



## Stephen A. Dean Collection

1983-2016

1 boxes (0.25 linear feet)

Call no.: MS979

### Collection overview

Since the 1960s, the chiropractor Stephen Dean has been one of the leading activists in Massachusetts opposing fluoridation of the water supply. Based in Springfield, he has been an effective organizer in antifuoridation campaigns in communities around the state, arguing against fluoridation both as a medical hazard and a violation of individual choice. In 2005, he led the successful effort to strike down a state mandate to fluoridate all civic water supplies.

This small collection contains a handful of articles and clippings collected by the activist Stephen A. Dean regarding fluoride and the fluoridation of water supplies, and a note offering his expert perspective to journalists writing about the controversy.

#### See similar SCUA collections:

[Antifuoridation](#)[Massachusetts \(West\)](#)

## Background on Stephen Dean

Since the 1960s, the chiropractor Stephen Dean has been one of the leading activists in Massachusetts opposing fluoridation of the water supply. Based in Springfield, he has been an effective organizer in antifuoridation campaigns in communities around the state, arguing against fluoridation both as a medical hazard and a violation of individual choice.

As President of Massachusetts Communities for Pure Water and of the Save Our Water Committee, and a member of the Advisory Board of the Fluoride Action Network, Dean was well connected to the national antifuoridation movement. Freedom of choice, he argued, stood high in his philosophy. "We believe fluoridation violates health freedom, the freedom to choose what chemicals go into our body," he was quoted as saying during debate over fluoridation of the water supply in Woburn in 2002. "I believe in the freedom of people to choose against fluoridation."<sup>[1]</sup> Later he added: "I don't base my resistance to fluoride on science. I base it on common sense. Even if it has no ill effects -- which it does -- I would not force anybody to take a chemical through the water supply for the rest of their life."<sup>[2]</sup>

In 2005, Dean led the successful effort to strike down a state mandate to fluoridate all civic water supplies.

## Scope of collection

This small collection contains a handful of articles and clippings collected by the activist Stephen A. Dean regarding fluoride and the fluoridation of water supplies, and a note offering his expert perspective to journalists writing about the controversy.

## Inventory

Dean, Stephen A.: The war over the water -- the fluoride resistance	undated		Folder 1
Fluoridation: the other side of the story [www.saveourwater.org]	2016	DVD	Folder 2
Hirzy, William: Antifluoridation petition	2013		Folder 3
Newsclippings	1983, 2005		Folder 4
Photographs	undated		Folder 5
Sarno, Dominic	2015		Folder 6
The facts about fluoride	ca.2015		Folder 7
Water fluoridation chemistry: articles	2016		Folder 8
Water fluoridation: Massachusetts	2015-2016		Folder 9
Water fluoridation: non-Massachusetts	2016		Folder 10

## Administrative information

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### Access

The collection is open for research.

### Provenance

Gift of Stephen A. Dean, Feb. 2017.

### Processing Information

Processed by I. Eliot Wentworth, June 2017.

### References

1. *Woburn Advocate*, 2002 July 31 [accessed June 22, 2017]
2. Smith, Stephen, "Fluoridation is still a hard sell in Massachusetts," *Boston Globe* Sept. 29, 2010 . [accessed June 22, 2017]

### Language:

English

*Cite as:* Stephen A. Dean Collection (MS 979). Special Collections and University Archives, University of Massachusetts Amherst Libraries.

## Search terms

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### Subjects

- Antifluoridation movements--Massachusetts
- Springfield (Mass.)--History

### Genres and formats

- Photographs

### Link to similar SCUA collections

[Antifluoridation](#)

[Massachusetts \(West\)](#)