

# THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



## Department of Agricultural Resources

225 Turnpike Road, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Southborough, MA 01772  
617-626-1700 fax: 617-626-1850 [www.mass.gov/agr](http://www.mass.gov/agr)



Maura T. Healey  
GOVERNOR

Kimberley Driscoll  
LIEUTENANT  
GOVERNOR

Rebecca L. Tepper  
SECRETARY

Ashley E. Randle  
COMMISSIONER

### ***PUBLIC HEARINGS: VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PLAN***

Pursuant to the Rights-of-Way Management Regulations (333 CMR 11.00) in order to apply pesticides to control vegetation to maintain Rights-of Ways, the Department of Agricultural Resources must approve a Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) and a Yearly Operational Plan (YOP). The VMP is intended to justify the need to control vegetation, identify target vegetation, describe the intended methods of control, describe methods for identifying sensitive areas, describe operational guidelines for applicators, outline a program of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) designed to reduce the use of herbicides, and describe alternative land use activities. The following community is advised that the **Town of Hopkinton** proposes to utilize herbicides to treat their Rights-of-Way.

#### **PUBLIC HEARINGS SCHEDULED:**

In accordance with 333 CMR 11.05 the Department of Agricultural Resources will conduct a regional hearing to receive public comment on the proposed Vegetation Management Plan for the Town of Hopkinton, as submitted by Stephanie Hanson, of CEI Engineers.

To provide all interested parties an opportunity to comment on the proposed VMP, a public ZOOM hearing will be held at the following location:

**Topic: Hopkinton VMP Public Hearing**

**Time: Jan 24, 2025 10:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83859425328?pwd=1zbGwKb7p0zZQoFU5nKroeWfM7Y7f5.1>**

**Meeting ID: 838 5942 5328**

**Passcode: 285504**

**One tap mobile**

**+13052241968,,83859425328#,,, \*285504# US**

**Dial by your location**

**• +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)**

**Meeting ID: 838 5942 5328**

**Passcode: 285504**

**Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83859425328?pwd=1zbGwKb7p0zZQoFU5nKroeWfM7Y7f5.1>**

**Plans Available for Review Prior to Public Hearings:**

Section 11.05 (3)(d) of the ROW Management Regulations provide: “At least 21 days prior to the end of the public comment period, the applicant shall send a copy of the proposed VMP to the chief elected official, the Board of Health, and the Conservation Commission in affected communities upon their request.” Such request should be made to:

Kerry Reed  
Director of Public Works,  
Town of Hopkinton  
83 Wood Street  
Hopkinton, MA 01748

Copies of the proposed VMP are also available for review at the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources website at <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/rights-of-way-vegetation-management-vmpps-yops-and-notices> . It is also available for review at the Reference Desk of the following public library:

Hopkinton Public Library, 13 Main Street, Hopkinton, Massachusetts

**Written Comments Requested**

The public hearing listed above will give interested parties the opportunity to present data, views or arguments, orally or in writing concerning the proposed VMP. Persons giving testimony are also requested to provide written comments. Written comments in advance of the hearing dates are welcome. The Department will accept written testimony concerning the Town of Hopkinton VMP until the close of business (5p.m.) **Friday, January 24, 2025.**

Commentary should be sent to:

Rights-of -Way Program  
Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources  
225 Turnpike Road, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Southborough, MA 01772