

MASSACHUSETTS DROUGHT MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE

June 18, 2015
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency Headquarters, Framingham, MA
400 Worcester Road (Route 9 Eastbound)
Framingham, MA 01702-5399
Tel: (508) 820-2000

AGENDA

1. Introduction –EOEEA, MEMA
2. Adoption of October 17, 2014 Meeting Minutes
3. Update on Current Conditions and Impacts—DMTF member reports
4. Drought Level Recommendation for Massachusetts – Discussion
5. Recommendations for response actions
6. Next Steps



Drought Management Task Force Meeting
June 18, 2015
10-12
MEMA Headquarters, Framingham, MA



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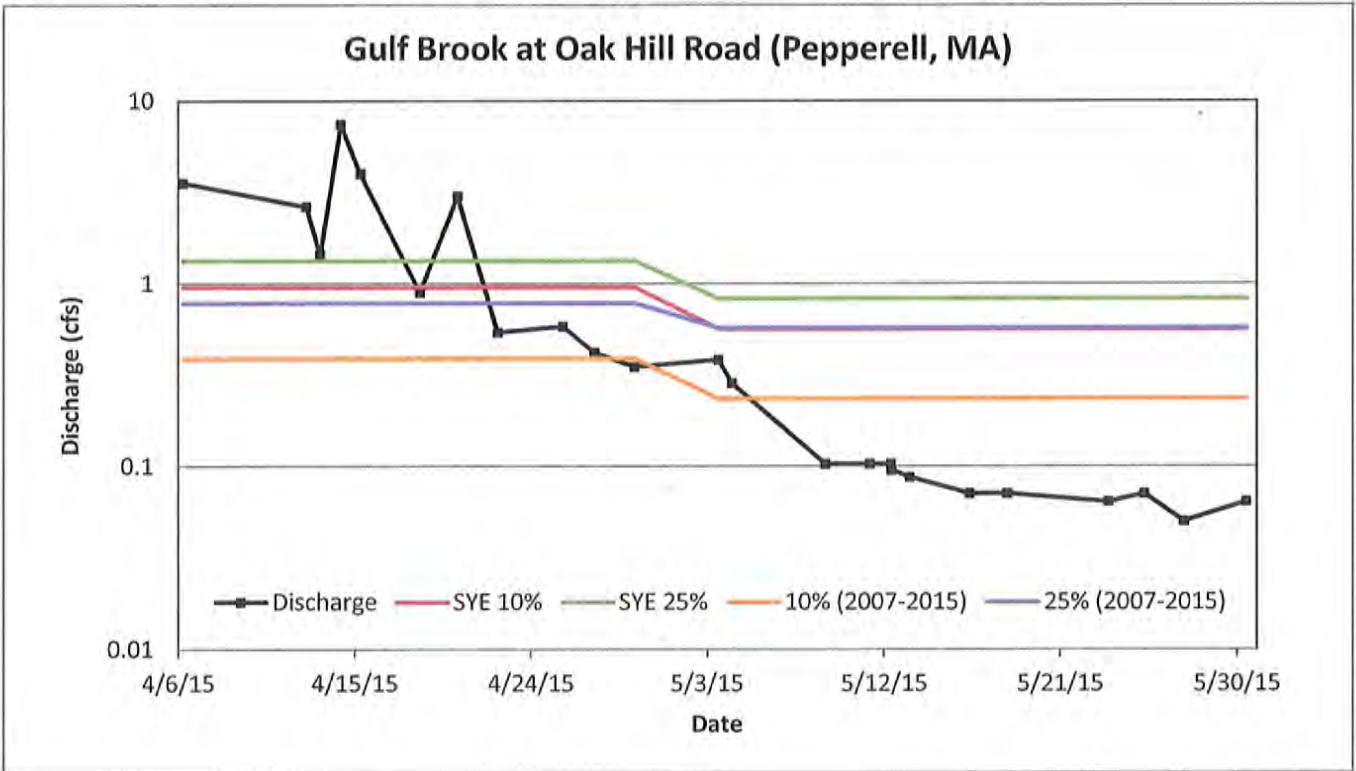
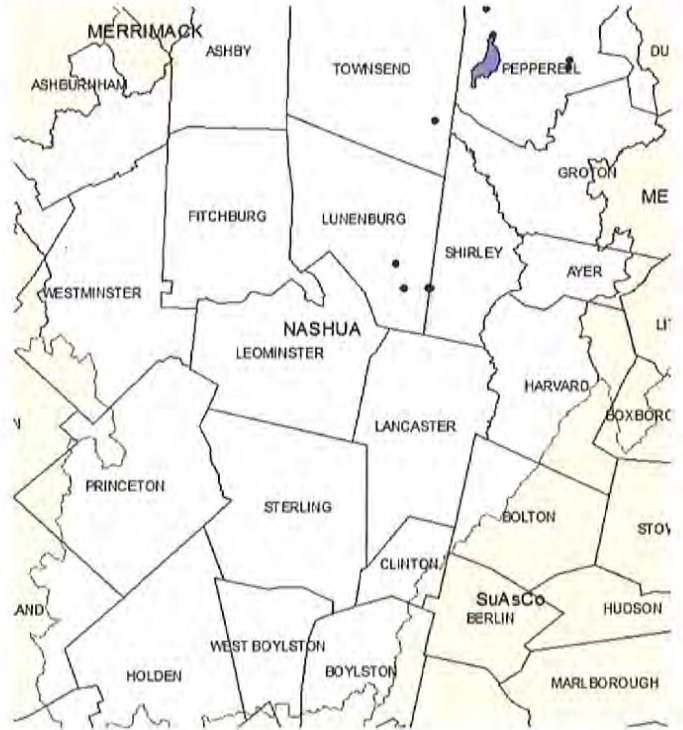
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Streamflows in small watersheds in Spring 2015

The following are select observations from MA Division of Ecological Restoration’s River Instream Flow Stewards (RIFLS) network, as of mid-June 2015. The four gages selected from the network for this analysis are relatively unimpacted by water withdrawals or other anthropogenic alteration. Sites are presented here in order of drainage size.

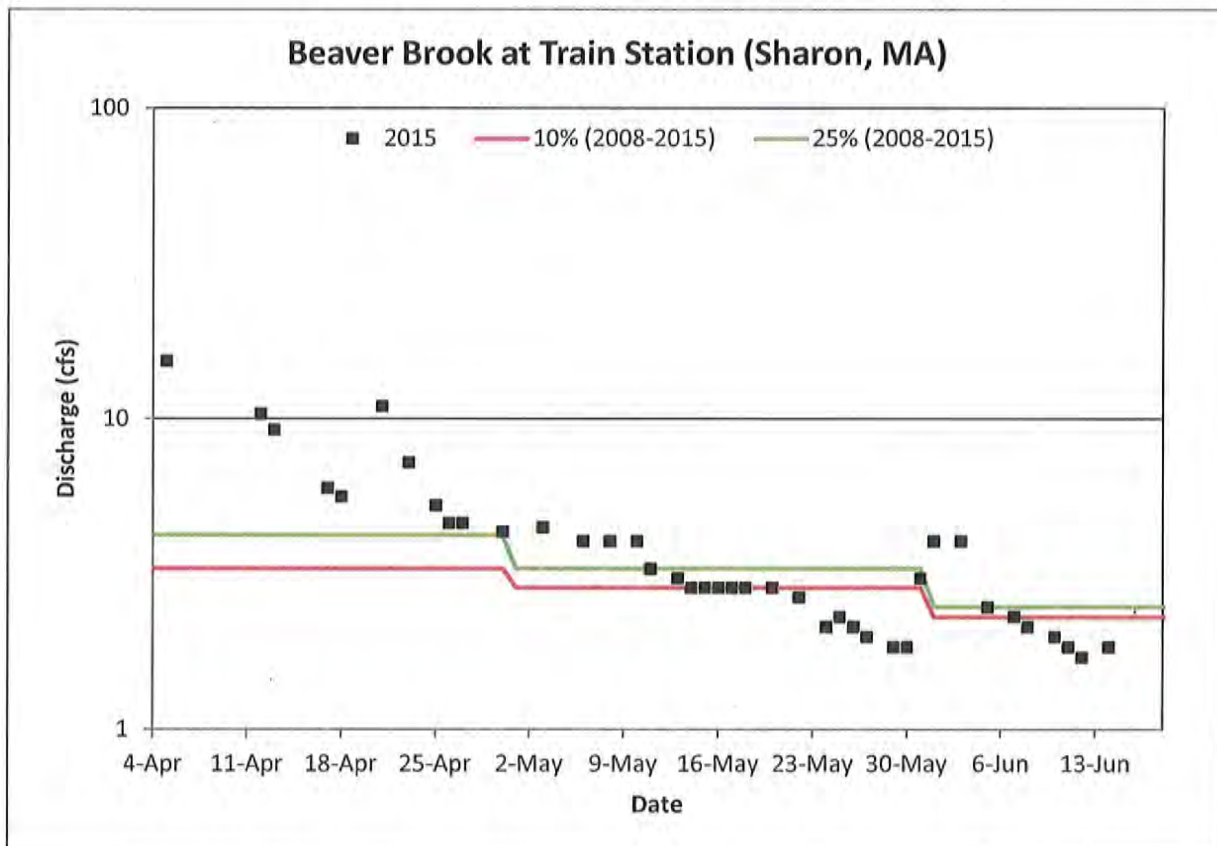
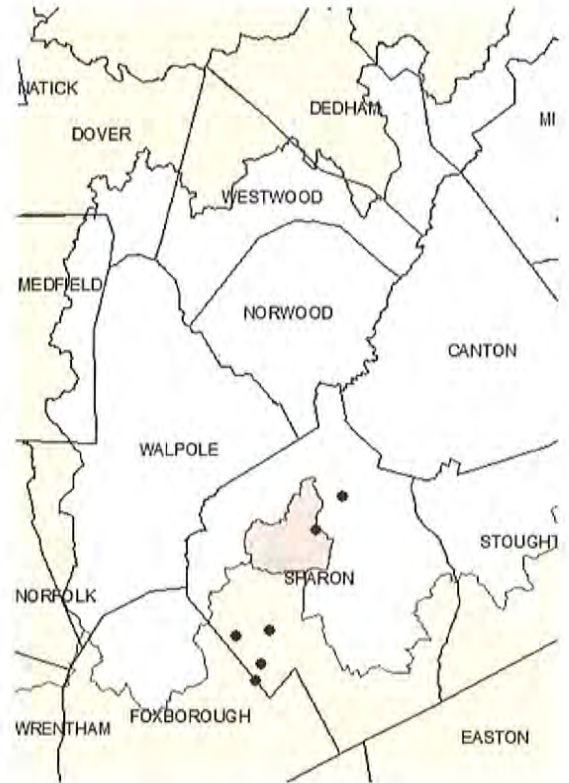
Gulf Brook, Pepperell (Nashua River Watershed, Northeast Drought Region)

This gage has a drainage area of 0.76 square miles, and is located in the northeast part of the Nashua River Basin portion in Massachusetts, as shown in the map. The chart below shows streamflows, as measured by trained RIFLS volunteers, in spring 2015 (measurements began in early April), as compared with 10% and 25% flows A) estimated by the Sustainable Yield Estimator, and B) computed from the nine years of record at the gage. Measured streamflows were below all four of these metrics for most of the month of May and have continued that trend into early June (data not shown; RIFLS staff measured 0.09 cfs at a field visit on 6/17/15).



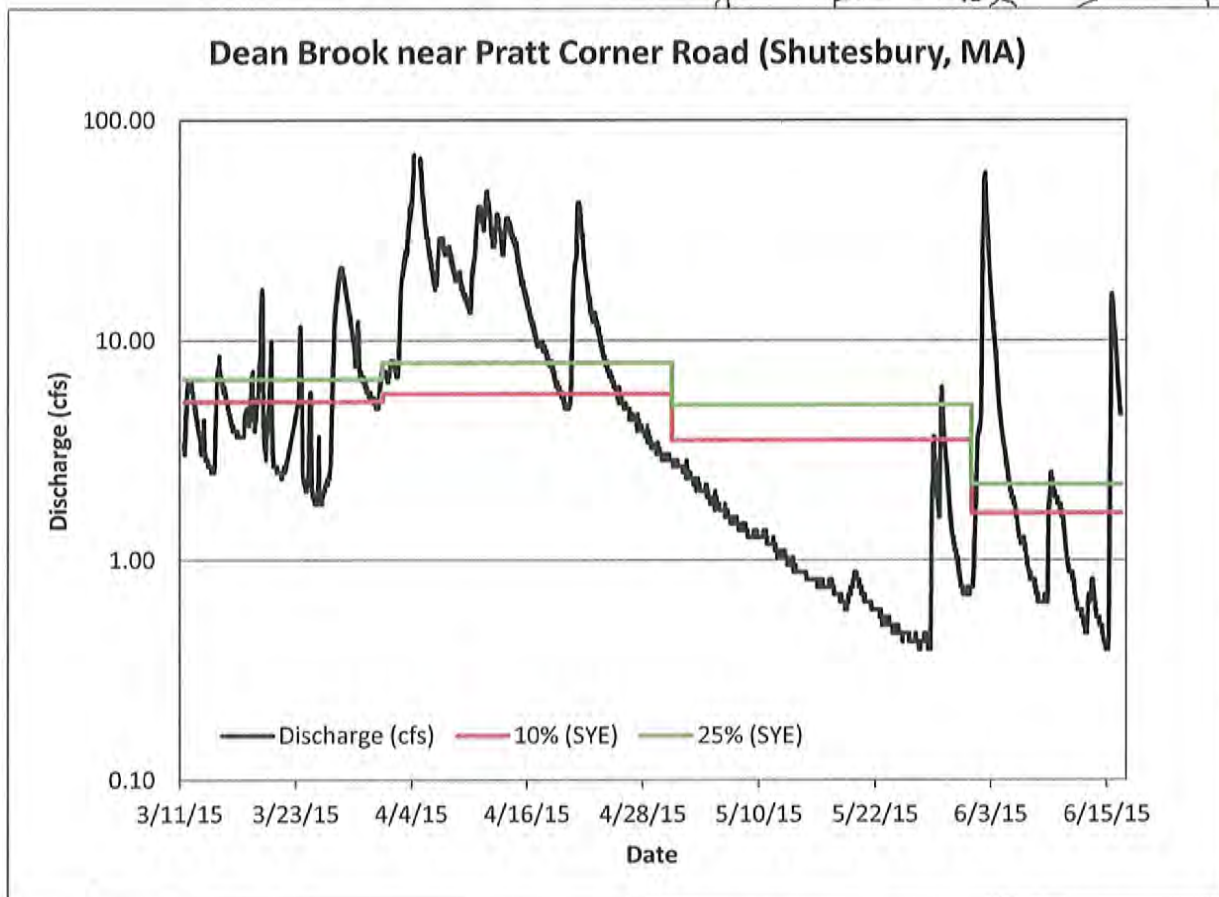
Beaver Brook near Train Station, Sharon (Neponset Watershed, Southeast Region)

This gage has a drainage area of 1.47 square miles, and is located in the southern part of the Neponset River Basin, as shown in the map. The chart below shows streamflows, as measured by trained RIFLS volunteers, in spring 2015 (measurements began in early April), as compared with 10% and 25% flows computed from the eight years of record at the gage. Flows fell below the 25% in early May and below the 10% in mid-May and have remained there into mid-June with the exception of a short-duration peak due to the early June rainfall.



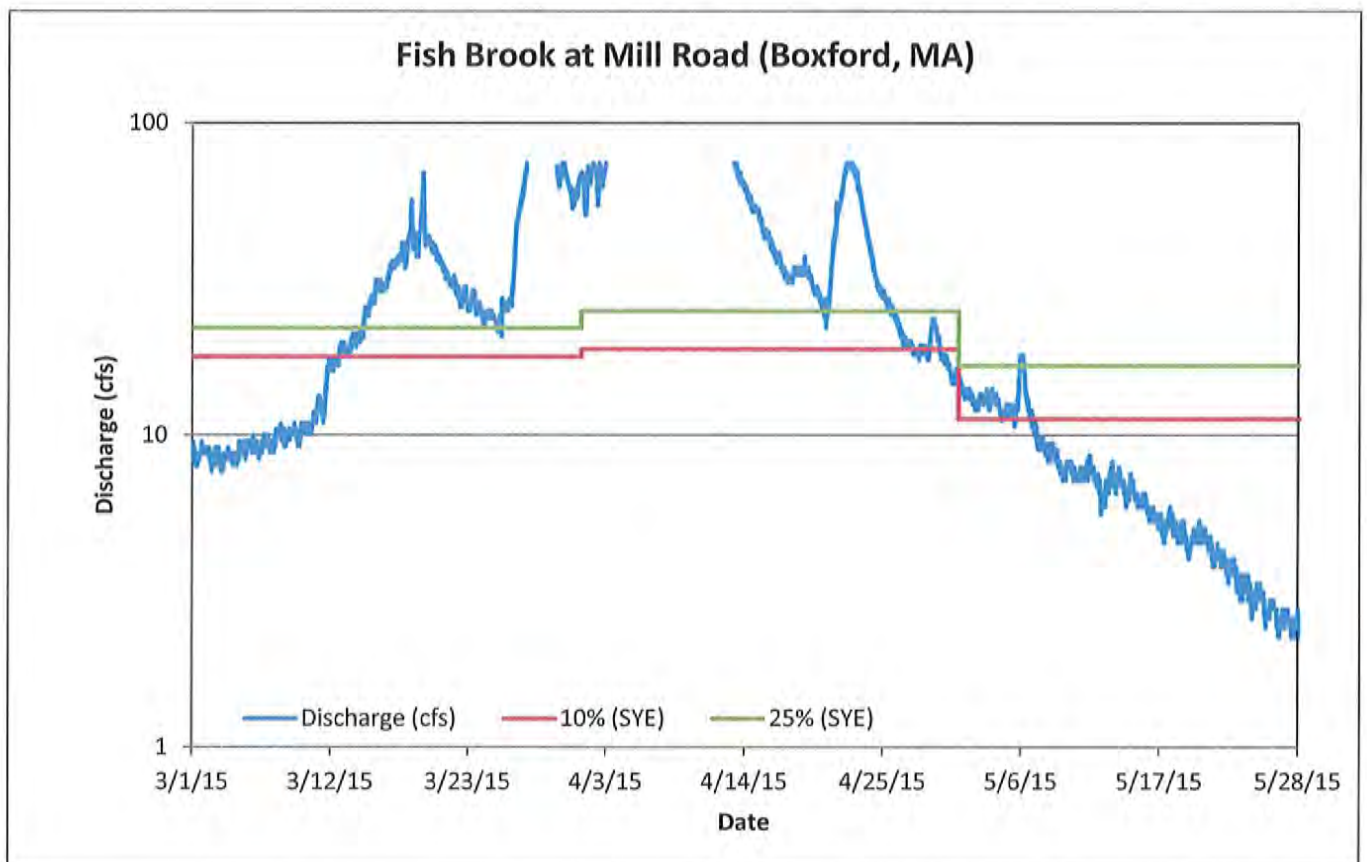
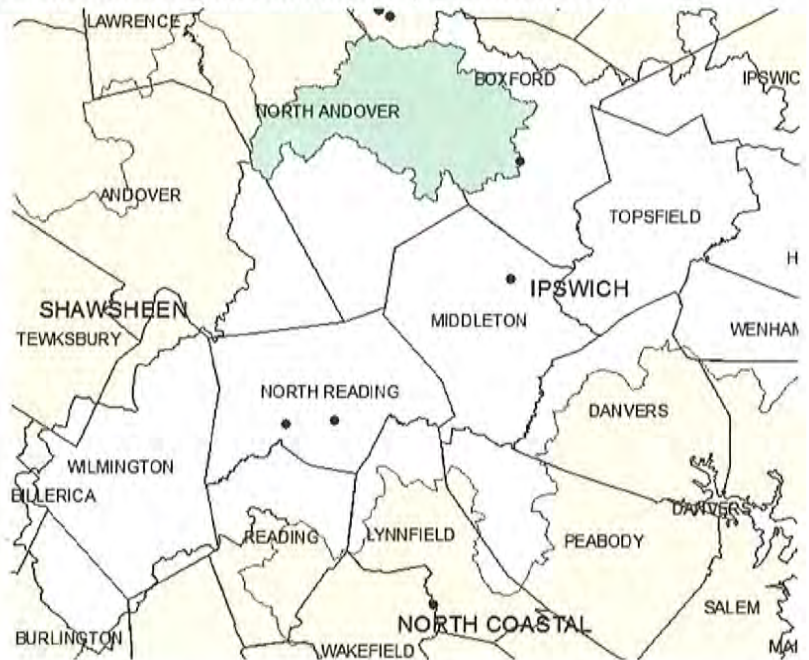
Dean Brook near Pratt Corner Road, Shutesbury (Connecticut River Watershed, Connecticut River Region)

This gage has a drainage area of 4.09 square miles, and is located in the west-central part of the Connecticut River Basin, as shown in the map. The chart below shows streamflows, as measured by a transducer, in spring 2015 (March – mid-June), as compared with 10% and 25% flows estimated by the Sustainable Yield Estimator. The gage was established in 2012 so does not yet have a sufficient period of record for comparison. Flows at this gage fell below the 10% in late April and have remained below the 10% for the majority of May and June, despite rainstorms which caused short-duration peaks in flows.



Fish Brook at Mill Road, Boxford (Ipswich River Watershed, Northeast Region)

This gage has a drainage area of 12.93 square miles, and is located in the north-central part of the Ipswich River Basin, as shown in the map. The chart below shows streamflows, as measured by a transducer, in spring 2015 (March - May), as compared with 10% and 25% flows estimated by the Sustainable Yield Estimator. The gage was established in 2014 so does not yet have a sufficient period of record for comparison. Also note that the high end of the rating curve for this gage is not yet complete, so the peaks in late March/early April are not fully shown. Flows at this gage fell below the 10% for the majority of May. The patterns at this gage closely match those seen at the Nashoba Brook near Acton gage (USGS 01097300). RIFLS staff measured approximately 3.5 cfs at a site visit on 6/17/15.



Massachusetts Municipal Water Use Restrictions as of June 11, 2015

Town	Public Water Supplier	Implementation Date	Restriction Level
Abington/Rockland	Abington/Rockland Water Works	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Acton	Water Supply District of Acton	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Ashburnham	Ashburnham Water Dept.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Athol	Athol Water Dept.	5/23/2015	Mandatory
Auburn	Auburn Water District	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Avon	Avon Water Dept.	6/1/2015	Mandatory
Ayer	Ayer Water Dept.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Barre	Barre Water Dept.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Bellingham	Bellingham Water Dept.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Billerica	Billerica Water Works	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Blackstone	Blackstone Water Dept.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Bourne	North Sagamore Water District	6/1/2015	Voluntary
Byfield	Byfield Water District	5/16/2015	Mandatory
Canton	Canton Water Dept.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Chelmsford	Chelmsford Water District	5/1/2015	Mandatory
North Chelmsford	North Chelmsford Water Dept.	5/1/2015	Voluntary
Cohasset	Aquarion Water Co.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Danvers	Danvers Water Division	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Dartmouth	Dartmouth Water Division	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Devens	Devens Mass Dev.	5/12/2015	Mandatory
Dover	Colonial Water Co.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Easton	Easton Water Division	5/1/2015	Mandatory
East Bridgewater	East Bridgewater DPW	6/1/2015	Mandatory
Falmouth	Falmouth Water Dept.	4/27/2015	Voluntary

Massachusetts Municipal Water Use Restrictions as of June 11, 2015

Town	Public Water Supplier	Implementation Date	Restriction Level
Fitchburg	Fitchburg Water Dept.	5/14/2015	Mandatory
Foxborough	Foxborough Water and Sewer Comm.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Franklin	Franklin Water Dept.	5/18/2015	Mandatory
Georgetown	Georgetown Water Dept.	5/15/2015	Mandatory
Grafton	South Grafton Water District	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Groton	West Groton Water Supply District	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Hanson	Hanson Water Dept.	5/19/2015	Voluntary
Hamilton	Hamilton Water Dept.	5/22/2015	Mandatory
Hanover	Hanover Water Dept.	5/26/2015	Mandatory
Hingham	Aquarion Water Co.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Holden	Holden DPW	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Holliston	Holliston Water Dept.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Hopedale	Hopedale Water Dept.	5/12/2015	Mandatory
Hudson	Hudson Water Dept.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Hull	Aquarion Water Co.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Lincoln	Lincoln Water Dept.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Littleton	Littleton Water Dept.	5/23/2015	Mandatory
Lunenburg	Lunenburg Water District	5/20/2015	Mandatory
Mansfield	Mansfield Water Dept.	5/29/2015	Mandatory
Marlborough	Marlborough DPW Water Division	5/25/2015	Mandatory
Marshfield	Marshfield Water Dept.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Medfield	Medfield Water Dept.	5/28/2015	Mandatory
Medway	Medway Water Dept.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Middleborough	Middleborough Water Dept.	5/1/2015	Mandatory

Massachusetts Municipal Water Use Restrictions as of June 11, 2015

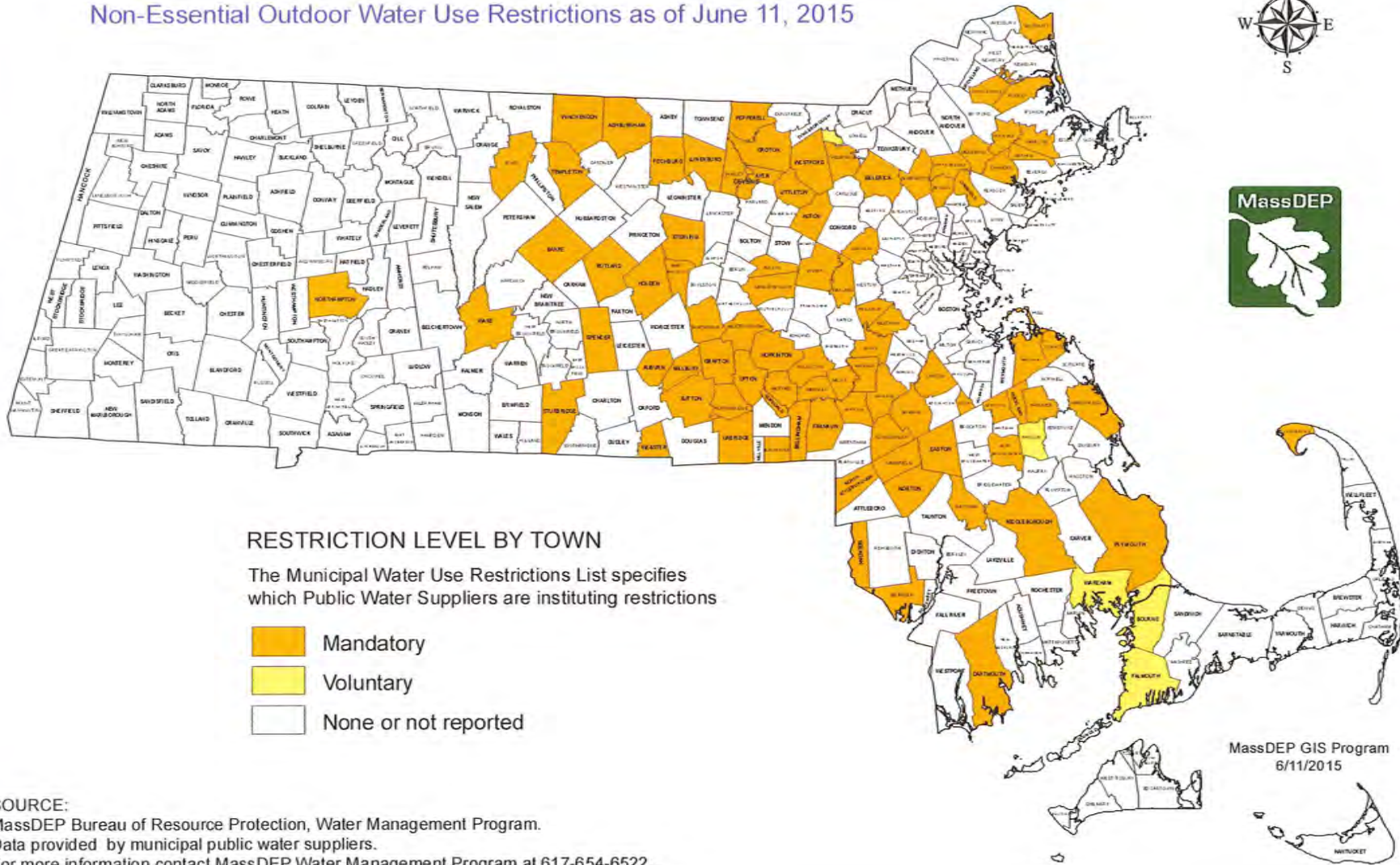
Town	Public Water Supplier	Implementation Date	Restriction Level
Middleton	Middleton Water Dept.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Milford	Milford Water Co.	4/30/2015	Mandatory
Millbury	Aquarion Water Co.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Millis	Millis Water Dept.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Needham	Needham Water Dept.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Norfolk	Norfolk Dept. of Public Works	1/1/2015	Mandatory
North Attleborough	North Attleborough Water Dept.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Northampton	Northampton DPW	5/26/2015	Mandatory
Northbridge	Whitinsville Water Co.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Norton	Norton Water Department	1/1/2015	Mandatory
Pepperell	Pepperell Water Division	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Plymouth	Plymouth Water Company	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Provincetown	Provincetown Water Dept.	6/1/2015	Mandatory
Raynham	North Raynham Water District	6/1/2015	Mandatory
Reading	Reading Water Dept.	1/1/2015	Mandatory
North Reading	North Reading DPW	5/29/2015	Mandatory
Rowley	Rowley Water Department	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Rutland	Rutland Water Dept.	5/12/2015	Mandatory
Salisbury	Salisbury Water Dept.	5/26/2015	Mandatory
Seekonk	Seekonk Water District	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Sharon	Sharon Water Dept.	5/26/2015	Mandatory
Shirley	Shirley Water District	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Shrewsbury	Shrewsbury Water Dept.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Spencer	Spencer Water Dept.	5/1/2015	Mandatory

Massachusetts Municipal Water Use Restrictions as of June 11, 2015

Town	Public Water Supplier	Implementation Date	Restriction Level
Sterling	Sterling Water Dept.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Sturbridge	Sturbridge Water Dept.	5/18/2015	Mandatory
Sudbury	Sudbury Water District	5/14/2015	Mandatory
Swansea	Swansea Water District	5/11/2015	Mandatory
Templeton	Templeton Light and Water	5/20/2015	Mandatory
Topsfield	Topsfield Water Dept.	5/26/201	Mandatory
Upton	Upton Water Dept.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Uxbridge	Uxbridge Water Dept.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Walpole	Walpole Water Dept.	5/4/2015	Mandatory
Ware	Ware Water Dept.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Wareham	Onset Fire and Water District	5/1/2015	Voluntary
Wayland	Wayland Water Division	6/1/2015	Mandatory
Webster	Webster Water Dept.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Wellesley	Wellesley College	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Wenham	Wenham Water Dept.	5/1/2015	Mandatory
West Boylston	West Boylston Water District	6/1/2015	Mandatory
Westborough	Westborough Dept. of Public Works	5/18/2015	Mandatory
Westford	Westford Water Dept.	5/27/2015	Mandatory
Wilkinsonville	Wilkinsonville Water District	5/1/2015	Mandatory
Wrentham	Wrentham Water Division	1/1/2015	Mandatory
Winchendon	Winchendon Water Dept.	5/1/2015	Mandatory

CURRENT MUNICIPAL WATER USE RESTRICTIONS

Non-Essential Outdoor Water Use Restrictions as of June 11, 2015



RESTRICTION LEVEL BY TOWN

The Municipal Water Use Restrictions List specifies which Public Water Suppliers are instituting restrictions

- Mandatory
- Voluntary
- None or not reported

SOURCE:
 MassDEP Bureau of Resource Protection, Water Management Program.
 Data provided by municipal public water suppliers.
 For more information contact MassDEP Water Management Program at 617-654-6522.

MassDEP GIS Program
 6/11/2015