

How Do We Treat Your Water?

The source waters of the Cambridge reservoir system undergo extensive treatment at the Walter J. Sullivan Water Purification Facility at Fresh Pond Reservation before drinking water is delivered to your home or business. The water is treated to exceed all state and federal drinking water standards.

(1) Pretreatment: The first steps in the treatment process combine preoxidation with ozone, coagulation and dissolved air flotation (DAF) to remove manganese, natural color, sediment and particles, algae, protozoa, viruses and bacteria.

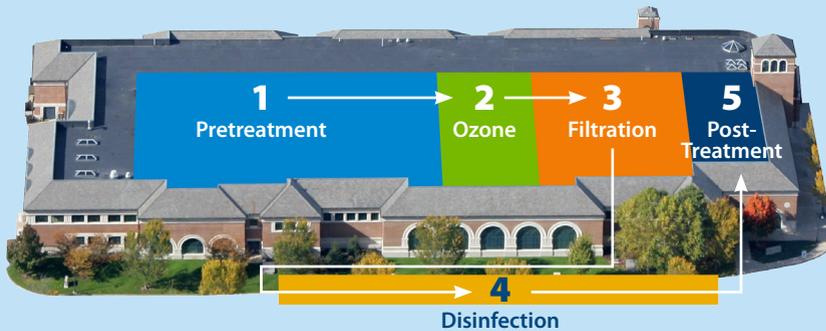
(2) Ozone: Fine bubbles of ozone are dissolved into the water to kill bacteria, viruses, and protozoa.

(3) Filtration: The water passes through granular activated carbon (GAC) to remove organic compounds. Filtration also acts as a "polishing step" to remove additional particles, color and protozoa.

(4) Disinfection: Chlorine is used to provide second step of disinfection for redundancy in the overall process and monochloramine is added to maintain a disinfectant residual throughout the distribution system.

(5) Post Treatment: The pH of the water is adjusted for corrosion control and fluoride is added for dental health.

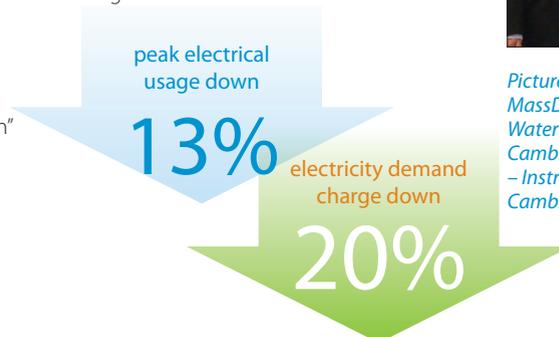
The Cambridge Water Department's state-certified laboratory continuously monitors the effectiveness of the treatment process and makes adjustments to the treatment as required.



Water and Electricity Don't Mix – Except for the Cambridge Water Department's "Go Green" Energy Savings Program!

The Cambridge Water Department undertook a comprehensive audit of the Water Treatment Facility in 2011, looking at hundreds of possible areas where energy savings could be found. Sam Corda, Managing Director, and Tim MacDonald, Director of Water Operations, told their team of operators and engineers that "all options are on the table", provided that the reliability and quality of the drinking water were not compromised in any way. In 2012, the most promising energy saving measures (called "ESMs") were adopted and the "Go Green" program was born. In its first year, "Go Green" has decreased electricity demand charges by 20% and saved over 5.4% in energy costs. The City is currently implementing several additional recommendations from the energy audit. This includes photovoltaic (solar) panels

on the roof of the treatment facility, new pumping equipment, and a second round of light fixture relamping and replacement. The Water Department was recently presented with the Public Water System Award for Energy Conservation by MassDEP in a ceremony during Drinking Water Week.



Let Our "High-Read" Notification Program Help You Find Leaks and Save Money

The Cambridge Water Department has a "High-Read" notification program where we will contact property owners soon after we detect a situation of unusually high water usage. Speedy notification allows property owners to quickly repair any leaks and minimize charges to your Water and Sewer Bill. In 2012, we issued 1,233 "High-Read" notifications to our customers. The Cambridge Water Department can also provide you with a Leak Detection Kit with instructions on how to perform a simple test that may save you money.

We need property owners to update their contact information so the Water Department can notify you as soon as a "High-Read" is detected. Please call Brian McCoy at 617-349-4737 or email him at HighReads@cambridgema.gov with your name, account number, phone number, mailing address, and email address.



Pictured (L to R): Kenneth Kimmell – Commissioner, MassDEP; Brian Cornaglia – Team Leader, Cambridge Water Department; James Rita – Production Manager, Cambridge Water Department; Allan Cheung – Instrumentation and Maintenance Manager, Cambridge Water Department