



Department of Environmental Protection

One Winter Street Boston, MA 02108 • 617-292-5500

Charles D. Baker
Governor

Karyn E. Polito
Lieutenant Governor

Matthew A. Beaton
Secretary

Martin Suuberg
Commissioner

January 4, 2016

Dear Chicopee Basin Water Management Act Permittees:

I am writing to update you on developments that impact the renewal process for your Water Management Act (WMA) permit.

The Permit Extension Act

As outlined in the letter sent to you on September 15, 2012, the Permit Extension Act (PEA), enacted in 2010 and subsequently amended in 2012, automatically extended all WMA permits.

- In the Chicopee Basin, the 2010 PEA's provisions extended the term of WMA permits from May 31, 2013, to May 31, 2015, and the 2012 amendment further extended the term of all permits for an additional two years until May 31, 2017.
- Permit renewal applications must be filed between March 31, 2016, and May 31, 2016.

Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, section 13, and 310 CMR 36.18(7), if your permit renewal application is filed by May 31, 2016, your current permit will continue in force and effect until the Department issues a decision on your renewal application. Your renewal application will be reviewed in accordance with the newly amended WMA regulations, which are outlined below.

Revisions to the Water Management Program Regulations at 310 CMR 36.00

For the past several years MassDEP has participated in a stakeholder process known as the Sustainable Water Management Initiative (SWMI). SWMI was started in 2010 by the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) for the purpose of incorporating the best available science into the management of the Commonwealth's water resources. The SWMI process is now complete and, effective November 7, 2014, MassDEP has adopted revised WMA Program Regulations at 310 CMR 36.00 that incorporate important elements of the SWMI framework. The regulations can be found at:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/regulations/310-cmr-36-00-the-water-management-act-regulations.html>.

The regulations reflect a carefully developed balance to protect the health of our water bodies while meeting the needs of businesses and communities for water. The amended regulations also clarify WMA permitting requirements and processes. The amended WMA regulations incorporate:

- a new methodology for calculating "safe yield" of the 27 major river basins in Massachusetts;

- “streamflow criteria” and “coldwater fish resources” that will be used to identify environmental conditions within river subbasins;
- 2003-2005 “baseline” water withdrawals ;
- “permit tiers” determined according to the size of each permittee’s withdrawal relative to their baseline and potential impact on streamflow criteria and coldwater fish resources;
- “mitigation” to offset increasing withdrawals by improving streamflow or aquatic habitat; and
- “minimization” to protect streamflows in subbasins that are net groundwater depleted during August.

Permit Renewal Schedule

MassDEP will now review permit renewal applications in accordance with the newly revised program regulations. In order to introduce the revised permitting process and new regulatory requirements that might apply to permits in the Chicopee Basin, MassDEP will be holding an outreach workshop.

Water Management Permit Renewal Outreach Workshop
Tuesday, February 9th, 2016, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
(snowdate: Tuesday, February 23rd, 2016)
DCR Quabbin Blue Meadows Conference Center
485 Ware Road (Rte. 9) Belchertown, MA 01007
413-323-7221

In addition, MassDEP will be available for individual consultation sessions as needed before and after the application filing date. The attached schedule outlines the permit renewal process in more detail.

Please contact Duane LeVangie at (617) 292-5706 or Beth McCann at (617) 292-5901 if you have any questions regarding the status of your permit or the effect of the Permit Extension Act.

Sincerely,



Rebecca Weidman, Director of the Division of Watershed Management
 Bureau of Water Resources

Y:\DWP Archive\WERO\Chicopee -WMA Permit Wkshp Ltr-2016-1-4

Y:\DWP Archive\CERO\Chicopee -WMA Permit Wkshp Ltr-2016-1-4

Y:\DWPWMA\Permit Renewal Outreach Meetings\Chicopee\ Chicopee -WMA Permit Wkshp Ltr-2016-1-4

- ecc:
- J. Bumgardner, MassDEP WERO
 - K. Longridge, MassDEP WERO
 - D. Doherty, MassDEP WERO
 - S. Connors, MassDEP CERO
 - M. Stone, MassDEP CERO
 - A. Carroll, DCR OWR
 - L. Parker, DFW
 - J. Pederson, MWWA
 - J. Blatt, Mass Rivers Alliance
 - WMA Advisory Committee

**MassDEP Water Management Program
Permit Renewal Schedule
Chicopee Basin**

Water Needs Forecasts	Outreach Workshop	Permit Renewal Filing Period	Consultation Sessions	MassDEP Sends Request for Additional Information	Draft Permit Issued	Final Permit Issued
Fall 2015	February 9, 2016 Snowdate: February 23, 2016	May 31, 2016 – May 31, 2016	Starting February 2016	Following Consultation Sessions	2017	2017
Department of Conservation & Recreation/Office of Water Resources staff will be reviewing population and water withdrawal data, and may be contacting your community to prepare water needs forecasts.	MassDEP will conduct an Outreach Workshop on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the SWMI process information required to complete the permit renewal application process consultation process with applicants to develop the required information. 	Initial permit renewal applications are filed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial application will be supplemented by information developed through consultation and the Request for Additional Information. 	MassDEP and state agency staff meet at the applicant's request to consult on any aspect of permit renewal including projected demand, fisheries protection, minimization or mitigation requirements.	MassDEP will send an individual "Request for Additional Information" needed to complete each permit renewal application. Applicants will have 90 days to develop the necessary information, and may request additional time if, despite reasonable efforts, additional time is needed.	MassDEP will issue draft renewal permits for a 30-day public comment period.	MassDEP will issue final permit renewals for the Chicopee Basin.

DIRECTIONS TO THE DCR QUABBIN BLUEMEADOW CONFERENCE CENTER

FROM BOSTON: Take the Mass. Turnpike to Exit 8 (Palmer). At the end of the Exit Ramp turn left onto Route 32 North and proceed for 8 miles. In Ware turn left at the green sign "Route 9 West" (just past McDonalds). Go 2/10ths of a mile to a stop sign. Turn left onto Route 9 and proceed west for 7 miles. Turn right at the green sign marked "Quabbin Reservoir - Winsor Dam" (Note: This will be the 3rd green "Quabbin" sign you will encounter.

The first two, located at the 4.0 and 5.3 mile marks, provide access to the main Quabbin Park area, including the Enfield Lookout and Quabbin Observation Tower). Turn right at this entrance and then take your first left onto Bluemeadow Rd. Proceed to the second building (#370). For further information, please call the Quabbin Visitor Center at (413) 323-7221.

FROM SPRINGFIELD: Take the Mass. Turnpike to Exit 7 (Ludlow). Turn right on Route 21 heading north towards Belchertown. Continue on Route 21 through Belchertown Center to Route 9. Turn right at the stop sign onto Route 9 east and proceed 2 miles to the green sign marked "Quabbin Reservoir - Winsor Dam". Turn left at the entrance sign and then take your first left onto Bluemeadow Rd. Proceed to the second building (#370).

FROM AMHERST: Take Route 9 east towards Belchertown. The entrance to Quabbin is 3 miles east of the intersection with Route 202 and is marked with a sign "Quabbin Reservoir - Winsor Dam". Turn left at the entrance sign and then take your first left onto Bluemeadow Rd. Proceed to the second building (#370).

FROM THE NORTH: Take Route 2 to Route 202 south. Proceed 21 miles to the traffic light at the intersection with Route 9. Turn left onto Route 9 east and proceed 3 miles to the green sign marked "Quabbin Reservoir - Winsor Dam". Turn left at the entrance sign and then take your first left onto Bluemeadow Rd. Proceed to the second building (#370).

Parking is available on the left side of the driveway, or along Bluemeadow Road.

CHICOPEE PERMITTEE LABELS

9P220802101
BARRE WATER DEPARTMENT
441 WHEELWRIGHT
BARRE, MA 01005

9P210822702
BONDSVILLE FIRE & WATER DISTRICT
PO BOX 179
BONDSVILLE, MA 01009

9P210831101
HARDWICK KNITTED FABRICS INC
81 SOUTH STREET
WEST WARREN, MA 01092-0367

9P210822701
THREE RIVERS FIRE DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 182
THREE RIVERS, MA 01080

9P210831102
WARREN WATER DISTRICT
OLD WEST BROOKFIELD RD
WARREN, MA 01083

9P10802401 ATTN: CHIEF FISH CULTURIST
MCLAUGHLIN & PALMER STATE FISH
90 EAST STREET
BELCHERTOWN, MA 01007

9P20828001
SPENCER WATER DEPARTMENT
3 OLD MEADOW ROAD, TOWN HALL
SPENCER, MA 01562-2065

9P10830901
WARE FIBER RECOVERY ASSOCIATES
P.O. BOX 150, EAST STREET
WARE, MA 01082

9P20832301
WEST BROOKFIELD WATER DEPT
2 EAST MAIN STREET
WEST BROOKFIELD, MA 01585

9P210802402
COLD SPRING GOLF COURSE
336-337 CHAUNCY WALKER ROAD
BELCHERTOWN, MA 01007

9P20809701
FITCHBURG WATER DEPARTMENT
1200 RINDGE ROAD
FITCHBURG, MA 01420

9P210802403
MILL VALLEY GOLF LINKS
380 MILL VALLEY ROAD
BELCHERTOWN, MA 01007

9P210830903
WARE WATER DEPARTMENT
4 1/2 CHURCH STREET
WARE, MA 01082

QUINEBAUG PERMITTEE LABELS

9P220927801
MILLENNIUM POWER
10 SHERWOOD LAND
CHARLTON, MA 01507

9P220928701
STURDRIDGE WATER DEPARTMENT
PO BOX 182, WATERWORKS DRIVE
STURBRIDGE, MA 01566-0975

FRENCH PERMITTEE LABELS

9P221015102
CHERRY VALLEY & ROCHDALE
PO BOX 138
ROCHDALE, MA 01542

9P21008001
DUDLEY WATER DEPARTMENT
TOWN HALL, 71 WEST MAIN STREET
DUDLEY, MA 01571

SHAWSHEEN PERMITTEE LABELS

9P31504801
BURLINGTON WATER DEPARTMENT
VINE BROOK GWTP, 171 MIDDLESEX TRNPK
BURLINGTON, MA 01803

NARRAGANSETT PERMITTEE LABELS

9P42629202
PALMER RIVER GOLF CLUB, INC.
299 MARKET STREET
SWANSEA, MA 02777

9P42629201
SWANSEA WATER DISTRICT
700 WILBUR AVENUE
SWANSEA, MA 02777

FARMINGTON - NO PERMITTEES

