NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Title 5 and Watershed Permit Regulations

This Public Hearing Notice is available in alternative languages (Español -- Tiếng Việt -- Chinese -- Kreyòl Ayisyen -- Português -- Khmer) on MassDEP’s website at: https://www.mass.gov/service-details/massdep-public-hearings-comment-opportunities

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A the Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) is proposing to amend the State Environmental Code, Title 5, 310 CMR 15.000, and promulgate new regulations, titled Watershed Permit Regulations, at 314 CMR 21.00, pursuant to its authority at M.G.L. c. 21A § 13, G.L. c. 21 § 27, and Section 2A of Chapter 259 of the Acts of 2014. MassDEP is proposing to amend the Title 5 regulations to enhance protection of embayments and estuaries—particularly on Cape Cod, the Islands and Southeastern Massachusetts—from nitrogen pollution originating primarily from wastewater. MassDEP’s proposed regulations at 314 CMR 21.00 provide a watershed permitting approach to control nitrogen and other pollutants from entering the embayments and estuaries.

The proposed amendments and regulations are available on MassDEP’s website at: https://www.mass.gov/service-details/massdep-public-hearings-comment-opportunities

Public Comments and Hearings

MassDEP will conduct three public hearings.

In-person & Remote, MassDEP, 20 Riverside Dr., Lakeville, MA, November 30, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.
Register for remote session in advance at: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_oay0_6bGTJeUzefxm7Jg

Remote Only, December 1, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. Register in advance at: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BTOR_A3oSI6EZm56mYdoRw

In-person & Remote, Barnstable Town Hall, 367 Main St., Hyannis, MA, December 5, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.
Register for remote session in advance at: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_f_YXLbaZRRyJsmdYrtDJNQ

After registering for remote sessions, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. You do not need to register in advance to attend either of the hearings in-person. Comments on the proposed revisions may be presented orally at the public hearing.

Written comments will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on December 16, 2022. All comments submitted must include the name and contact information of the person providing the comments. Please submit
comment by e-mail to dep.talks@mass.gov and include Title 5 & Watershed Permit in the subject line. Written comments may also be submitted by mail and should be sent to MassDEP, Bureau of Water Resources – Division of Watershed Management, One Winter Street, 5th floor, Boston, MA 02108, Attention: Title 5 & Watershed Permit.

For special accommodations for these hearings, please call the MassDEP Diversity Office at 617-348-4040. TTY# MassRelay Service 1-800-439-2370. This information is available in alternate format upon request.

MassDEP provides language access interpreter/translation services to limited English proficient individuals free of charge. If you need an interpreter to participate in this meeting, translation services can be found at the following link: https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massdep-language-translation-assistance. MassDEP intends to provide Spanish and Portuguese translation at the public hearings. Please provide 72 hours advance notice if additional translation services are requested.

By Order of the Department of Environmental Protection

Martin Suuberg, Commissioner