



City Council Staff Communications Report

Subject: Drinking Water Quality Program Update
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Department: Public Utilities
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Fluoro Ski Wax Takeback Program Targeted to Protect Park City Groundwater and SBWRD Wastewater

Recycle Utah, Summit County Health Department, Snyderville Basin Water Reclamation District (SBWRD) and Park City Municipal are collaborating on a Fluoro Ski Wax Take Back Program that has been initiated to protect Park City's groundwater and wastewater treated by SBWRD. Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances that are known as PFAS have been detected in all three of the City's groundwater wells and wastewater treated by SBWRD, which is becoming more and more common amongst water districts around the country and mountain west.

The detection of PFAS in the City's groundwater does not mean there is an immediate threat to public health, nor that Park City is an outlier. By all measures, the City's groundwater remains fully suitable for consumption by the City's residents and businesses, especially due to our rigorous water treatment facilities and professional staff implementing best practices.

Nonetheless, the City's Public Utilities Department takes this development seriously, and we are working with the Utah Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Division of Drinking Water (DDW) to identify and implement a proper response when the EPA issues a formal regulation.

Use of Fluoro ski wax has been prevalent in many areas including at the White Pine Nordic Center, which is on the Park City Municipal Golf Course and within the City's groundwater source protection area. Alpine racing activities may also be responsible but do not overlap with the City's groundwater source protection area.

Fortunately, Fluoro ski waxes were banned in advance of the 2022 Winter Olympics and are no longer permitted in most winter sport environments. In addition, the Public Utilities Department will send notification to our ski retailers, doubling down on efforts to ensure Fluoro ski wax is not used or sold. In addition, several years ago White Pine Nordic Center also eliminated Fluoro ski wax from their operations. The goal of the Take Back program is to minimize continued local environmental impacts.

During Summer 2022, EPA issued Interim Drinking Water Lifetime Health Advisories (HA), and a draft drinking water regulation is anticipated later in 2022. EPA's Lifetime HAs identify levels to protect all people from potential adverse health effects resulting

from a lifetime of exposure to these PFAS in drinking water. EPA's Lifetime HAs also account for other potential sources of exposure to these PFAS beyond drinking water, such as food, air, and consumer products, providing an additional layer of protection.

The Fluoro Ski Wax Take Back program campaign requests everyone—residents, visitors, waxers, and ski shops—to turn in Fluoro ski wax which is predominantly found in Nordic and Downhill ski race waxes. The City, Recycle Utah, Summit County Health Department and SBWRD will continue to support local public education efforts. Wax can be dropped off at Recycle Utah 24/7 through April 15, 2023. We have added information to our website, [Fluoro Ski Wax Take Back Program | Engage Park City](#), in order to proactively educate those with questions or seeking additional information.

EPA and Utah DEQ Require Water Systems to Verify No Lead Service Lines

Lead has received increased attention and oversight due to adverse health effects. Some US cities have detected lead in drinking water and were required to update infrastructure including treatment and education. USEPA has determined that legacy lead service lines (LSLs) represent the greatest source of lead in drinking water.

A service line is the water line between the water main and buildings. LSL identification is the first step to their removal, which is a national priority. The use of LSLs was banned by a federal amendment in 1986 which Utah adopted in 1989. EPA's lead and copper rules are requiring all public water systems verify the lack of LSLs and a replacement plan if any are found. Based on interviews with longtime staff, contractors and plumbers, Park City Public Utilities Dept is fairly confident that there are no LSLs in Park City.

By October 2024 water systems are required to submit to Utah Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) an initial service line inventory which includes identifying the service line material on both the City and property owner side of the water meter. We began conducting a desktop analysis to identify residences with the highest potential to have LSLs with residences built between the early 1900's-1989. Public Utilities Department has also developed a pilot program to identify service line materials at 40 households which are also part of the City's EPA required lead and copper sampling program.

Beginning this winter, a survey will be conducted requesting homeowners identify the customer side material. It will provide guidance on how to do it yourself or an option to schedule a time for City staff to identify the material. Information including directions on how to complete the survey will be provided through the City's website and local and social media outlets.

Active community participation is required for successful compliance and validation that there are no lead service lines in Park City.