

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

A summary of news, events, and other announcements for the week of December 6, 2021



DEDHAM-WESTWOOD WATER DISTRICT UPDATE AND MONTHLY TESTING RESULTS

DWWD provided an update to the Town regarding the recent TTHM violation, and results from monthly testing. Please read page 3 for the full update.

WEEKLY UPDATE FROM THE BOARD OF HEALTH – NOVEMBER 26, 2021

The MBTA is presenting 30% design plans and discussing the project for the East Street Bridge in a virtual public info meeting. Read more on page 5.



WEEKLY UPDATE FROM THE BOARD OF HEALTH – DECEMBER 3, 2021

The Board of Health provides updated vaccination rates and Covid-19 infection rates for Dedham on page 5.





DEDHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE HOSTS DROP-IN COMMUNITY OFFICE

Members of the Dedham School Committee will host in-person office hours at Town Hall on Wednesday, December 8th at 6:00 p.m. Read more on page 6.

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING PROJECT UPDATES

The Public Safety Building moves closer to the finish line with each passing week, and crews are onsite each day to make this project a reality. Read what to expect this week on page 6.



PUBLIC MEETINGS & UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

View this week's schedule, review posted agendas, and find out how to attend upcoming events and meetings on page 7.



DEDHAM-WESTWOOD WATER DISTRICT UPDATE AND MONTHLY TESTING RESULTS

The follow update was provided by the Dedham-Westwood Water District on Monday, December 6, 2021. The full update is included below, on the DWWD website (dwwd.org), and is also **available for download as a PDF:**

Important Information About Your Drinking Water

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although the elevated levels of TTHMs are of concern, this is not an emergency, and an alternative source of water is not necessary. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. As DWWD customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct this situation.

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) MCL Violation Update: 12/3/21

The Dedham - Westwood Water District routinely monitors the Dedham - Westwood the public water drinking supply for water contaminates. Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. As our customers you have the right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct the situation.

What happened?

The quarterly water samples taken on October 7th showed elevated levels of Total Trihalomethanes, exceeding the maximum contamination level of 80 ppb. The sample results were provided to the Dedham Westwood Water District on October 15th and in return, the Dedham Westwood Water District notified the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) on October 18, 2021. The maximum contamination level (MCL) for total trihalomethanes is calculated at Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA) by both the MassDEP and the US Environmental Protection Agency, all of the quarterly sampling results from January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021, contribute to the LRAA. The average at our sampling location that exceeded the MCL at 83 ppb. The October 7, 2021 sample, would be considered the last quarter sample for the LRAA compilation of the TTHM exceedance.

The following chart depicts the quarterly testing results for total trihalomethanes from January 5, 2021 (Quarter 1) through October 7, 2021 (Quarter 4):

Sample Location	Q1 (Jan – Mar)		Q2 (Apr – Jun)		Q3 (Jul – Sep)		Q4 (Oct – Dec)		LRAA
	Date	ppb	Date	ppb	Date	ppb	Date	ppb	
Dedham Medical Associates	1/5/2021	40	4/6/2021	58	7/8/2021	89	10/7/2021	118	77
Getty Gas Station	1/5/2021	45	4/6/2021	33	7/8/2021	46	10/7/2021	81	51
East Dedham Fire Station	1/5/2021	55	4/6/2021	45	7/8/2021	64	10/7/2021	42	52
Far Reach Pump Station	1/5/2021	74	4/6/2021	59	7/8/2021	89	10/7/2021	109	83

Why did this happen?

Our team consistently monitors the public drinking water supply for all regulated inorganic substances, unregulated (secondary) substances, organic disinfection byproducts, radionuclides, as well as lead and copper. We have been paying close attention and taking proactive measures to mitigate THMs in the public drinking supply due to an elevated sample result in 2019 (that did not exceed the Massachusetts Drinking Water Regulation). However, during this past summer, we saw record high temperatures in the month of June and historic rainfall amounts in July and August. We believe these two factors greatly contributed to the October THMs exceeding the LRAA. Other public drinking water suppliers in the Commonwealth have also been impacted by these unprecedented weather conditions.

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DEDHAM-WESTWOOD WATER DISTRICT UPDATE AND MONTHLY TESTING RESULTS - CONTINUED

What are we doing about it?

We immediately began measures to improve water quality and reduce the TTHMs in the public drinking water supply by:

- Reducing the age of the water in the distribution system through flushing. (The age of the water within the tanks and distribution lines can impact the level of TTHM in the public drinking water supply)
- Increased and blended supplemental water from the Massachusetts Water Resource Authority to reduce TTHM in the water supply.
- Increased sampling, testing, and monitoring TTHM monthly to gauge our actions and to implement other necessary actions to reduce TTHMs in the water supply.

Monthly Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) Testing Results

The Dedham – Westwood Water District has implemented monthly sampling at the Fox Hill Water Storage Tanks 1 & 2, and at the Far Reach Pump Station and Dedham Medical Associates (the two sampling locations that had the highest results for TTHMs in the final quarter of 2021) to measure the impact of our corrective actions and determine our next steps. Water storage tank sampling is not a compliance measure of a public drinking water supplier, however sampling at the tanks can provide our team with a subsequent data set for comparative analysis and determine if modifications are needed in the treatment process.

The sampling results in the chart below are not an indication that we are no longer in violation of the maximum contamination level for TTHM. The Dedham – Westwood Water District is sharing this information with the public in the spirit of transparency.

Date	Tank Samples				Distribution Samples	
	Fox Hill 1	Fox Hill 2	Sandy Valley	Stoughton Road	Far Reach Pump Station	Dedham Medical Associates
10/7/21	-	-	-	-	109	118
10/21/21	94.5	86.4	86.8	43.6	109	82.1
10/28/21	74	54.6	-	-	-	-
11/18/21	53.7	46.4	98.2	72.6	63.7	55.8

These combined actions and the change of seasons will help abate the immediate impact; however, we are committed to providing a long-term solution and have also implemented the following:

- We have engaged the services of Weston & Sampson, a recognized leader in the engineering field of water projects to analyze the total organic carbon sampling data and research the cause of the elevated levels of TTHMs.
- We are investigating alternative ways to reduce the age of the water in our storage tanks without impacting the pressure in the system for fire flows.
- We have also included additional equipment in the plants, tanks and distribution system as well as implementing a unidirectional flushing program in our 2022 capital plan.

We are committed to providing clean, safe water, these are the first initial steps in our corrective action plan to reduce TTHMs in the public water supply. As stewards of this valuable resource, we take our job to protect public health and safety seriously. Our team of 30+ professionals work around the clock to provide reliable, cost-effective, high-quality water service that protects public health, promotes environmental stewardship, maintains customer confidence, and supports economic development and sustainability.

Should you have any questions, you may speak with a water quality representative by calling **(800) 279-8810** or by emailing us at waterquality@dwwd.org. For more information on TTHMs visit dwwd.org/tthm or <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/tthm-in-drinking-water-information-for-consumers>

MBTA VIRTUAL PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING FOR EAST STREET BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Download a PDF copy of the event flyer from our website

Meeting Announcement from the MBTA:

When: Thursday, December 9, 2021 at 6:00 PM

Where: Zoom (Pre-register using this link: [Zoom Meeting](#))

More Information: Visit the project website at <http://www.MBTA.com/EastStBridge>

Please join us for an online public meeting to learn more about the Dedham East Street Bridge Replacement Project. We're replacing the bridge that carries the Franklin Line over East Street between Dedham Corporate Center and Endicott Stations. The new bridge will meet the MBTA's reliability and modernization needs.

At this meeting, MBTA staff and its design consultant will present a 30% design update. The meeting will allow time for Questions + Answers. We encourage you to attend this meeting and provide feedback. Please pre-register for this meeting using the following link: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_STLTTFNYSIOEnZFjaqBLHQ.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with information about joining the meeting. The presentation will be posted on the project **event page** ahead of the meeting and a recording of the meeting will be posted for those who are unable to attend.

For more information about the Dedham East Street Bridge Replacement Project, and to sign up for email updates, please **visit www.MBTA.com/EastStBridge**. For inquiries and comments related to the project, please send us an email at EastStBridge@MBTA.com.

WEEKLY UPDATE FROM THE BOARD OF HEALTH - DECEMBER 3, 2021

Below please find a chart of COVID-19 statistics for Dedham and the State as of December 2, 2021. There has been an increase in COVID-19 cases in Dedham, likely due to holiday gatherings. More statistics can be found on www.mass.gov.

	Total Cases	New Cases	14-day Percent Positivity	Fully Vaccinated Residents
Dedham	2,969	48 (this week)	2.40%	18,168
MA	860,280	4,838 (on November 30, 2021)	2.89%	4,872,345

MA data taken from www.mass.gov on December 2, 2021.

Omicron COVID-19 Variant

On November 26, 2021, the World Health Organization classified the **Omicron COVID-19 variant** as a "variant of concern." Variants are common in all viruses, not just COVID-19, and can change a virus' behavior. As of December 2, 2021, there has been **one case** of the Omicron variant identified in the United States in northern California. There are still many unknowns about this variant. The CDC continues to study Omicron to determine if it has different levels of transmissibility or responds differently to COVID-19 vaccines than other variants.

COVID-19 Vaccine

Residents 5 years and older are eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine and residents 18 years and older are eligible to get a COVID-19 booster. The Board encourages anyone who is eligible to get vaccinated. Vaccine appointments can be scheduled at www.vaxfinder.mass.gov.



Stay safe and be kind!

Respectfully submitted by the Board of Health,
Leanne Jasset, Chairman
Mary Ellard, Vice-Chairman
Noreen Guilfoyle, Member

DEDHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE HOSTS DROP-IN COMMUNITY OFFICE



On **Wednesday, December 8, 2021**, the Dedham School Committee will host open community office hours in-person at **Dedham Town Hall (450 Washington Street) in Room 304 (3rd Floor)** from **6:00 - 7:00pm**. The drop-in format will allow Dedham school families and community members to join and informally meet with two school committee members to ask questions or learn more about ongoing school district initiatives.

First introduced in October, these open, informal monthly office hour times are one of several ways the school committee has been working to expand communications within the community this year, including a new quarterly newsletter and plans for an updated webpage: www.dedham.k12.ma.us

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING UPDATES

What to expect December 6, 2021 (Monday) through December 10, 2021 (Friday):

- The project site remains closed to the public.
- The dewatering system remains in place and operational. The contractors on site will continue installing drainage manholes, replacing catch basins, and installing water quality structures on Bryant Street.
- Crews completed the installation of the roof air vapor barrier (AVB) as of Friday, December 3, 2021, and will continue installing the primer and vertical AVB along the exterior walls.
- Electricians will continue to install the underground electric duct bank and overhead automatic transfer switch (ATS) conduits in the garage.
- Masonry contractors will continue the installation of CMU walls along the interior cell blocks, apparatus bays, sallyport, first floor Police area, bathrooms, dispatch area, and the mezzanine.
- Plumbers will be onsite to install vent piping and toilet carriers on the second floor.
- The newly installed oil/water separator is undergoing inspection and will continue this week. The Town of Dedham Plumbing Inspector will be onsite.
- The exterior cold formed metal framing and DensGlass installation is underway and will continue this week on all sides and elevations.
 - DensGlass is sheathing made of fiberglass mat gypsum, used for mold and moisture resistance
- Eversource is scheduled to begin new utility pole work this week.
- Expect periodic entrance and exit of large trucks at the project site entrance, located at the intersection of Washington Street and Bryant Street. **Please expect minor traffic delays at this intersection.**
- No additional traffic impacts or pedestrian impacts are anticipated during this week.

Project Team Contact Information:

- Immediate issues or concerns, please contact the Dedham Town Manager's Office at **781-751-9100**.
- For general questions or concerns, please contact the project team at psb@dedham-ma.gov
- For more information about the Public Safety Building Project, please visit the project website at www.dedham-ma.gov/psb
- Download our [project team contact information flyer](#) on the project website.



Photo of the active construction site taken using a drone on Friday, December 3, 2021 facing the north side of the building, along Bryant Street. Crews are priming the vertical air vapor barriers (shown in red) along the exterior walls of the building.



Aerial photo of the active construction site taken using a drone on Friday, December 3, 2021. The white material shown on the roof of the building is the air vapor barrier. As of Friday, December 3, crews had successfully completed the installation of air vapor barriers on the roof.

PUBLIC MEETINGS & COMMUNITY EVENTS THIS WEEK

Agendas and event information are linked below. Meeting information is also available on our website calendar

Monday, 12/6/21:

- **Open Space and Recreation Committee** at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Wednesday, 12/8/21:


- **Planning Board** at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom
- **School Committee Drop-In Community Office Hours**, 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall, Room 304

Thursday, 12/9/21:


- **MBTA Virtual Meeting – East Street Bridge Replacement** at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom
- **Dedham Civic Pride** at 7:00 p.m. at the Endicott Estate

Events shown as listed on the Town calendar as of 12/6/21. Don't forget to check out the **Dedham Public Library events calendar** and the **Dedham Public Schools calendar!**

FRANKLIN LINE


DEDHAM
 East Street Bridge Replacement

Please join us! Virtual Public Information Meeting



Thursday, December 9, 2021 at 6:00 PM


Pre-register using this link:
Zoom Meeting

Project website:
**MBTA.com/
EastStBridge**

Please join us for an online public meeting to learn more about the Dedham East Street Bridge Replacement Project. We're replacing the bridge that carries the Franklin Line over East Street between Dedham Corporate Center and Endicott Stations. The new bridge will meet the MBTA's reliability and modernization needs. At this meeting, we will present an overview of the 30% design plans for the bridge.

The meeting will be held online, via Zoom. The project team will begin the meeting with a presentation at 6:00 PM, followed by time for Questions + Answers. Please pre-register for this meeting at the link to the left. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with information about joining the meeting. The presentation will be posted on the website ahead of the meeting and a recording of the meeting will be posted for those who are unable to attend. You can also email questions to EastStBridge@mbta.com.

To learn more about the Dedham East Street Bridge Replacement Project, please visit MBTA.com/EastStBridge.

Building a better T. 

ACCOMMODATIONS
 The public meeting is accessible to people with disabilities and those with limited proficiency in English. Accessibility accommodations and language services will be provided free of charge, upon request, as available. Such services include documents in alternate formats, translated documents, closed captioning, and interpreters. Language interpretation will be provided as requested and available. Closed captioning in English will be provided. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation and/or language services, please email EastStBridge@mbta.com.
 Para más información o para pedir arreglos razonables y/o servicios lingüísticos, por favor envíe un e-mail EastStBridge@mbta.com.
 如需進一步瞭解或要求合理的便利設施和/或語言服務，請電郵 EastStBridge@mbta.com。
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Click on the graphic below to sign up to join the 12 Days of Holidays, hosted by the Dedham Parks and Recreation Department and Commsission

Dedham Parks & Recreation



12 Days of Holiday

THURSDAY DECEMBER 3- SUNDAY DECEMBER 5
8:00PM
HANUKKAH READINGS

THURSDAY DECEMBER 9- SUNDAY DECEMBER 12
6:30PM
CHRISTMAS READINGS

MONDAY DECEMBER 27- THURSDAY DECEMBER 30
6:30PM
KWANZAA READINGS

ZOOM LINK REQUIRED

Click on the graphic above to register to attend



SUBSCRIBE

Sign up to receive news, updates, and other announcements, delivered right to your inbox from the Town of Dedham on our website. The best part is, you can select the topics you are interested in and update this information at any time!

Visit www.dedham-ma.gov/subscribe to sign up today!

FOLLOW US!

Departments across Town have set up social media accounts to share information, as well as post about exciting news around Town. Visit our **Social Media page** to find the accounts you want to follow!

