

SALEM MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Roy E. Sorenson - *Director*

ENGINEERING ♦ PUBLIC WORKS ♦ UTILITIES



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IMPORTANT MESSAGE REGARDING YOUR DRINKING WATER

Dear Customer,

The Municipal Services Department is sending you this notice as required for notification of changes to your drinking water with the addition of fluoride per State Law—RSA 485:14, Section II. Salem will begin receiving water as a member community of the Southern NH Interconnection Project or Regional Water Project. The originator of this water is Manchester Water Works (MWW) who uses Lake Massabesic as its source and adds fluoride as part of their potable water treatment process.

The mineral fluoride occurs naturally on earth and is released from rocks into the soil, water, and air. Fluoride is found naturally in water and has been proven to protect teeth from decay. Usually, the natural level of fluoride in water is not enough to accomplish this so some communities do water fluoridation as part of their processing in an effort to boost the effective concentrations. Fluoride benefits children and adults throughout their lives. For children younger than age 8, fluoride helps strengthen the adult (permanent) teeth that are developing under the gums. For older children and adults, drinking water with fluoride supports tooth enamel, keeping teeth strong and healthy. Although other fluoride-containing products, such as toothpaste, mouth rinses, and dietary supplements are available and contribute to the prevention and control of tooth decay, community water fluoridation has been identified as the most cost-effective method of delivering fluoride to all, reducing tooth decay by up to 25%* in children and adults.

Salem will be receiving on average 500,000 gallons per day of the fluoridated potable water from MWW. That water will enter Salem's system directly and immediately become diluted as we do not add fluoride as part of our potable water treatment processing. Salem averages 2.5 million gallons a day (MGD) of water demand and as much as 3.5 MGD during the summer months so it is expected that most of the fluoride will be below that of MWW's system entry level concentration of 0.7mg/L. Because of this the fluoride levels may be too low to effectively prevent tooth decay. Please consult a dental provider with any questions about fluoride supplementation. The map on the next page has been provided as a guide of estimated concentrations throughout Salem's system with the addition of MWW water.

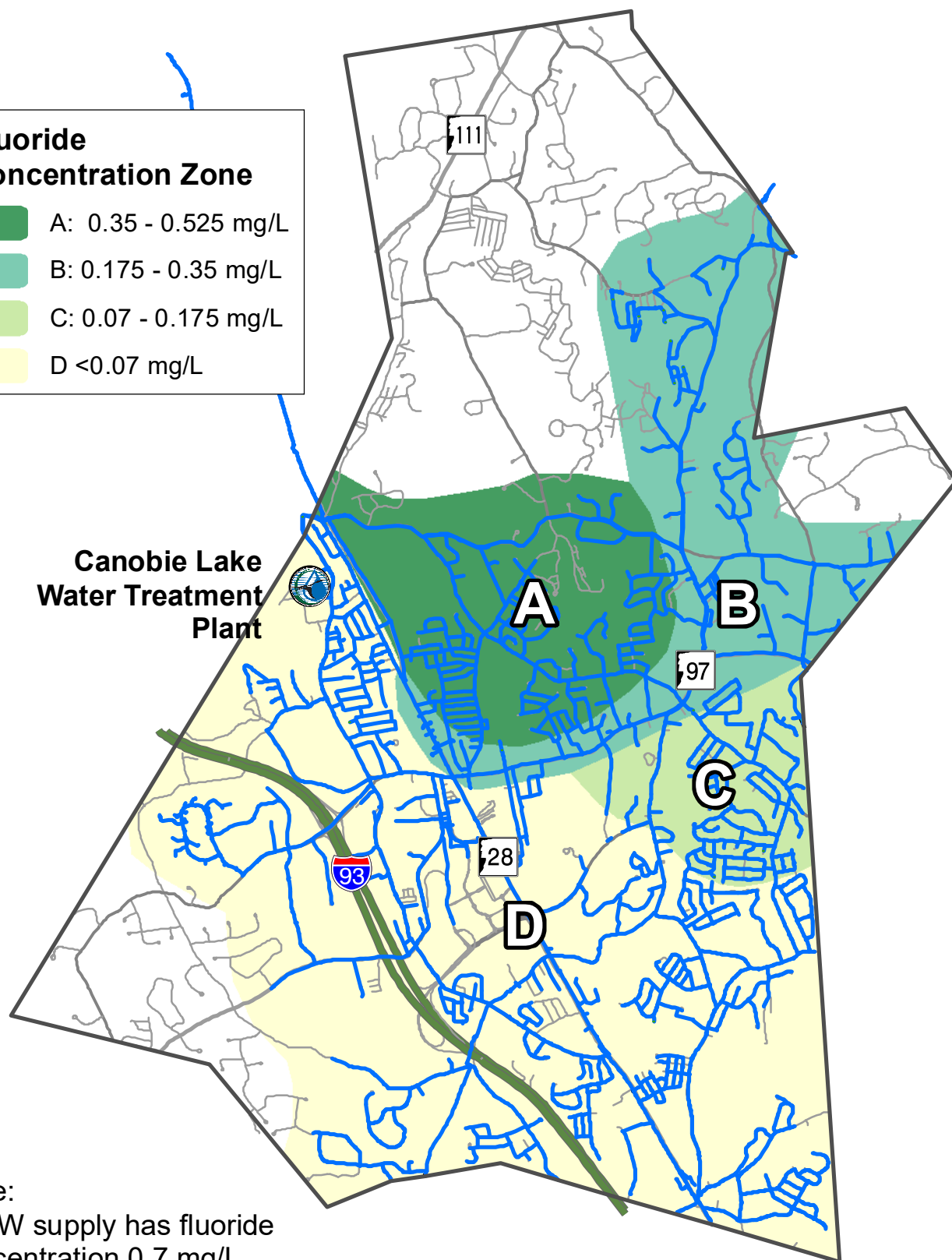
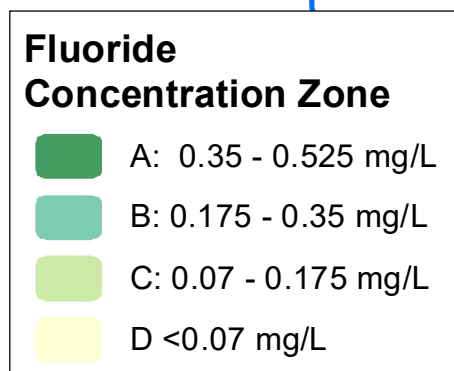
Sincerely,

Roy E Sorenson

Municipal Services Director

* Centers for Disease Control and Prevention





Note:
MWW supply has fluoride
concentration 0.7 mg/L

(No fluoride in existing Salem system)

History of Fluoride in Water

In the 1930s, scientists examined the relationship between tooth decay in children and naturally occurring fluoride in drinking water. The study found that children who drank water with naturally high levels of fluoride had less tooth decay. This discovery was important because during that time most children and adults in the United States were affected by tooth decay. Many suffered from toothaches and painful extractions—often losing permanent teeth, including molars, even as teenagers.

Since 1945, hundreds of cities have started community water fluoridation and in 2016, nearly 73% of the United States served by community water systems had access to fluoridated water. Because of its contribution to the dramatic decline in tooth decay over the past 75 years, CDC named community water fluoridation as 1 of 10 great public health achievements of the 20th century.

2018 MANCHESTER WATER WORKS ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLQ]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Fluoride (ppm)	2018	4	4	0.52	0.42-0.6	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive, which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

MCL Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

MCLG Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of contamination in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.



QUESTIONS?

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FOR MORE INFORMATION ON FLUORIDE:

- <https://www.cdc.gov/fluoridation/index.html>
- dwgbinfo@des.nh.gov