to prior tariff announcements and

emphasized that the primary concern at this time is the labor market, including weaker overall job growth trends and a modest rise in unemployment. Mr. Gray also commented on consumer spending patterns, noting that spending remains strong at a macro level but is disproportionately driven by higher earners.

Mr. Gray then reviewed District investment accounts, including the OPEB Trust Fund and the WR Grace Fund, and summarized consolidated assets at approximately \$2.3M as of the close of business on Friday, December 19, with allocations reported as roughly 55% equities, 41% high-quality bonds, and a small portion in money market (“dry powder”).

Mr. Guthlein asked questions about asset allocation and whether the portfolio was underweighting equities relative to a typical 60/40 approach. Mr. Gray explained the strategy as intentionally defensive, describing proactive rebalancing to take risk off the table given equity valuations and highlighting improved bond yields compared to recent years, with the bond portfolio returning over 6% year-to-date.

Commissioners also asked about portfolio construction, and Mr. Gray stated the equity sleeve typically holds approximately 50–55 positions and is designed to prioritize downside protection rather than index-matching.

Additional discussion covered whether creating additional funds (e.g., a future PFAS-related fund) would create meaningful investment disadvantages. The presenter indicated that, given current flexibility and the custodial structure (including no trading commissions and no custody fees per account), having multiple funds would not materially change outcomes unless the funds had different goals that would warrant different allocations.

A further exchange between Mr. Guthlein addressed expected return assumptions, with Mr. Gray noting historical annualized returns around 6–7% since inception and expressing that 8% would likely be aggressive for the current design going forward.

OLD BUSINESS:

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

Current sample data, if available

Mr. Mostoller provided December PFAS sampling results, reporting that the North Acton plant remained below detection limits (sampled Dec. 2). Center Acton and South Acton were sampled Dec. 9, with Center Acton reported at 15.1 ppt and South Acton at 12.5 ppt. Mr. Mostoller noted early indications that discharge of treated PFAS conditioning water on-site may be contributing to reduced raw water concentrations at South Acton.

Discussion of Additional PFAS Upgrades

Mr. Mostoller in response to a question from Mr. Petersen, explained that conditioning water is discharged via hose onto the ground and recharges into the aquifer, with efforts made to discharge away from sensitive wetland areas.

Mr. Mostoller also shared progress updates: Center Acton has been offline while contractors worked through backwashing issues; recent progress suggests the system may soon complete the full backwash cycles, with conditioning anticipated to begin after the new year. At South Acton, conditioning was nearly complete with one vessel remaining; preliminary results on the first two vessels looked good for PFAS removal and did not show arsenic leaching. Mr. Mostoller also reported ongoing transfer pump issues and anticipated pausing further work until after the new year.

Mr. Mostoller confirmed the District has been purchasing water from Concord and reported approximately \$10,000 in purchased water costs since early November, noting minimal overall fiscal impact to date.

Near the end of the meeting, discussion returned briefly to PFAS financing administration. Ms. McCarthy reported interim loan note closing documents for the South Acton, Center Acton, and PFAS projects, with a closing date of February 6, 2026, after which the notes will move to permanent financing with the Clean Water Trust. Commissioners were asked to come into the office to sign documents, with materials available in a blue folder at the front counter. Mr. Mostoller noted that documents must be returned to bond counsel by January 7, 2026.

PFAS MDL Update

Mr. Mostoller reported settlement-related payment options, stating that although the Board had interest in accelerated payments for 3M, legal concerns could not be reconciled, and the District did not proceed. Payments are otherwise expected over the next eight years.

Review Draft Budget for FY '27 and proposed articles for 2026 Annual District Meeting Warrant

Mr. Mostoller stated there had been no changes to the draft budget since the prior meeting (Dec. 8) and invited questions. Finance committee members raised a reporting concern that certain expenditures appeared as blanks when paid from special funds and recommended that future budgets explicitly show expenditures along with corresponding special revenue lines to reflect funding sources more transparently.

Commissioners also discussed anticipated impacts on customer bills, clarifying that while the budget assumed no increase to the water use fee, bills may rise due to an increase in

the debt fee. Staff reported the debt fee is projected to increase to \$85.25 per unit per quarter for FY27, up from \$63.50 per unit per quarter in FY26. Commissioners agreed this was a valid concern and noted the topic should be discussed further, including whether certain funds could be used to mitigate impacts.

Regarding warrant articles, Mr. Mostoller reported no additional movement at this time. Following completion of the audit, accounting work was finalized and shared with a consultant supporting our free cash certification. Once the free cash position is confirmed, the District can further evaluate financial warrant articles.

MWRA MetroWest Expansion

Mr. Mostoller provided an update that the Town of Maynard has negotiated a contract with Stantec (lead consultant) and plans to present it to the Maynard Select Board on January 6, 2026, with work expected to begin in January if approved. Mr. Mostoller noted the contract is approximately \$118,000, reflecting both timing and added scope, and estimated the study timeline at roughly four to six months to a draft plus additional time for presentations and finalization. Eight communities are currently participating (with Lincoln potentially a ninth pending an intergovernmental agreement). Stantec is partnering with Kleinfelder to complete the work based on expertise that each firm possesses.

Recruitment for Treasurer/Collector

Mr. Stuntz reported that the Board has interviewed one candidate and requested staff to identify additional candidates, so interviews may continue.

Mr. Parenti motioned to adjourn the Finance Committee meeting. Mr. Guthlein seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved via a roll call vote, Mr. Petersen, Mr. Guthlein, Mr. Parenti.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At the conclusion of open session business, Mr. Rosen moved that the Board adjourn the open meeting of the Acton Water District Commissioners and reconvene in Executive Session to conduct strategy sessions for contract negotiations with non-union personnel, and that the Board not return to open session thereafter. Mr. Stuntz seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved via a roll call vote, Mr. Rosen, Ms. Lin, Mr. Stuntz.

Meeting Closed at 8:05 p.m.

Abatements for 4 Quarters

	Mar-25	Count	Jun-25	Count	Sep-25	Count	Dec-25	Count
Bottled Water	\$ 7,215.00	161	\$ 7,170.00	160	\$ 6,960.00	155	\$ 6,945.00	155
Toilet	\$ 400.00	2	\$ 300.00	3	\$ 700.00	5	\$ 800.00	6
Clothes Washer	\$ 900.00	6	\$ 450.00	3	\$ 750.00	5	\$ 750.00	5
Fixtures	\$ -	0	\$ 185.25	3	\$ 84.49	2	\$ 131.72	4
Elderly Abatement	\$ 878.64	11	\$ 916.91	11	\$ 914.91	13	\$ 850.04	11
Self ID Rebate	\$ -	0	\$ 15.00	1	\$ -	0	\$ -	0
Total	\$ 9,393.64	180	\$ 9,037.16	181	\$ 9,409.40	180	\$ 9,476.76	181

Bottled Water rebate totals include payments sent directly to tenants

Acton Water District DRINKING WATER NOTICE

Your home is served by a service line that may be lead.

This notice contains important information about your drinking water. Have someone translate it for you or speak with someone who understands it.

Dear Customer,

Drinking Water systems are now required to inventory all water service line materials and identify any water service line containing lead or lead materials. Our most recent inventory has determined that the water pipe (called a service line) that connects your building to the water main is of **unknown material classification**. **Unknown means that the service line could be made of or contain lead.** Most service lines in Acton are made of copper or plastic, unfortunately we do not have all the records necessary to document this and we continue to make progress on confirming the service line material.

As a precaution, below is information on the health effects of lead and steps you can take to reduce your exposure. If your service line is confirmed as lead, the Acton Water District will share information on how to remove it and replace it with one made of a safer material. For more information, contact **Corey Godfrey at 978-263-9107 or wq@actonwater.com.**

See the YouTube video **Service Line Inventory Consumer Notification Guide, presented by MassDEP Drinking Water Program** to walk you through this notice by using this link or scanning the QR Code:
https://youtu.be/21gs7FQq0X8?si=YGO_UjRfQZvXNEiL



Health effects of lead.

There is no safe level of lead in drinking water. Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Some of the health effects to infants and children include decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can also result in new or worsened learning and behavior problems. The children of persons who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy may be at increased risk of these harmful health effects. Adults have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems. Contact your health care provider for more information about your risks.

Until the material of your service line is confirmed and any lead is removed, use the following steps to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water.

- **Run your water to flush out lead.** Lead levels increase over time as water sits in lead-containing plumbing materials. Before drinking or cooking with your water after it has sat overnight or longer, flush your home's pipes by running water through the kitchen faucet, taking a shower, or doing any other non-consumptive water usage. Run the water for at least 1 minute or until after it turns cold. The amount of time to run the water will depend on the length and diameter of the service line and the amount of plumbing in your home.
- **Use only cold, fresh water for drinking, cooking, and preparing baby formula.** Run the water for at least 1 minute or until after it turns cold.
- **Do not boil water to remove lead.** Boiling water does not remove lead.
- **Identify and replace plumbing fixtures** containing lead and any copper piping with lead solder. Copper piping with lead solder installed prior to **1986** is likely to have a higher percentage of lead in the solder, as the **Safe Drinking Water Act**, which banned lead pipes and required lead solder to contain no more than 0.2% lead, passed in 1986. Brass piping and plumbing fixtures installed prior to **2014** may contain up to 8% lead; the **2014 Lead Reduction Act** reduced the "lead-free" definition to no more than a weighted average of 0.25% lead of wetted surfaces.
- **Clean your aerator.** Regularly clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator). Sediment, debris, and lead particles can collect in your aerator. Lead particles can release lead into your water. See how to clean your aerator at <https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2023-12/important-resources-for-safe-drinking-water.pdf> or scan the QR Code.



- **Use your filter properly, if you use a filter.** Filters can reduce lead in drinking water. Make sure the filter is certified by NSF to remove lead - it will say so on the package. Follow directions to properly install, use, and replace your filter. Do not run hot water through the filter. For more information, and which certifications to look for, visit EPA's website at <https://www.epa.gov/water-research/consumer-tool-identifying-point-use-and-pitcher-filters-certified-reduce-lead> or scan the QR Code.
- **Have your child's blood tested for lead.** Children are a higher risk group of the health effects of lead. If you would like to have your child tested, you may contact your health care provider, or the DPH Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program here: (800) 532-9571 or <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/childhood-lead-poisoning-prevention-program> or scan the QR Code.
- **You cannot see, taste or smell lead in drinking water.** Contact us for more information about lead in your drinking water including how to get your water tested by a state certified laboratory, if interested. See the list of labs here: <https://www.mass.gov/how-to/find-a-certified-laboratory-for-water-testing> or scan the QR Code.



Opportunities to Verify Lead Service Materials

The Acton Water District Staff or our contractor may contact you to perform a service line material inspection. Please utilize the **MassDEP Lead Service Line Identification Tool** presented in the QR codes below to send your service line information to the Acton Water District and to **learn more about Lead in Drinking Water**.

MassDEP Lead Service Line Identification Tool https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/f9ee39b7972f443ca63e8b936cd7f92b .		US EPA Protect Your Tap Tool: https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/protect-your-tap-quick-check-lead	
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For MassDEP information on Lead in Drinking Water see <https://www.mass.gov/lead-in-drinking-water>



For answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) about this Consumer Notice, see the MassDEP Consumer Notice and Service Line Inventory FAQ Webpage: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/consumers-frequently-asked-questions-about-the-lcrr-service-line-inventory>



See the Acton Water District Webpage for more information on our system-wide efforts to identify and remove all lead service lines here: <https://actonwater.com/operations/service-line>.

For more information, or if you have questions on how to verify the material of your service line, contact Corey Godfrey at 978-263-9107 or wq@actonwater.com.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water at this address, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

Acton Water District DRINKING WATER NOTICE

Your home is served by a service line that may be lead.

This notice contains important information about your drinking water. Have someone translate it for you or speak with someone who understands it.

Dear Customer,

Drinking Water systems are now required to inventory all water service line materials and identify any water service line containing lead or lead materials. Our most recent inventory has determined that the customer-owned portion of the water pipe (called a service line) that connects your building to the water main is of **unknown material classification**. **Unknown means that the service line could be made of or contain lead**. Most service lines in Acton are made of copper or plastic, unfortunately we do not have all the records necessary to document this and we continue to make progress on confirming the service line material.

As a precaution, below is information on the health effects of lead and steps you can take to reduce your exposure. If your service line is confirmed as lead, the Acton Water District will share information on how to remove it and replace it with one made of a safer material. For more information, contact **Corey Godfrey at 978-263-9107 or wq@actonwater.com**.

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https://youtu.be/21gs7FQq0X8?si=YGO_UjRfQZvXNEjl



Health effects of lead.

There is no safe level of lead in drinking water. Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Some of the health effects to infants and children include decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can also result in new or worsened learning and behavior problems. The children of persons who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy may be at increased risk of these harmful health effects. Adults have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems. Contact your health care provider for more information about your risks.

Until the material of your service line is confirmed and any lead is removed, use the following steps to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water.

- **Run your water to flush out lead.** Lead levels increase over time as water sits in lead-containing plumbing materials. Before drinking or cooking with your water after it has sat overnight or longer, flush your home's pipes by running water through the kitchen faucet, taking a shower, or doing any other non-consumptive water usage. Run the water for at least 1 minute or until after it turns cold. The amount of time to run the water will depend on the length and diameter of the service line and the amount of plumbing in your home.
- **Use only cold, fresh water for drinking, cooking, and preparing baby formula.** Run the water for at least 1 minute or until after it turns cold.
- **Do not boil water to remove lead.** Boiling water does not remove lead.
- **Identify and replace plumbing fixtures containing lead and any copper piping with lead solder.** Copper piping with lead solder installed prior to **1986** is likely to have a higher percentage of lead in the solder, as the **Safe Drinking Water Act**, which banned lead pipes and required lead solder to contain no more than 0.2% lead, passed in 1986. Brass piping and plumbing fixtures installed prior to **2014** may contain up to 8% lead; the **2014 Lead Reduction Act** reduced the "lead-free" definition to no more than a weighted average of 0.25% lead of wetted surfaces.
- **Clean your aerator.** Regularly clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator). Sediment, debris, and lead particles can collect in your aerator. Lead particles can release lead into your water. See how to clean your aerator at <https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2023-12/important-resources-for-safe-drinking-water.pdf> or scan the QR Code.



- **Use your filter properly, if you use a filter.** Filters can reduce lead in drinking water. Make sure the filter is certified by NSF to remove lead - it will say so on the package. Follow directions to properly install, use, and replace your filter. Do not run hot water through the filter. For more information, and which certifications to look for, visit EPA's website at <https://www.epa.gov/water-research/consumer-tool-identifying-point-use-and-pitcher-filters-certified-reduce-lead> or scan the QR Code.



- **Have your child's blood tested for lead.** Children are a higher risk group of the health effects of lead. If you would like to have your child tested, you may contact your health care provider, or the DPH Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program here: (800) 532-9571 or <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/childhood-lead-poisoning-prevention-program> or scan the QR Code.



- **You cannot see, taste or smell lead in drinking water.** Contact us for more information about lead in your drinking water including how to get your water tested by a state certified laboratory, if interested. See the list of labs here: <https://www.mass.gov/how-to/find-a-certified-laboratory-for-water-testing> or scan the QR Code.



Opportunities to Verify Lead Service Materials

The Acton Water District Staff or our contractor may contact you to perform a service line material inspection. Please utilize the **MassDEP Lead Service Line Identification Tool** presented in the QR codes below to send your service line information to the Acton Water District and to **learn more about Lead in Drinking Water**.

MassDEP Lead Service Line Identification Tool https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/f9ee39b7972f443ca63e8b936cd7f92b		US EPA Protect Your Tap Tool: https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/protect-your-tap-quick-check-lead	
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For answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) about this Consumer Notice, see the MassDEP Consumer Notice and Service Line Inventory FAQ Webpage: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/consumers-frequently-asked-questions-about-the-lcrr-service-line-inventory>



See the Acton Water District Webpage for more information on our system-wide efforts to identify and remove all lead service lines here: <https://actonwater.com/operations/service-line>.

For more information, or if you have questions on how to verify the material of your service line, contact Corey Godfrey at 978-263-9107 or wq@actonwater.com.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water at this address, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by the Acton Water District. PWS ID#: 2002000 Date distributed 12/19/2025
Distributed media type USPS

Acton Water District DRINKING WATER NOTICE

Your home is served by a Galvanized Requiring Replacement service line and your service line may contain lead.

This notice contains important information about your drinking water. Have someone translate it for you or speak with someone who understands it.

Dear Customer,

Drinking water systems are now required to inventory all water service line materials and identify any water service line containing lead or lead materials. Our most recent inventory has determined that the utility-owned portion of the water pipe (called a service line) is of unknown material classification and the customer-owned portion of the water pipe (called a service line) that connects your building to the water main is made from galvanized material and may have absorbed lead from an existing or previous upstream lead service line. EPA has defined these service lines as “galvanized requiring replacement”. This material is not made of lead but may have built up lead deposits over time due to an existing or previous upstream lead service line; it can be a source of lead in your drinking water. Most service lines in Acton are made of copper or plastic, unfortunately we do not have all the records necessary to document this and we continue to make progress on confirming the service line material.

The EPA has defined “Galvanized Requiring Replacement” to mean where a galvanized service line is or was at any time downstream of a lead service line or is currently downstream of a “Lead Status Unknown” service line. If the water system is unable to demonstrate that the galvanized service line was never downstream of a lead service line, it must presume there was an upstream lead service line.

Please read the full notice for information on how to reduce exposure to lead and opportunities to replace Galvanized Requiring Replacement service lines. For more information, contact **Corey Godfrey at 978-263-9107 or wq@actonwater.com**.

See the YouTube video **Service Line Inventory Consumer Notification Guide, presented by MassDEP Drinking Water Program** to walk you through this notice by using this link or scanning the QR Code:

https://youtu.be/21gs7FQq0X8?si=YGO_UjRfQZvXNEjL



Health effects of lead.

There is no safe level of lead in drinking water. Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Some of the health effects to infants and children include decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can also result in new or worsened learning and behavior problems. The children of persons who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy may be at increased risk of these harmful health effects. Adults have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems. Contact your health care provider for more information about your risks.

Steps you can take to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water.

- **Run your water to flush out lead.** Lead levels increase over time as water sits in lead-containing plumbing materials. Before drinking or cooking with your water after it has sat overnight or longer, flush your home's pipes by running water through the kitchen faucet, taking a shower, or doing any other non-consumptive water usage. Run the water for at least 1 minute or until after it turns cold. The amount of time to run the water will depend on the length and diameter of the service line and the amount of plumbing in your home.
- **Use only cold, fresh water for drinking, cooking, and preparing baby formula.** Run the water for at least 1 minute or until after it turns cold.
- **Do not boil water to remove lead.** Boiling water does not remove lead.
- **Identify and replace plumbing fixtures containing lead and any copper piping with lead solder.** Copper piping with lead solder installed prior to 1986 is likely to have a higher percentage of lead in the solder, as the *Safe Drinking Water Act*, which banned lead pipes and required lead solder to contain no more than 0.2% lead, passed in 1986. Brass piping and plumbing fixtures installed prior to 2014 may contain up to 8% lead; the *2014 Lead Reduction Act* reduced the “lead-free” definition to no more than a weighted average of 0.25% lead of wetted surfaces.

- **Clean your aerator.** Regularly clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator). Sediment, debris, and lead particles can collect in your aerator. Lead particles can release lead into your water. See how to clean your aerator at <https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2023-12/important-resources-for-safe-drinking-water.pdf> or scan the QR Code.



- **Use your filter properly, if you use a filter.** Filters can reduce lead in drinking water. Make sure the filter is certified by NSF to remove lead - it will say so on the package. Follow directions to properly install, use, and replace your filter. Do not run hot water through the filter. For more information, and which certifications to look for, visit EPA's website at <https://www.epa.gov/water-research/consumer-tool-identifying-point-use-and-pitcher-filters-certified-reduce-lead> or scan the QR Code.



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Opportunities to Replace Galvanized Requiring Replacement Service Lines

The Acton Water District expects to complete its verification of all service line materials in 2026. If the results of that verification indicate that there never was lead in the utility-owned portion of your service line, then no further action is required. If the results indicate that there is, or ever was, lead in the utility-owned portion of your service line, then we will reach out to you regarding a plan for replacing your service line.

If you are planning on replacing the portion of the service line that you own, please notify us at 978-263-9107.

Financing for Homeowner Lead/GRR Service Line Replacement

Please consider contacting your home insurance company regarding any information they may have on insurance solutions.

For MassDEP information on Lead in Drinking Water see <https://www.mass.gov/lead-in-drinking-water>



For answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) about this Consumer Notice, see the MassDEP Consumer Notice and Service Line Inventory FAQ Webpage: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/consumers-frequently-asked-questions-about-the-lcrr-service-line-inventory>



Please notify the Acton Water District if you disagree with the service line material categorization in our service line inventory, using the contact information below.

For more information, contact Corey Godfrey at 978-263-9107 or wq@actonwater.com.

See the Acton Water District Webpage for more information on our system-wide efforts to identify and remove all lead service lines here: <https://actonwater.com/operations/service-line>.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water at this address, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

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Until the material of your service line is confirmed and any lead is removed, use the following steps to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water.

- **Run your water to flush out lead.** Lead levels increase over time as water sits in lead-containing plumbing materials. Before drinking or cooking with your water after it has sat overnight or longer, flush your home's pipes by running water through the kitchen faucet, taking a shower, or doing any other non-consumptive water usage. Run the water for at least 1 minute or until after it turns cold. The amount of time to run the water will depend on the length and diameter of the service line and the amount of plumbing in your home.
- **Use only cold, fresh water for drinking, cooking, and preparing baby formula.** Run the water for at least 1 minute or until after it turns cold.
- **Do not boil water to remove lead.** Boiling water does not remove lead.
- **Identify and replace plumbing fixtures containing lead and any copper piping with lead solder.** Copper piping with lead solder installed prior to **1986** is likely to have a higher percentage of lead in the solder, as the **Safe Drinking Water Act**, which banned lead pipes and required lead solder to contain no more than 0.2% lead, passed in 1986. Brass piping and plumbing fixtures installed prior to **2014** may contain up to 8% lead; the **2014 Lead Reduction Act** reduced the "lead-free" definition to no more than a weighted average of 0.25% lead of wetted surfaces.

- **Clean your aerator.** Regularly clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator). Sediment, debris, and lead particles can collect in your aerator. Lead particles can release lead into your water. See how to clean your aerator at <https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2023-12/important-resources-for-safe-drinking-water.pdf> or scan the QR Code.
- **Use your filter properly, if you use a filter.** Filters can reduce lead in drinking water. Make sure the filter is certified by NSF to remove lead - it will say so on the package. Follow directions to properly install, use, and replace your filter. Do not run hot water through the filter. For more information, and which certifications to look for, visit EPA's website at <https://www.epa.gov/water-research/consumer-tool-identifying-point-use-and-pitcher-filters-certified-reduce-lead> or scan the QR Code.
- **Have your child's blood tested for lead.** Children are a higher risk group of the health effects of lead. If you would like to have your child tested, you may contact your health care provider, or the DPH Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program here: (800) 532-9571 or <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/childhood-lead-poisoning-prevention-program> or scan the QR Code.
- **You cannot see, taste or smell lead in drinking water.** Contact us for more information about lead in your drinking water including how to get your water tested by a state certified laboratory, if interested. See the list of labs here: <https://www.mass.gov/how-to/find-a-certified-laboratory-for-water-testing> or scan the QR Code.



Opportunities to Verify Lead Service Materials

The Acton Water District Staff and our contractors are working diligently to identify the materials of all service lines in Acton. You may see us digging in front of your home in order to conduct field inspections to verify material types.

For MassDEP information on Lead in Drinking Water see <https://www.mass.gov/lead-in-drinking-water>



For answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) about this Consumer Notice, see the MassDEP Consumer Notice and Service Line Inventory FAQ Webpage: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/consumers-frequently-asked-questions-about-the-lcrr-service-line-inventory>



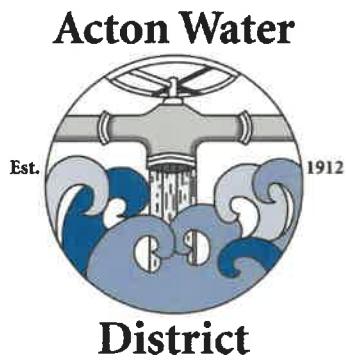
See the Acton Water District Webpage for more information on our system-wide efforts to identify and remove all lead service lines here: <https://actonwater.com/operations/service-line>.

For more information, or if you have questions on how to verify the material of your service line, contact Corey Godfrey at 978-263-9107 or wq@actonwater.com.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water at this address, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by the Acton Water District. PWS ID#: 2002000 Date distributed 12/19/2025

Distributed media type USPS



Conservation & Efficiency Update

January 12, 2026

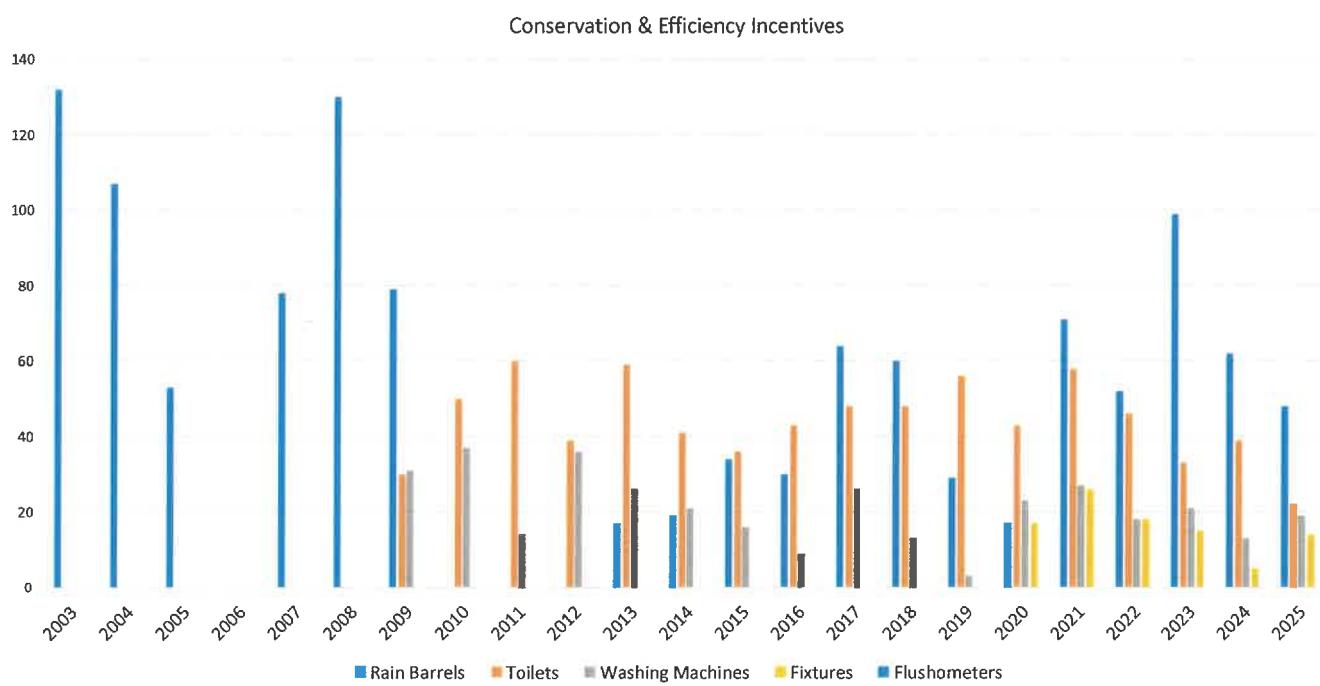
CY 2025 Summary

\$5,451.46 in rebates

\$1,404 in rain barrel incentives

Provided conservation & efficiency devices and materials to community members at AB Farmers Market, Red House Launch Event, and WAVMA Oktoberfest

AWD Rebates & Incentives



1.8.2026	Annual Debt Service	Debt Fee (annual per unit)	Quarterly Cost per unit	Daily cost per unit
2024	\$ 2,470,592.73	\$ 277.50	\$ 69.38	\$ 0.76
2025	\$ 2,348,984.00	\$ 264.00	\$ 66.00	\$ 0.72
2026	\$ 2,255,740.00	\$ 254.00	\$ 63.50	\$ 0.70
2027	\$ 3,031,261.28	\$ 340.59	\$ 85.15	\$ 0.93
2028	\$ 3,086,405.39	\$ 346.79	\$ 86.70	\$ 0.95
2029	\$ 3,063,482.47	\$ 344.21	\$ 86.05	\$ 0.94
2030	\$ 2,740,413.60	\$ 307.91	\$ 76.98	\$ 0.84
2031	\$ 2,730,248.20	\$ 306.77	\$ 76.69	\$ 0.84
2032	\$ 2,720,089.50	\$ 305.63	\$ 76.41	\$ 0.84
2033	\$ 2,705,060.42	\$ 303.94	\$ 75.98	\$ 0.83
2034	\$ 2,696,060.77	\$ 302.93	\$ 75.73	\$ 0.83
2035	\$ 2,687,967.14	\$ 302.02	\$ 75.50	\$ 0.83
2036	\$ 1,768,337.93	\$ 198.69	\$ 49.67	\$ 0.54
2037	\$ 1,760,259.70	\$ 197.78	\$ 49.45	\$ 0.54
2038	\$ 1,752,182.49	\$ 196.87	\$ 49.22	\$ 0.54
2039	\$ 1,744,107.53	\$ 195.97	\$ 48.99	\$ 0.54
2040	\$ 1,736,032.95	\$ 195.06	\$ 48.76	\$ 0.53
2041	\$ 1,556,460.89	\$ 174.88	\$ 43.72	\$ 0.48
2042	\$ 1,555,389.40	\$ 174.76	\$ 43.69	\$ 0.48
2043	\$ 1,554,319.49	\$ 174.64	\$ 43.66	\$ 0.48
2044	\$ 855,039.14	\$ 96.07	\$ 24.02	\$ 0.26
2045	\$ 853,876.76	\$ 95.94	\$ 23.99	\$ 0.26
2046	\$ 852,714.38	\$ 95.81	\$ 23.95	\$ 0.26

Updated 1.8.2026