2017 Notice to Local Boards of Health

February 22, 2017

Dear Board of Health and Health Agent:

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) Drinking Water Program (DWP) annually provides local Boards of Health (BOH) with information of interest, reminders of annual forms submissions and an inventory of all public water systems (PWS) in the Commonwealth for review, comment and use.

The content of the letter is limited to those topics where we continue to receive consumer questions or have important updates to convey. Note that this year’s letter contains new information on the topics of drought, the Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Rule (UCMR3), the Assistance Program for Lead in School Drinking Water, and the promulgation of the Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) and the Underground Injection Control (UIC) Regulations. If you are looking for information on a topic that you do not see in this year’s letter, please refer to the list of DWP resource links at the end. The resource list also contains a link to a copy of last year’s letter.

We have organized this mailing by topic and placed the items requiring action by you in Part I: Action Items. The forms for responding to these action items can be found in the attachments to this letter. For your convenience you may create a PDF of your response and send a copy electronically to us at Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us with the name of the form in the subject line. If you prefer, you can return the forms through the regular mail. If you are unable to access or print the attached forms or need additional information you can contact us at the email above or at 617-292-5770.

Please note, if you have a drinking water emergency that occurs outside of normal working hours (evenings and weekends), please contact MassDEP at 1-888-304-1133 (24 hour toll-free). Thank you for continuing to work together with us to protect public health.

Sincerely,

Yvette DePeiza, Program Director
MassDEP/Drinking Water Program

Attachments:
A: Emergency Contacts
B: Recreational Camp Form
C: Public or Private System Flow Chart
ccc: MDPH, MHOA, MHAB, MassDEP Website, Y:\DWP\Archive\BOSTON\BOH Annual Letter-2017.docx
2017 Notice to the Local Boards of Health

List of Contents

Part I : Action Items
  Board of Health Emergency Contacts 1
  Inventory of All Registered Public Water Systems 1
  Certificate Of Registration 1
  Underground Injection Control 2
  Annual Recreational Camp Requirement 3

Part II: How to Determine if a Facility is a Public or Private System
  Identifying Daycares that Meet the Definition of a Public Water System 3
  Property Conversions that Create Public Systems 3
  Condominium Developments and Public Water Systems 4

Part III: Notifications
  Emergency Response Notification 4
  Boil Orders and Other Public Orders 5
  Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 7

Part IV: Emerging Issues
  Revised Total Coliform Rule 8
  Control of *Legionella* in Healthcare Facilities and Other Large Buildings 8
  Chlorine Dioxide Secondary Treatment at Hospitals 9
  Manganese in Drinking Water 9
  Cyanobacteria 10
  Applying Aquatic Herbicides (Pesticides) to Drinking Water Reservoirs 10
  New Fluoride Standard 11
  Persistent Drought Conditions in 2016 11
Part V: Wells
Radionuclide Sampling 12
Recommended Guidance for Private Wells 13
Required Disclosure of Water Test Results 13
Related to the Sales of Home Water Treatment Devices

Part VI: Small Systems
Point of Entry/Point of Use Treatment Devices 14
Annual Transient Non-Community Water Quality Reports/Regulations 14

Part VII: MassDEP Drinking Water Program Initiatives
Lead and Copper Rule Status 14
Lead in Drinking Water at Schools and Early Education and Care Facilities 15
Solar and Wind Projects 16
The Value of Public Drinking Water 16

Part VIII: Specific Drinking Water Information on the MassDEP Website 17

Attachments:
Attachment A: Recreational Camp Form 18
Attachment B: Public or Private Water System Flow Chart 19
2017 Board of Health Update

Part I: Action Items

Board of Health Emergency Contacts

Please note that the DWP is no longer providing an Emergency Contact List to every BOH for updating. Instead, please submit an Emergency Contact List for your board to MassDEP at the address below. If you provided this information in 2016 and the contacts are still the same, no action is needed.

Contacts should be prioritized in the order that you want to be notified by MassDEP staff in case of an emergency. Contact #1 should contain the name and contact information of the BOH person that you want to have contacted first in an emergency; if Contact #1 cannot be reached then we will attempt to contact the person identified as Contact #2; and so on. Please submit your Emergency Contact List by March 31, 2017, to MassDEP Drinking Water Program; 1 Winter Street - 5th floor; Boston, MA 02108; Attn.: BOH Emergency Contact. You may also respond by email to Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us, Subject: BOH Emergency Contact.

Inventory of All Registered Public Water Systems

An electronic list of all PWS is available at http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/health-and-safety.html#4. To locate your community’s PWS click on “MA Public Water Supplier Contacts Sorted by Town.” A hardcopy of your PWS list is available by contacting MassDEP at the Program Director email below. The PWS on this list are those systems registered with MassDEP. Please review this information for any discrepancies, including:

- **Systems not on the list** - Facilities meeting the definition of a PWS should be added to this list. Such PWS have at least 15 service connections or serves an average of at least 25 people/day at least 60 days/year.
- **Systems should be deleted from the list** - If the facility no longer has its own well or source of water.
- **Systems currently listed as "Inactive" but have re-opened** - These should now be listed as "Active." An "Inactive" designation suspends MassDEP’s requirements such as water quality testing and certified operator requirements. It is recommended that licensing departments and agencies contact MassDEP to verify compliance with MassDEP drinking water requirements prior to issuance of licenses or occupancy.
- **Changes in address and/or ownership** - Incorrect information should be crossed out and correct information added.

Please update (if necessary) and return the list by March 31, 2017, to MassDEP - Drinking Water Program, 1 Winter St., 5th Floor, Boston, MA, 02108; Attn.: BOH Update. You may also respond by email to Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us, Subject: BOH Update.

Certificate of Registration

MassDEP’s PWS Certificate of Registration is used by many parties. The certificate is very useful for PWS, especially for Transient Non-Community systems. A PWS may need to produce their Certificate of Registration when a survey or an audit is being conducted, or when the PWS is applying for a local permit (i.e., such as a seasonal operation permit) or undergoing a local inspection.

Please note that the DWP is no longer mailing Certificate of Registrations to every public water system in the state. Certificates are now available electronically and can be accessed through the MassDEP website at: http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/pws-documents-search-tool.html. Select either the “PWS ID #” or the “PWS Name” from the pull down menu and click on “Search.” Then click on the “Download” link for the Certificate of Registration for the certificate in PDF format.
Each January the current year’s certificate will be posted and ready for retrieval, only the current year is posted. An electronic list of PWS is located at http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/health-and-safety.html#4 under “Contacts.”

If a PWS does not have internet access and needs a hard copy of their certificate, they should contact: Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us Subject: Certificate of Registration. If you do not locate a certificate for a particular PWS, please contact Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us.

**Underground Injection Control (UIC)**

**Title 5 Systems**

In September 2016 MassDEP amended the UIC Regulations, 310 CMR 27.00. These amendments streamline the UIC registration application process and eliminate the requirement for registering geothermal wells at single family residences. The amended regulations are available on line at: http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/regulations/310-cmr-27-00-underground-injection-control.html.

The purpose of the UIC Regulations is to protect underground sources of drinking water from subsurface wastewater discharge activities. It is estimated that there are in excess of 190,000 public and private potable water supply wells in Massachusetts that are protected by the UIC program. MassDEP has primacy for the administration of the UIC Program which regulates subsurface discharges (including wastewater) that meet the definition of a UIC. Title 5 soil absorption systems on non-residential properties, and systems used for two or more residential units are considered UIC Class V wells. These systems are regulated under the UIC Program.

For BOH that do not have a database to maintain their Title 5 system records, MassDEP provides an Excel spreadsheet available at http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/health-and-safety.html. Under the title “Request for Title 5 Inventory Information” the Excel document includes two spreadsheets. One spreadsheet tab is labeled “DATA” and is for entering information, the second tab is labeled “Instructions” and provides the drop-down menu items that are in the DATA spreadsheet along with instructions.

BOH can support MassDEP’s efforts in protecting ground water sources in the Commonwealth by providing MassDEP with a list of their Title 5 systems, or by entering the information in the database. In particular, we would appreciate the following information on any Title 5 system that is also a UIC Class V Well (as described above):

1. Facility name and location;
2. Ownership of facility;
3. Name and address of owner’s legal contact; and
4. Operating status of injection well.

If you submitted your inventory in 2015; we only request that you update the information. Please include any new systems and note if any of the systems reported in 2015 have been decommissioned or have had other changes in operating status. If you have any questions on the federal or state UIC program, please contact DWP at 617-292-5770 or Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us, Subject: UIC.

**Closed-Loop Geothermal Wells**

As of December 2, 2016, closed-loop ground source heat pump (geothermal) wells no longer require application for a MassDEP UIC Registration approval provided that the proposed well installation adheres to the MassDEP Guidelines for Ground Source Heat Pump Wells. This change is based upon amended MassDEP Ground Water Discharge Permit Program regulations, 314 CMR 5.00, that were adopted on that date. UIC Registrations are still required for all open-loop geothermal wells with the exception of parcels of land that are only used for one single-family residential unit.
**Annual Recreational Camp Requirement**

BOH have the responsibility for licensing local recreational camps. Licenses are issued in accordance with 105 CMR 430.000, which stipulates, “Upon the issuance of a license, the local BOH shall notify MassDEP and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH). Said notification shall include the name and address of the camp, the name of the owner, the number of campers and staff, and the number of days per year that the camp will be in operation.” **Please remember to submit this information to MassDEP by March 31, 2017, using the form in Attachment A.** You may also respond by email to Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us, Subject: Recreational Camp Update.


**Part II: How to Determine if a Facility is a Public or Private System**

To help BOH quickly determine whether a facility is a public or private water system, a flowchart has been attached for your use in Attachment B. We encourage you to post this flowchart for easy reference. An copy of this chart is available at [http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/water/compliance/privpubl.pdf](http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/water/compliance/privpubl.pdf).

If a facility is a PWS and it is not currently registered with MassDEP then the facility must be added to the inventory list (see Part I: Action Items) and referred to MassDEP for oversight. If you have any questions, contact the DWP at 617-292-5770 or Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us, Subject: PWS Inventory.

Attachment B also contains an excerpt of the Massachusetts Drinking Water Regulations, 310 CMR 22.02, containing definitions of what constitutes a PWS and the different categories of PWS.

**Identifying Daycares that Meet the Definition of a Public Water System**

Daycare facilities that serve 25 or more persons at least 60 days a year and have their own source of drinking water meet the definition of a public water system. If a daycare facility with its own source of water is licensed or permitted for 25 or more children and childcare workers, it must be registered and approved by MassDEP. If you are aware of a daycare facility that is not currently on your PWS inventory list, please add it to the list and refer the facility to MassDEP for registration to ensure compliance with 310 CMR 22.00 and all applicable MassDEP standards, permits and approvals. Daycares that meet the definition of a PWS but are not currently registered with MassDEP may be subject to enforcement action (which may include a monetary penalty). If you have any questions, contact DWP at 617-292-5770 or Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us, Subject: Daycares. You may also contact the MA Department of Early Education and Care at [http://www.mass.gov/edu/government/departments-and-boards/department-of-early-education-and-care](http://www.mass.gov/edu/government/departments-and-boards/department-of-early-education-and-care).

**Property Conversions that Create Public Water Systems**

As properties continue to change their locally permitted functions, BOH must be vigilant in determining when a conversion will result in the creation of a PWS or a change in the type of PWS. If a facility that is currently classified as a private water supply proposes or initiates any changes in the use of the establishment that would cause the system to be classified as a PWS; the facility must meet all applicable MassDEP standards, and obtain the proper MassDEP permits and approvals. Some examples of changes that may affect their drinking water status include:

- A change in the number of permitted occupancy, e.g., increasing the number of children and staff at a daycare or business to 25 or more persons per day; or

- A change in the type of permitted occupancy, e.g., changing from a residential home to a daycare or doctor’s office. Changing from a small office or gas station to a daycare, coffee shop, restaurant, or
other facility that may serve beverages, handle food, require food permits, or supply water to 25 or more persons on average per day.

Proponents creating new or potential PWS, or changing their PWS type should be directed to contact MassDEP, as they would be subject to 310 CMR 22.00 and all applicable MassDEP standards, permits and approvals. Please note that if a proponent subsequently creates and operates a facility as a PWS prior to obtaining MassDEP approvals, the facility owner and operator may be subject to enforcement action, including monetary penalties.

If you have a concern about a particular existing or proposed facility in your community, contact DWP at 617-292-5770 or Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us, Subject: PWS Property Conversion.

Condominium Developments and Public Water Systems

Please be aware that some types of construction, such as residential or business condominium developments, which propose to use two or more wells to serve on-site facilities resulting in each well serving less than 25 persons per day, may still be considered PWS. Under Massachusetts Drinking Water Regulation 310 CMR 22.02, the definition of a PWS notes that MassDEP “…reserves the right to evaluate and determine whether two or more wells located on commonly owned property, that individually may serve less than 25 people, but collectively serve more than 25 people for more than 60 days of the year should not be regulated as a public water system, taking into account the risk to public health.”

With an increase in development throughout the state, these cases may come before the BOH as private well proposals. In these cases the applicant should be referred to MassDEP for a written determination of public or private water system status prior to the issuance of local permits. This information should be communicated to your local planning office, planning board, building inspector and to the applicant as it could substantially change the outcome of the project.

For any questions or clarifications on property conversions, PWS definitions, applicable permitting requirements, generally or for a specific project, and determining if a system should be regulated as a PWS, contact DWP at 617-292-5770 or Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us, Subject: PWS Determination.

Part III: Notifications

Emergency Response Notification Requirements

Massachusetts Drinking Water Regulations 310 CMR 22.00, include specific notification requirements for reporting emergencies to MassDEP and the local BOH. The regulations identify specific incidents or emergencies that require notification within 2 hours and 24 hours. Section 310 CMR 22.15(9) requires each PWS to notify MassDEP and the local BOH after the occurrence of any of the following incidents or emergencies that result in the consumers of the system receiving water that does not meet required or routine quantity or quality conditions:

1. Emergencies or incidents requiring notification within 2 hours:
   a. Loss of water or drop in pressure to less than 20 psi (lbs per /square inch)), affecting 50 percent or more of consumers for a system serving less than 10,000 persons.
   b. Loss of water or drop in pressure to less than 20 psi, affecting 5,000 or more of consumers for a system serving 10,000 or more persons.
   d. Discovery of malicious intent or acts of vandalism that may impact a system component.
   e. Any consumer complaint in which the water may have caused physical injury.
f. A pattern of unusual customer complaints about the water quality such as taste, odor, etc.
g. Any other emergency as determined by MassDEP in writing.

2. Emergencies or incidents requiring notification within 24 hours:
   a. Loss of water supply from a source.
   b. Loss of water supply due to major component failure.
   c. Damage to power supply equipment or loss of power.
   d. Contamination of water in the distribution system from backflow or cross connection incident.
   e. Collapse of a reservoir, reservoir roof or pump house structure.
   f. Break in a transmission or distribution line that results in a loss of service to 100 consumers for more than four hours.
   g. Chemical or microbiological contamination of the water supply, including overfeed of drinking water treatment chemicals.
   h. Any other failure of part or all of the water supply system due to equipment failure, human acts (deliberate or accidental), or natural or human made disasters.

More information on the Emergency Response Regulations is available at http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/water-systems-ops.html#10. If you have any questions about this information contact the DWP at 617-292-5770 or Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us, Subject: Emergency Response Regulations.

To report an emergency situation outside of normal business hours (evenings and weekends) you can contact MassDEP at 1-888-304-1133 (toll-free, 24 hours).

**Boil Orders and Other Public Health Orders**

There are 3 types of public health orders issued by MassDEP. During any of these orders, bottled water or water from an approved MassDEP source may be used during the period of concern.

- Boil Water Order
- Do Not Drink Order
- Do Not Use Order

**Boil Orders** are issued by MassDEP and require the PWS to notify consumers to boil the water or use water from another approved source. This occurs when a PWS exceeds or has the potential to exceed the standard for total coliform bacteria or a fecal indicator. During this type of situation there is no other identified public health risk due to inhalation, skin irritation, or flammability.

**Do Not Drink Orders** are issued by MassDEP when there is a suspected or known synthetic organic compound (SOC), inorganic compound (IOC), volatile organic compound (VOC), or radiological contamination in the drinking water. Continued drinking or other human consumptive uses of the water would or could pose an immediate threat to health. During this type of situation there is no identified public health risk due to inhalation, skin irritation or flammability.

**Do Not Use Orders** are issued by MassDEP when there is or may be an unknown chemical, radiological or other unknown contamination and there may be a risk from inhalation, skin irritation or flammability. A Do Not Use Order may also be issued for a known chemical or radiological contamination that exceeds an immediate health and safety risk, e.g., gasoline in the water.

**a. What happens when sample results or a situation indicates the need for a public health order?**

- The PWS informs MassDEP and their local BOH within two hours of learning of the problem.
- MassDEP consults with the PWS and determines the appropriate course of action in accordance with federal and state drinking water regulations. The local BOH is made aware of the situation and may participate in discussions with MassDEP and the PWS. MassDEP verbally notifies the PWS of
the situation and issues a written order to the PWS within 24 hours or as soon as possible. The order always includes the actions consumers should take with the drinking water and steps the PWS must take to protect the public health, monitor the situation, and correct the problem. MassDEP keeps MDPH and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) informed throughout the situation.

- MassDEP lists all public health orders on its website. If the order is issued on a normal business day the information is on the web within two hours. If the order is issued on a weekend or a holiday the information is on the webpage within 24 hours of the first business day following the issuance of the order. This information is located at http://public.dep.state.ma.us/BoilOrder/Search.asp.

b. How are consumers notified of a MassDEP public health order or advisory?

The PWS is required to issue a MassDEP approved notice within two hours of receipt of the MassDEP notification of the situation or receipt of the written order, whichever occurs first, by the following means:

- Broadcast media (radio, television, newspaper)
- Posting the notice
- Hand delivery
- Any other method approved by MassDEP, e.g., reverse 911

To expedite the consumer notification process MassDEP has pre-approved template notices available for use.

c. Where can I get information on Boil Orders and other MassDEP public health orders?


d. What instructions should a food establishment follow during a drinking water order?

MDPH has specific guidance for food establishments. Restaurants and other food establishments must follow the MDPH Guidance for Emergency Action Planning for Retail Food Establishments. This information is available on the MDPH website at http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/docs/dph/environmental/foodsafety/emergency-action-plans.pdf. All questions on food establishment requirements should be referred to the MDPH Food Protection Program at 617-983-6700.

e. How can MassDEP, the PWS and BOH assist each other with drinking water public health orders?

BOH and health officials should be familiar with the MassDEP required Emergency Response Plan (ERP) for each of the PWS in their community. At a minimum, MassDEP, BOH and PWS must share up-to-date contact information so that all parties can be kept informed when a public health order is necessary. Here are a few steps that will go a long way to help PWS and BOH address emergencies and other public health orders:

1. **Before** an order or emergency occurs the PWS and BOH should work and train together on the PWS's ERP. Follow all applicable MassDEP regulations, policies and guidance to maintain a fully compliant system.
2. **During** an order the PWS and BOH should follow the PWS's ERP and the MassDEP Order.
3. **After** a situation the PWS and BOH should evaluate the situation and make adjustments to the ERP as needed. The PWS and BOH should continue working and training together on the ERP.

For more information on ERP visit http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/water/drinking/alpha/a-thru-h/erplan.pdf.

MassDEP DWP Regional Contact Numbers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Central Region</th>
<th>508-849-4036</th>
<th>Northeast Region</th>
<th>978-694-3226</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Western Region</td>
<td>413-755-2148</td>
<td>Southeast Region</td>
<td>508-946-2816</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To contact MassDEP outside of regular business hours call 888-304-1133

If you have any questions regarding public health orders listed on our website, contact DWP at 617-292-5770 or Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us. Subject: Public Health Orders.
Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule

EPA uses the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) Program to collect data for contaminants suspected to be present in drinking water, but that do not have health-based standards set under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). The third rule (UCMR3) conducted under EPA oversight was published in the Federal Register on May 2, 2012. UCMR3 required all PWS serving more than 10,000 persons to monitor for 21 chemical contaminants. Early in 2016, EPA made the results of this testing available to the public. In early 2016 MassDEP also posted the results on their webpage (see link at the end of this section). Unlike the first and second UCMR cycles, UCMR3 required laboratories to analyze and report all results exceeding EPA’s minimum reporting levels for each contaminant. UCMR3 required monitoring for 30 unregulated contaminants, including 28 chemicals and 2 viruses.

EPA is responsible for the development, review and distribution of all UCMR3 sample results, as well as the analysis of samples from PWS serving 10,000 people or less. Because this round of testing required the reporting of all chemicals detected, PWS reported more results during this round to their customers; even though these detects could be well below any published health advisory or guideline. Published health advisory or guidelines are available on MassDEP’s webpage ‘Standards & Guidelines for Contaminants in Massachusetts Drinking Water,’ [http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/standards/standards-and-guidelines-for-drinking-water-contaminants.html](http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/standards/standards-and-guidelines-for-drinking-water-contaminants.html).

Summary of Massachusetts UCMR3 Detections over a Health Reference Level (HRL) or other guidelines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contaminant</th>
<th># PWS with detections</th>
<th># PWS above HRL or Benchmark</th>
<th>Max Concentration (ug/l)</th>
<th>HRL or Guideline Concentration (ug/l)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,4-dioxane</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>0.3¹</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chlorate</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>11,000</td>
<td>(1) 700², (2) 210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chromium-6</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10.0³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.43</td>
<td>0.070⁴</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EPA recently began UCMR4 preparations. The UCMR 4 was published in the Federal Register on December 20, 2016. UCMR4 requires monitoring for 30 chemical contaminants between 2018 and 2020 using analytical methods developed by EPA and consensus organizations. This monitoring provides a basis for future regulatory actions to protect public health. Information on UCMR4 is available on the MassDEP link listed at the end of this section, and on EPA’s website at: [https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/fourth-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule](https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/fourth-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule).

PWSs participating in UCMR are required to fulfill the following consumer notification requirements:

- **Public Notification (PN):** In addition to requiring notification of violations, the PN rule requires PWS to provide special notices for certain situations, including the availability of unregulated contaminant monitoring data. Public notices of unregulated contaminant monitoring data are different from other public notices because they do not have to contain all the elements required of other types of public notices. Instead, PWS need only report that the results are available and provide a phone number or contact where the results can be obtained. All PWS must issue special

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1 MassDEP Office Of Research and Standards Guideline (ORSG)
2 (1) WHO provisional guidance value, (2) CCL3 Contaminant Information Sheets
3 CA MCL (CA Public Health Goal = 0.02 ug/L)
notice within 12 months of receiving monitoring results, and must submit the PN certification form and copy of the notice within 10 days of issuing PN.

- **Consumer Confidence Report (CCR):** All community water systems are required to prepare and distribute CCRs to their customers. Non-community water systems do not need to produce a CCR but are required to post any CCR MassDEP provides to the water system after they ensure the requirements of 310 CMR 22.16A are met.

- Per EPA guidance, CCRs (distributed to customers by July 1 of each year) must include any UCMR detections received by the PWS during the previous calendar year.

Information on meeting PN and CCR requirements may be found on MassDEP’s website at: [http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/water-systems-ops.html#41](http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/water-systems-ops.html#41).

### Part IV: Emerging Issues

**Revised Total Coliform Rule**

MassDEP incorporated the Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) into their regulations which became effective April 1, 2016. All PWS are subject to compliance with the revised rule. The RTCR establishes a maximum contaminant level (MCL) for *E. coli* and total coliform to initiate a “find and fix” approach to address fecal contamination that could enter into drinking water distribution systems. The MCL for total coliform (an imprecise indicator of contamination) will be replaced with treatment technique requirements for coliforms, including requirements to perform assessments and take corrective action. PWS will be required to meet an MCL for *E. coli*, a more precise fecal indicator. PWS vulnerable to microbiological contamination will be required to perform assessments to identify sanitary defects and take action to correct them.

If you are dealing with a private well that has tested positive for total coliform bacteria, the homeowner should discontinue using their tap water immediately and sample the well for *E. coli*. If the presence of *E. coli* is confirmed, they should consult with a water treatment professional immediately. Water for human consumption should be boiled or bottled water used until the problem is resolved. If *E. coli* is not detected, then the well should be disinfected and retested. If the problem persists, a water treatment professional should be consulted and the possible source of the coliform contamination should be investigated.

See [http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/water-systems-ops.html#39](http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/water-systems-ops.html#39) for more information about the RTCR, or contact the DWP at 617-292-5770 or Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us, Subject: RTCR.

**Control of Legionella in Healthcare Facilities and Other Large Buildings**

In the last several years there has been an increasing number of healthcare facilities (e.g., hospitals and nursing homes) and hotels in the U.S. that are providing secondary disinfection to their water to prevent outbreaks of several pathogens (primarily *Legionella pneumophila*) known to grow in the biofilms of the plumbing of large buildings. These pathogens grow best where the water temperature in the pipes is above 68°F, and have been found in cooling towers, hot tubs and hot water tanks. Healthcare facilities are particularly concerned about *Legionella* because older people and those with weakened immune systems are especially vulnerable. More information on *Legionella* can be found on the Center for Disease Control’s website at: [http://www.cdc.gov/legionella/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/legionella/index.html).

- A facility serving 25 or more persons for 60 or more days a year that intends to install and operate a permanent disinfection treatment system is considered a PWS and requires MassDEP prior approval.

- A facility serving 25 or more persons for 60 or more days a year that performs shock disinfection on a temporary basis, will not be considered a PWS by MassDEP. Such systems however must notify MassDEP, their local water authority, MDPH and their BOH/Health Agency. In addition, the facility
should have this procedure overseen by a consultant or engineer who must develop a chlorine dioxide shock disinfection plan. The plan must include an emergency response plan and notification protocol to address over-feeds and potential exceedances of any SDWA contaminant.


If you have any questions on this information contact DWP at 617-292-5770 or Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us, Subject: Legionella.

**Chlorine Dioxide Secondary Treatment for the Control of *Legionella* at Hospitals or other facilities that are not registered PWS**

Recently, companies that manufacture chlorine dioxide treatment have inquired about the process for installing chlorine dioxide treatment at local hospitals and other facilities that are not registered PWS. Some hospitals may want to add chlorine dioxide as a secondary disinfectant to their water supply because helps to control pathogens such as *Legionella pneumophila*, *Stenotrophomonas maltophilia* and *Mycobacterium avium* complex.

Chlorine dioxide has a maximum disinfection residual drinking water standard of 0.8 milligrams per liter, and is regulated by MassDEP due to the potential health risks associated with its use.

- A hospital or a facility, serving 25 or more people 60 or more days a year, that is not a MassDEP registered PWS and treats the water entering the building with a secondary disinfectant (such as chlorine dioxide) is a consecutive PWS. These systems are regulated by MassDEP subject to federal and state drinking water standards. For more information see [http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/water-systems-ops.html#17](http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/water-systems-ops.html#17).

- A hospital or facility, serving 25 or more people 60 or more days a year, that receives water from a MassDEP registered PWS that is planning to temporarily use chlorine dioxide for shock treatment, should review the information at: [http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/regulations/chlorine-dioxide-shock-treatment-at-health-facilities.html](http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/regulations/chlorine-dioxide-shock-treatment-at-health-facilities.html).

If you are aware of any facility that has introduced chlorine dioxide as a secondary treatment or if you have any questions on this information contact the DWP at 617-292-5770 or Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us, Subject: Chlorine Dioxide.

**Manganese in Drinking Water**

Based on the EPA Health Advisory (HA) level for manganese in drinking water, MassDEP Office of Research and Standards (ORS) has set a Guidance level (ORSG) for manganese. Manganese is a naturally occurring mineral and is an essential nutrient in our diets. Recent studies have identified possible public health risks associated with the ingestion of elevated levels of manganese, especially among infants and young children.
As a precaution, MassDEP in conjunction with MDPH provided tips for reducing manganese exposure for susceptible individuals at concentrations greater than MassDEP’s ORSG. PWS conducted baseline monitoring for manganese in 2014. Approximately 7 percent of the PWS in the State had a finished water manganese sample from one of their sources exceeding the ORSG Level.

For more information on manganese, including a consumer Q&A, see: [http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/manganese-in-drinking-water.html](http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/manganese-in-drinking-water.html), or email Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us, Subject: Manganese.

**Cyanobacteria**

Cyanobacteria (also known as blue-green algae) are photosynthetic bacteria that share similar characteristics of algae and are normally present in all types of waterbodies throughout Massachusetts, including in PWS surface water sources. Like algae, cyanobacteria can multiply quickly in response to conditions that are favorable for their growth, resulting in “blooms.” Harmful algal blooms composed of cyanobacteria, called CHABs, can contribute to taste and odor issues for PWS; but, they also have the potential to produce toxins (cyanotoxins) that can be harmful to the environment, animals and public health.

Cyanobacteria, and the cyanotoxins they may produce, currently have no federal or state regulations; however, on June 17, 2015, the EPA released 10-day drinking water health advisory (HA) levels for two cyanotoxins – microcystins and cylindrospermopsin. HA levels are non-regulatory concentrations, at which adverse health effects are not anticipated to occur by oral ingestion of drinking water over specific exposure durations. In addition, EPA is currently developing criteria for cyanotoxins for the protection of recreational activities in freshwater systems, with a draft document for public comment released in December 2016 (see EPA’s website at: [https://www.epa.gov/wqc/microbial-pathogenrecreational-water-quality-criteria](https://www.epa.gov/wqc/microbial-pathogenrecreational-water-quality-criteria)). Presently, MDPH has developed guidance levels for recreational exposure to cyanobacteria, which outlines the closure of waterbodies that have cyanobacteria cell counts exceeding 70,000 cells per milliliter, or microcystin (a cyanotoxin) concentrations that exceed 14 parts per billion.

If you have any questions on this information, contact DWP at 617-292-5770 or Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us, Subject: Cyanobacteria.

**Applying Aquatic Herbicides (Pesticides) to Drinking Water Reservoirs**

In 310 CMR 22.20B(8), the drinking water regulations require that: “No person shall apply herbicides to any surface water body including but not limited to any reservoir and their tributaries, which serve as a public water supply without a permit issued by the Department pursuant to MGL Chapter 111, section 5E. This requirement does not apply to the application of algaecides containing copper by the public water system. However, the public water system shall notify the Department in writing prior to the application of such algaecides.” Prior notification in writing of the application by PWS of algaecides containing copper shall be made to the MassDEP Regional Office.

The MassDEP permit application to propose to apply other types of pesticides to reservoirs, tributaries or other waters of the Commonwealth, is BRP WM 04. This form and instructions are located at [http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/service/approvals/brp-wm-04.html](http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/service/approvals/brp-wm-04.html). Additional permits and approvals may be required for performing this work.
The application of any pesticide to waters of the Commonwealth, including for algae control, must be conducted by a pesticide applicator that has been appropriately licensed by the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR). More information on licensing requirements and MDAR contacts are available at [http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/agr/pesticides/pesticide-applicator-and-dealer-licensing.html](http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/agr/pesticides/pesticide-applicator-and-dealer-licensing.html).


**New Fluoride Standard**

On April 27, 2015 the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services released the final Public Health Service (PHS) recommendation for the optimal fluoride level in drinking water to prevent tooth decay. The new recommendation is for a single level of 0.7 milligrams of fluoride per liter of water. It updates and replaces the previous recommended range (0.7 to 1.2 milligrams per liter) issued in 1962. On April 28, 2015 MDPH notified Massachusetts PWS of the change to the recommended optimal fluoride level. MassDEP also notified PWS of the change and urged those with fluoridation treatment systems to adopt the change as soon as practical.

The change was recommended because Americans now have access to more sources of fluoride, such as toothpaste and mouth rinses, than they did when water fluoridation was first introduced in the United States. As a result, there has been an increase in fluorosis, which, in most cases, manifests as barely visible lacy white marking or spots on the tooth enamel. The new recommended level will maintain the protective decay prevention benefits of water fluoridation and reduce the occurrence of dental fluorosis.

For the past 70 years, communities across the United States have found that fluoride in their public water systems significantly improved their residents’ oral health. Fluoride occurs naturally in most water systems, but often at levels too low to prevent tooth decay. The practice of adding fluoride to a community’s water system to reach the optimal level for preventing tooth decay has grown steadily over the years. Nearly 75 percent of Americans who are served by public water systems receive fluoridated water.

Community water fluoridation has led to such dramatic declines in both the prevalence and severity of tooth decay that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention named it one of 10 great public health achievements of the 20th century. If you have any questions on this information please contact: Heather Benabbou, Fluoridation Coordinator in the MDPH Office of Oral Health at Heather.Benabbou@state.ma.us.

**Persistent Drought Conditions in 2016**

On July 1, 2016, a Drought was declared for parts of Massachusetts for the first time since the summer of 2002. As of December 2016, most of Massachusetts (the Northeast, Southeast, Central, Connecticut River Valley, and Western Regions) is under a Drought Warning with severe drought conditions and over six consecutive months of below normal groundwater and stream flow levels. Cape Cod and the Islands are less severely impacted, but remain under a Drought Advisory with abnormally dry conditions and precipitation levels below normal for six out of seven consecutive months. It is likely that even when normal precipitation returns, drought conditions will continue for some time because groundwater levels have been lowered by the persistent lack of rainfall.

To respond to the drought, MassDEP has issued guidance to municipalities outlining numerous ways to conserve water, both indoors and outdoors. Municipalities have responded by putting outdoor water use restrictions in place during the summer, deferring non-mandatory water main flushing programs, and encouraging indoor water conservation by their customers.

Should the drought persist into 2017, BOH will want to be aware of the Declaration of Water Supply Emergency provisions in the Water Management Act (MGL c 21G). MassDEP can provide technical
assistance to communities on management and the use of emergency connections and emergency water supplies. Any PWS having difficulty meeting demands, drought related or not, may request a Declaration of Water Supply Emergency (“Emergency Declaration”) from MassDEP. The provisions of the Emergency Declaration process are outlined in regulations at 310 CMR 36.40.

An Emergency Declaration requires a PWS to submit a plan to remedy the emergency. Plans can include measures to purchase water from other suppliers, use emergency sources, implement aggressive conservation measures, and provide a mechanism to restrict outdoor water use for those PWS’s that do not have the legal authority to implement such measures. For more information on drought conditions in Massachusetts visit: [http://www.mass.gov/eea/drought/](http://www.mass.gov/eea/drought/).

**Part V: Wells**

**Radionuclide Sampling**

The MassDEP/Drinking Water Well Driller Program has recently received questions from local health officials regarding radionuclide treatment systems installed on private wells without having a complete set of radionuclide analyses.

- MassDEP recommends that all private wells, whether installed in the overburden or bedrock, be tested for Radon.
- For bedrock wells, MassDEP recommends testing for gross alpha in addition to Radon.
  - If the gross alpha result is less than 5 picocuries per liter (pCi/L) then no testing for radium 226, radium 228, or uranium is needed.
  - If the gross alpha result is equal to or greater than 5 pCi/L, then testing for radium 226 and radium 228 should be completed.
  - If the is gross alpha result is equal to or greater than 15 pCi/L then testing for uranium should also be completed.
- The concentration of radioactive minerals in well water can vary substantially based on rainfall and other factors. For this reason, at least two samples (taken a month or two apart, if possible) should be taken before conclusions are reached regarding the average concentration of any radionuclide.

**Radionuclide Testing Flow Chart**

![Radionuclide Testing Flow Chart](image)

**Treatment Systems for Radionuclides**

Treatment systems for radionuclides should be designed to specifically mitigate the radioactive mineral(s) that exceed the drinking water standards indicated by the water analysis. Using a mixed resin bed to treat all possible radionuclides, rather than using the resin type specific to the radionuclide of concern, can be problematic. Due to the ability of the mixed resins to treat a variety of contaminants by design, the resins may become prematurely saturated by other less hazardous contaminants and allow for the breakthrough of the radionuclide of concern. Early saturation and breakthrough will result in additional treatment costs.
because of the more frequent replacement or regeneration of the resin material. The waste from the regeneration process, which may be radioactive, must be disposed of in accordance with local, state and federal regulations. Not following all analytical steps, or overdesigning a treatment system, may result in more expensive disposal costs and a potential health risk. Careful analysis of the raw water sample, and seeking the appropriate expertise to interpret the result and design an appropriate treatment system, are essential steps to providing safe drinking water.

A factsheet with more information on radionuclides in drinking water can be found on our website at: http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/fact-sheet-for-radionuclides-including-uranium-in-drin.html. If you have any questions concerning these recommendations, contact DWP at 617-292-5770 or Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us, Subject: Radionuclides.

**Recommended Guidance for Private Wells**

The Massachusetts Drinking Water Guidelines for private wells and other information is available at: http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/private-wells.html. Many of the local BOH private well regulations were originally adopted over a decade ago and the water quality sampling sections are being revised. Until these revisions are finalized, please continue to contact the MassDEP Drinking Water Program at the contact information below if you have any questions.

The MassDEP Office of Research and Standards document ‘Standards and Guidelines for Contaminants in Massachusetts Drinking Waters’ should be reviewed by the BOH each year. It contains updated concentration limits and general information on contaminants in public drinking water, and can be a useful source of information for BOH decision-making on private wells. The document is located at: http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/standards/standards-and-guidelines-for-drinking-water-contaminants.html. In addition, a Model BOH Private Well Regulation is available at http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/water/drinking/alpha/i-thru-z/modwell.pdf.

As a reminder, Section 31 of MGL 111 and Section 8 of MGL 21A requires BOH to file attested copies of all local regulations affecting public health, including any changes to a private well regulation, with the Central Registry of the MassDEP Watershed Permitting Group in Boston. You may also send an electronic copy to Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us, Subject: Private Wells.

**Required Disclosure of Water Test Results Related to the Sales of Home Water Treatment Devices**

Due to numerous complaints of unethical sales practices for home water treatment devices, Bill No. 6133 was passed in 1991, "An Act Relative to the Testing of Drinking Water," which amended Chapter 111 of the General Laws to further protect Massachusetts consumers. This bill was enacted to address such situations where a salesperson representing a company selling home water treatment devices offers to test a consumer's tap water. The salesperson claims to find "harmful" substances in the water and recommends treatment with his or her company's device. In the meantime, the consumer has no idea of the validity of the tests, or what they mean.

Bill No. 6133 prohibits individuals other than professionals from state-certified laboratories to testing tap water for health parameters. These tests are complicated and require sophisticated laboratory equipment. However, sales persons may still test for aesthetic parameters - things that are not harmful if consumed but affect the taste, color and smell of drinking water - as long as the test is accompanied by the MassDEP form: "Required Disclosure of Water Test Results." This form must be filled out and signed by the sales person, and given to the prospective purchaser. The form also explains what is legally allowed to be tested for by salespersons, such as: chlorine, chloride, color, iron, manganese, odor, hardness, hydrogen sulfide, pH, sulfate, TDS and zinc; and explains how each of these parameters may affect drinking water.

Any person who sells, leases, rents or promotes home water treatment devices and tests the water from either a public or private drinking water supply must fully complete and provide this form to prospective
purchasers at the time of reporting water quality results. A civil penalty of not more than $5,000 can be levied against the seller for failure to provide the information on the required form to the prospective home water treatment purchaser.

The MassDEP “Required Disclosure of Water Test Results” form can be found at: http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/water/drinking/alpha/i-thru-z/reqdisc1.pdf

If you have any questions on this information contact DWP at 617-292-5770 or Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us, Subject: Water Test Disclosure Form.

Part VI: Small Systems

Point of Entry/Point of Use Treatment Devices

BOH are encouraged to review the MassDEP fact sheet titled “Point of Entry/Point of Use Treatment” (POE/POU). This fact sheet was developed to help the PWS, BOH, facility owner, and consumer understand when the installation of a POE/POU treatment device would create a PWS and thereby require MassDEP approval and oversight. The fact sheet also summarizes the minimum requirements for POE/POU installations noted in the Drinking Water Regulations, 310 CMR 22.00. The fact sheet is available on the MassDEP website at http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/home-treatment-devices-point-of-entry-point-of-use-tre.html. MassDEP is updating the Drinking Water Regulations, 310 CMR 22.00, to incorporate additional federal requirements, including:

- Customer education, input, comment opportunity, and agreement requirements.
- Restrictions on POU/POE installation use, including:
  - Microbiological contaminants and nitrate for POU/POE installations, and
  - Volatile organic compounds or radon for POU installations.

If you have any questions on this information contact the DWP at 617-292-5770 or Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us, Subject: POE/POU.

Annual Transient Non-Community (TNC) Water Quality Reports/ Regulations

Every July MassDEP makes available (on our website) a water quality report to each TNC PWS. This report is very similar to the CCR that community systems are required to provide to consumers. This water quality report must be downloaded and printed, signed by both the operator and owner of the system and then posted in a conspicuous area for TNC customers to read. Please look for the current report when issuing local permits. The reports can be found on the web at http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/pws-documents-search-tool.html. If you have any questions on this information contact DWP at 617-292-5770 or Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us, Subject: TNC Water Quality Reports. Please note that water quality reports for Non-Transient Non-Community systems are also available at the above noted link.

Part VII: MassDEP Drinking Water Program Initiatives

Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) Status

As a result of the water quality issues in Flint Michigan, the LCR has received a lot of attention. MassDEP has been working closely with EPA, MDPH and PWS to ensure that all water systems are following the LCR requirement. MassDEP’s Drinking Water Program has taken the following actions:
• Reviewed all PWS information and program guidance. This information is available at: http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/lead-in-drinking-water.html#water-suppliers-pws;
• Provided outreach and training to PWS;
• Posted all 90th percentile results on the Drinking Water Program webpage at: http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/public-water-systems-lead-90th-lead-sampling-results.html; and
• Continue to work with EPA on all implementation issues.

For more information and for an overview of lead in Massachusetts drinking water see: http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/overview-of-lead-in-massachusetts-drinking-water.html

Lead in Drinking Water at Schools and Early Education and Care Facilities (EECF)

MassDEP Assistance Program for Lead in School Drinking Water

In 2016, the Commonwealth undertook this high-visibility voluntary initiative to help public schools and public EECFs across the state test for lead and copper in drinking water, using $2.75M in financial support from the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust. MassDEP and its partners administered this program that provides technical assistance and laboratory analysis to participating schools. About 800 schools from 153 municipalities signed up to receive assistance. As of mid-February 2017, assistance has been provided to all participating schools; with samples taken from water bubblers and other fixtures used for drinking, food prep, and medical care. As schools found fixtures that exceed the recommended action level, schools have repaired, replaced or taken them off-line to address this exposure. For more information on this program, including sampling results from schools that have conducting sampling, see http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/testing-assistance-for-lead-in-school-drinking-water.html.

MassDEP Lead Contamination Control Act (LCCA) Schools and EECFs program

The LCCA is USEPA voluntary program for schools and EECFs to identify and address lead in drinking water in schools and child care facilities. MassDEP and its LCCA partners (MADPH, the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education and the Dept. of Early Education & Care) continue to work with schools and EECFs to reduce and eliminate sources of lead and copper that are over the MassDEP Action Level for lead and copper. MassDEP and its LCCA Partners inform and educate school and childcare officials on how to identify, evaluate, and reduce or eliminate the sources of lead contamination affecting their facility’s drinking water. The Massachusetts LCCA Lead Action Level is 15 micrograms per liter (15 ug/L) or 0.015 mg/L. The copper Action Level is 1300.00 ug/L or 1.3 mg/L.

January 2016, MassDEP sent out a survey to schools and EECFs to document their voluntary LCCA programs to address lead and copper levels in their drinking water. This survey is done every 5 years. The last survey was in 2010. Many schools and EECFs have completed the on-line survey, but some still have not responded. The survey remains on-line and active for any school or EECF to use. A copy of the survey, Lead & Copper Maintenance Checklist, is available at http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/water/drinking/alpha/a-thru-h/checklist.pdf.

BOHs are encouraged to work with their local schools and childcare facilities to help evaluate and to provide technical assistance to correct any lead in drinking water problems.

MDPH has Frequently Asked Questions documents available on lead and copper in drinking water, and these can be found on MassDEP’s website at 

For more information on the LCCA program see [http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/water/drinking/alpha/i-thru-z/lccaqa.pdf](http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/water/drinking/alpha/i-thru-z/lccaqa.pdf) or contact Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us, Subject: LCCA.

**Solar and Wind Projects**


For more info, contact Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us, Subject: Solar/Wind Projects or 617-292-5770.

**The Value of Public Drinking Water**

The public often asks Massachusetts PWSs and MassDEP this question: *How do I know that my water is safe to drink?* The answer? The PWS in Massachusetts are among the best in the country and are subject to the most stringent government standards in the world.

Although the federal Safe Drinking Water Act was 40 years old in 2014, it still ensures clean and safe drinking water. The Act is amended by Congress as needed to address drinking water concerns. It has become stricter over time by requiring that water be tested for more contaminants and to protect everyone, including vulnerable populations. The Massachusetts Drinking Water Regulations, 310 CMR 22.00, contain additional protections.

**Safe Drinking Water Act Regulated Contaminants**

Sometimes we take for granted the good value of the water that flows from our faucets 24/7/365. It is a precious resource yet accounts for only 4 percent of the average United States household’s monthly utility costs. Those utilities include cable television, cell phone, telephone, internet, electricity, gas, garbage, wastewater, and water.

Residents can help to protect local drinking water by:

- conserving water;
- maintaining septic systems;
- picking up pet waste;
- using pesticides and fertilizers properly and infrequently;
- staying informed of local issues that may impact drinking water; and
- supporting their local public water supplier.

For more information about the value of public drinking water, check out MassDEP’s brochure at [http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/water/drinking/alpha/i-thru-z/water-valuesm.pdf](http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/water/drinking/alpha/i-thru-z/water-valuesm.pdf) or contact Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us, Subject: Value of Water or call 617-292-5770.
Part VIII: Specific Drinking Water Information on the MassDEP Website

- Boil orders and other public health orders: [http://www.mass.gov/dep/water/drinking/boilordr.htm](http://www.mass.gov/dep/water/drinking/boilordr.htm)
- Certified Labs: [http://www.mass.gov/dep/water/drinking/certifie.htm](http://www.mass.gov/dep/water/drinking/certifie.htm)
- Local Fairs: [http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/water/drinking/alpha/a-thru-h/fairfs.doc](http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/water/drinking/alpha/a-thru-h/fairfs.doc)
- PWS contact information (city/town, PWS name, PWS ID #, location and mailing address, contact person name, phone and fax #): [http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/about/organization/pwscont.pdf](http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/about/organization/pwscont.pdf)
- How to contact MassDEP offices:

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<tr>
<td>Western</td>
<td>Statehouse West 5th floor; 436 Dwight St; Springfield, MA 01103</td>
<td>413-784-1100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central</td>
<td>8 New Bond Street.; Worcester, MA 01606</td>
<td>508-792-7650</td>
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<td>Northeast</td>
<td>205-B Lowell St; Wilmington, MA 01887</td>
<td>978-694-3200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southeast</td>
<td>20 Riverside Dr.; Lakeville, MA 02347</td>
<td>508-946-2700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boston</td>
<td>1 Winter St. 5th floor; Boston, MA 02108</td>
<td>617-292-5770</td>
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Email the program at [Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us](mailto:Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us)

You may contact this office for a hard copy of the material in this letter
**MassDEP Drinking Water Program**  
**Recreational Camps Licensed by Local Boards of Health**

*Please print in black ink. Determine if the camps in your town fit B or C and complete the information in each.*

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**All camps in our municipality are served by a MassDEP registered public water system**

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**Camps with their own source of water supply**

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<td>Camp owner's name:</td>
<td>Camp owner's address:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maximum number of campers:</td>
<td>Number of staff:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of days camp is open:</td>
<td>Dates: from to</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of days of pre-open training or startup time:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of days of post camp closing close-down time:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Comments:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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*“Upon the issuance of a license, the local board of health shall notify the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Said notification shall include the name and address of the camp, the name of the owner, the number of campers and staff, and the number of days per year that the camp will be in operation“. 105 CMR 430.000

Return this form to: **MassDEP - Drinking Water Program – 5th floor; 1 Winter Street; Boston, MA 02108; Attention: WQA/Campgrounds.** You may also email your response to Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us, Subject: WQA/Campgrounds. An e-copy of this form can be found at [http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/water/drinking/alpha/i-thru-z/recamp.pdf](http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/water/drinking/alpha/i-thru-z/recamp.pdf)
Is the Facility (or the facility you are about to create) a Private or Public Drinking Water System? 

Follow this Flow-Chart to determine your type of drinking water system:

**Population served daily** (people who have access to the system)

On average, does this system serve 25 or more persons daily (not necessarily the same persons) or have 15 or more service connections? 

**NO**

PRIVATE SYSTEM
Contact your local Board of Health.

**YES**

**Number of days per year the system is available for service**

Does this system operate 60 or more days per year? (not necessarily consecutive days)

**NO**

**YES**

Your facility (or the facility you are about to create) is a public water system; therefore you must comply with the Massachusetts Drinking Water requirements for public water systems.

Call the Drinking Water Program at the following offices for more information:
- Western Region (Springfield) 413-784-1100
- Central Region (Worcester) 508-792-7650
- Northeast Region (Wilmington) 978-694-3200
- Southeast Region (Lakeville) 508-946-2700
- Boston 617-292-5770

Email: Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us
Web site: www.mass.gov/dep

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2. To determine a residential population: multiply # bedrooms (2), or # service connections (1.67). Use the greater number.

Definitions of Public Water Systems

Public Water System means a system for the provision to the public of water for human consumption, through pipes or other constructed conveyances, if such system has at least 15 service connections or regularly serves an average of at least 25 individuals daily at least 60 days of the year. Such term includes any collection, treatment, storage, and distribution facilities under control of the operator of such a system and used primarily in connection with such system, and any collection or pretreatment storage facilities not under such control, which are used primarily in connection with such system.

The Department may presume that a system is a public water system as defined herein based on the average number of persons using a facility served by the system or on the number of bedrooms in a residential home or facility. The Department reserves the right to evaluate and determine whether two or more wells located on commonly owned property, that individually may serve less than 25 people, but collectively serve more than 25 people for more than 60 days of the year should not be regulated as a public water system, taking into account the risk to public health. A public water system includes a "community water system" or a "non-community water system".

(a). A Community Water System is a public water system that serves at least 15 service connections used by year-round residents or regularly serves at least 25 year-round residents.

(b). A Non-community Water System is a public water system that is not a community water system: :

1. Non-transient Non-community Water System or "NTNC" means a public water system that is not a community water system and that has at least 15 service connections or regularly serves at least 25 of the same persons or more approximately four or more hours per day, four or more days per week, more than six months or 180 days per year, such as a workplace providing water to its employees.

2. Transient Non-community Water System or "TNC" means a public water system that is not a community water system or a non-transient non-community water system, but is a public water system that has at least 15 service connections or serves water to 25 different persons at least 60 days of the year. Some examples of these types of systems are: restaurants, motels, camp grounds, parks, golf courses, ski areas, and community centers.