



# Water Program Updates



**495 Metrowest Suburban Edge  
Community Commission  
January 27, 2017**

# Water Program Updates



- Wastewater Regulatory Review Efforts
- Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit Implementation
- Water Management Act Permitting
- Drought of 2016

# Wastewater: Regulatory Review



- Stakeholders request to review:
  - Title 5 regulations (310 CMR 15.00) and
  - Groundwater Discharge Permitting regulations (314 CMR 5.00)
- Interested Stakeholder Groups:
  - Home Builders
  - Commercial Developers
  - Seasonal Campgrounds
  - Watershed Groups
- MassDEP to convene external stakeholder group

# Wastewater: Regulatory Review



- **Title 5 (310 CMR 15.00)**
- Design flows for residential facilities
  - Effect of low flow fixtures on water use
  - Use of holding tanks for peak flows
  - Reductions in groundwater separation requirements for new construction using alternative technologies
  - Uniform statewide Title 5 Code
- **Title 5 (310 CMR 15.00) and Groundwater Discharge (314 CMR 5.00)**
- Flow threshold for groundwater discharge permit
  - New category of large systems (7,500-30,000)

# NPDES Delegation



- Early stages of pursuing NPDES delegation
- Strong track record in administering other federally delegated programs
- Improved understanding of water quality through enhanced water quality monitoring and assessment program
- Opportunity to more closely engage with communities and other permittees
- Increased flexibility for use of Integrated Water Management

# MS4 Implementation and Major Deadlines

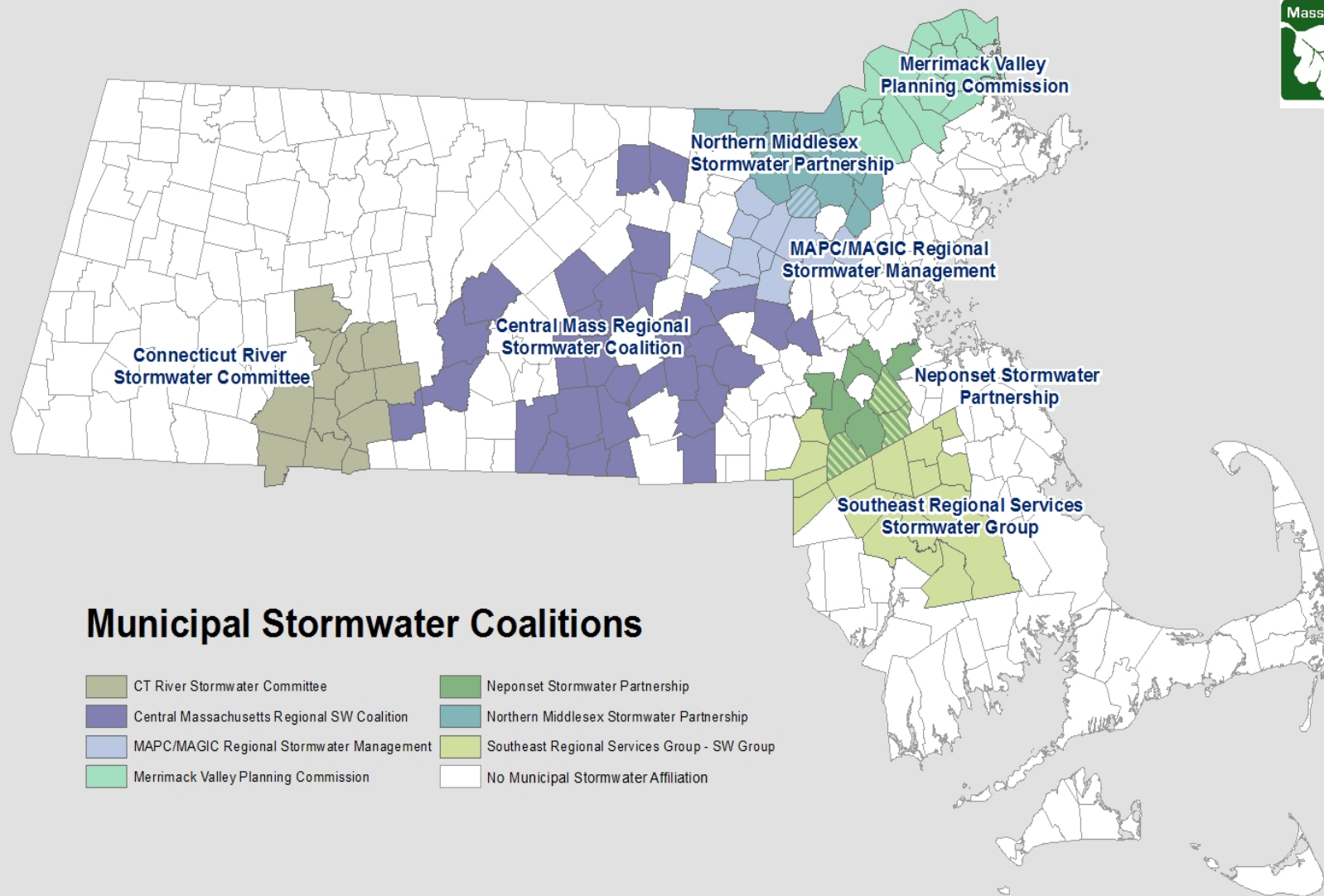


- Effective Date – July 1, 2017
- Notice of Intent (NOIs) – September 29, 2017
- Stormwater Management Plan – June 30, 2018
- Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) Plan – December 31, 2018

# MS4 Permit Appeal – Major Issues



- DC 1<sup>st</sup> Circuit consolidated 5 appeals
  - Conservation Law Foundation (CLF)
  - the National Association of Home Builders
  - the city of Lowell, MA
  - Mass Coalition for Water Resources Stewardship and Town of Franklin
  - Center for Regulatory Reasonableness (CRR)
- Major challenge: MA MS4 recasts water quality standards as enforceable “effluent limitations” of the permit
  - Moving from a BMP-based program to WQ-based program





# MassDEP MS4 Outreach & Technical Support



- Staff actively assisting the SW Coalitions
- Over \$200k in grants for technical training and outreach to the Coalitions
- Developing training program for 2017 with EPA to include NOI, IDDE, SW Mgmt Plan
- Editable MS4 Public Education Documents for Towns  
<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/wastewater/stormwater-outreach-materials-for-ms4-permit.html>
- “Hands-on “ Stormwater Assistance directly to any Town  
617-292-5821

# Water Management Act Permitting



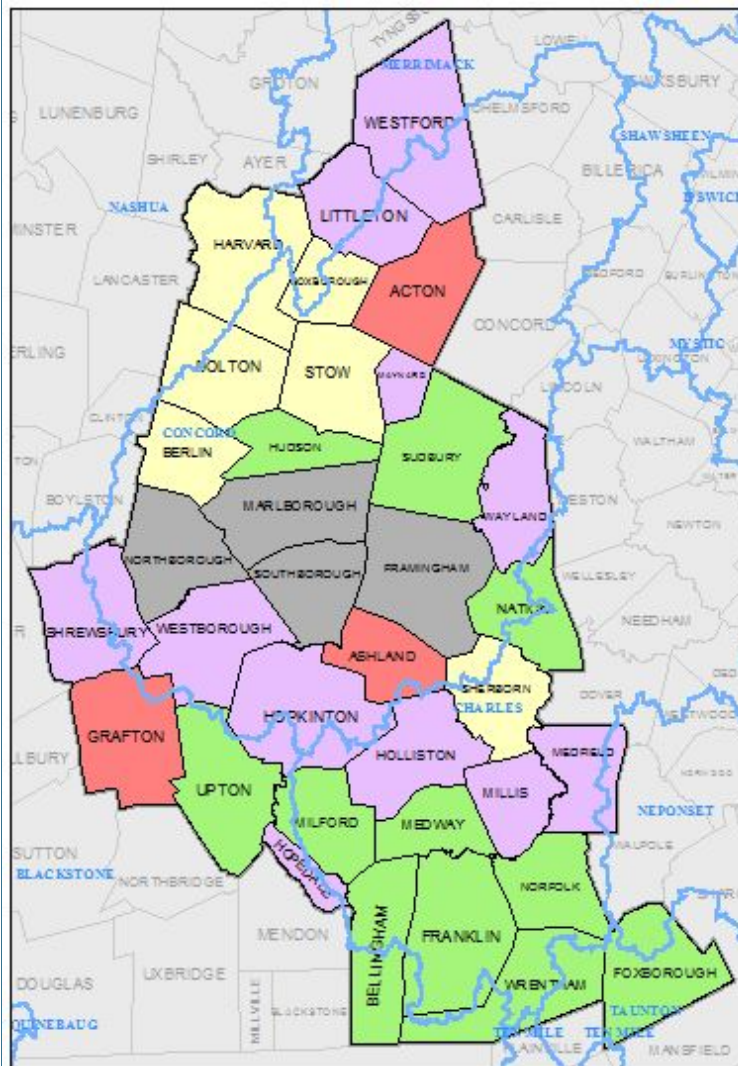
- Currently Permitting in:
  - South Coastal Basin
  - Cape Cod Basin
- Permitting for the MetroWest Communities:
  - 2017: Taunton and Boston Harbor Basins
  - 2019: Concord Basin
  - 2020: Merrimack
  - Charles and Blackstone Basins were renewed in 2010
- Prior to permitting, DEP is scheduling one on one consultations
- Newly issued permits are available:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/watersheds/water-management-act-permits-and-decisions.html>

# WMA Permit Allocations

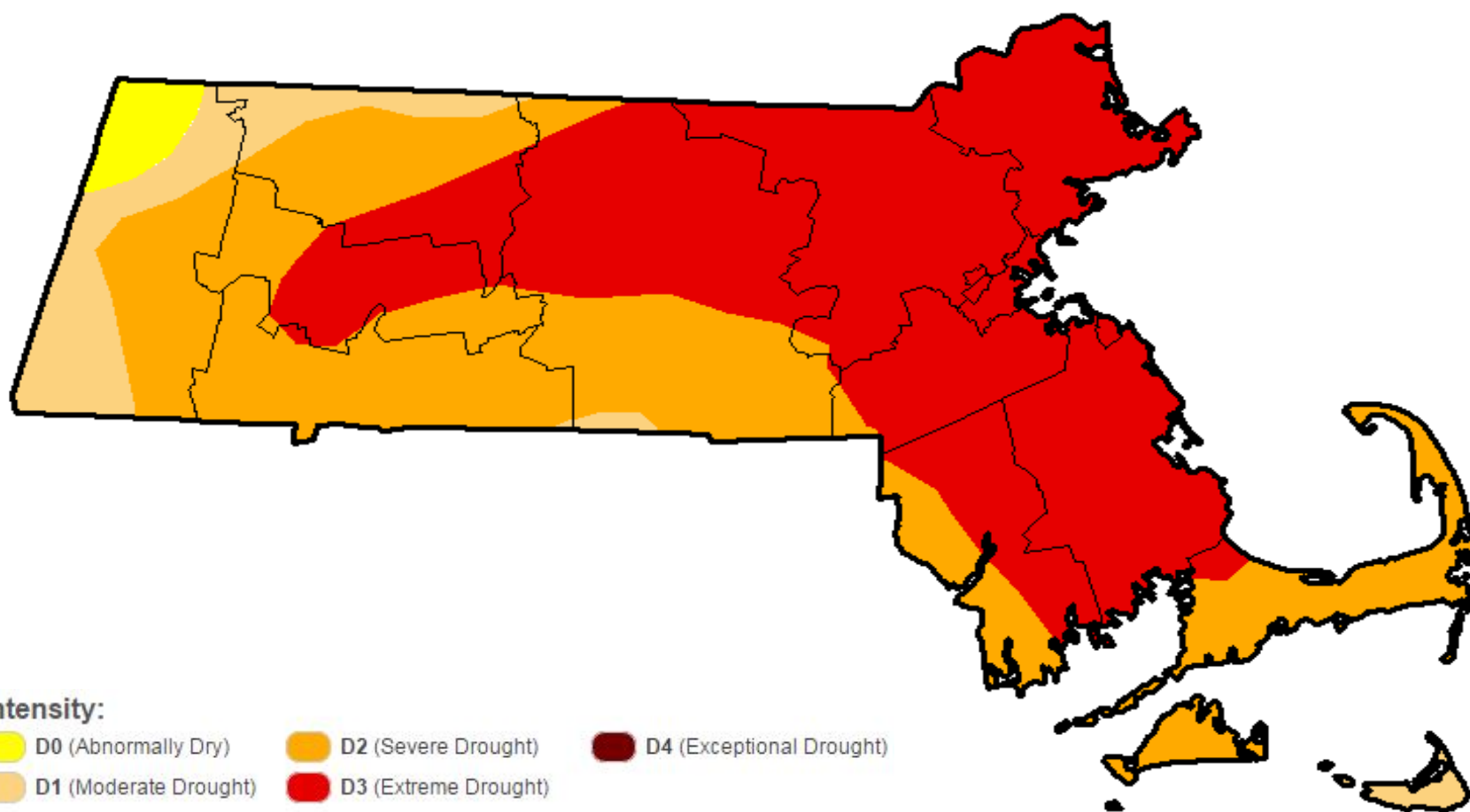


- Some permits renewals begin in 2017.
- Existing permits are administratively continued.
- Water Needs Forecasts (WNF) are used to establish permit allocations.
- Most MetroWest communities see increasing use but their permitting status varies.
  - 11 have permits with allocations that appear sufficient to meet WNF
  - 11 have not had final WNF prepared
  - 3 have WNF > than current permit

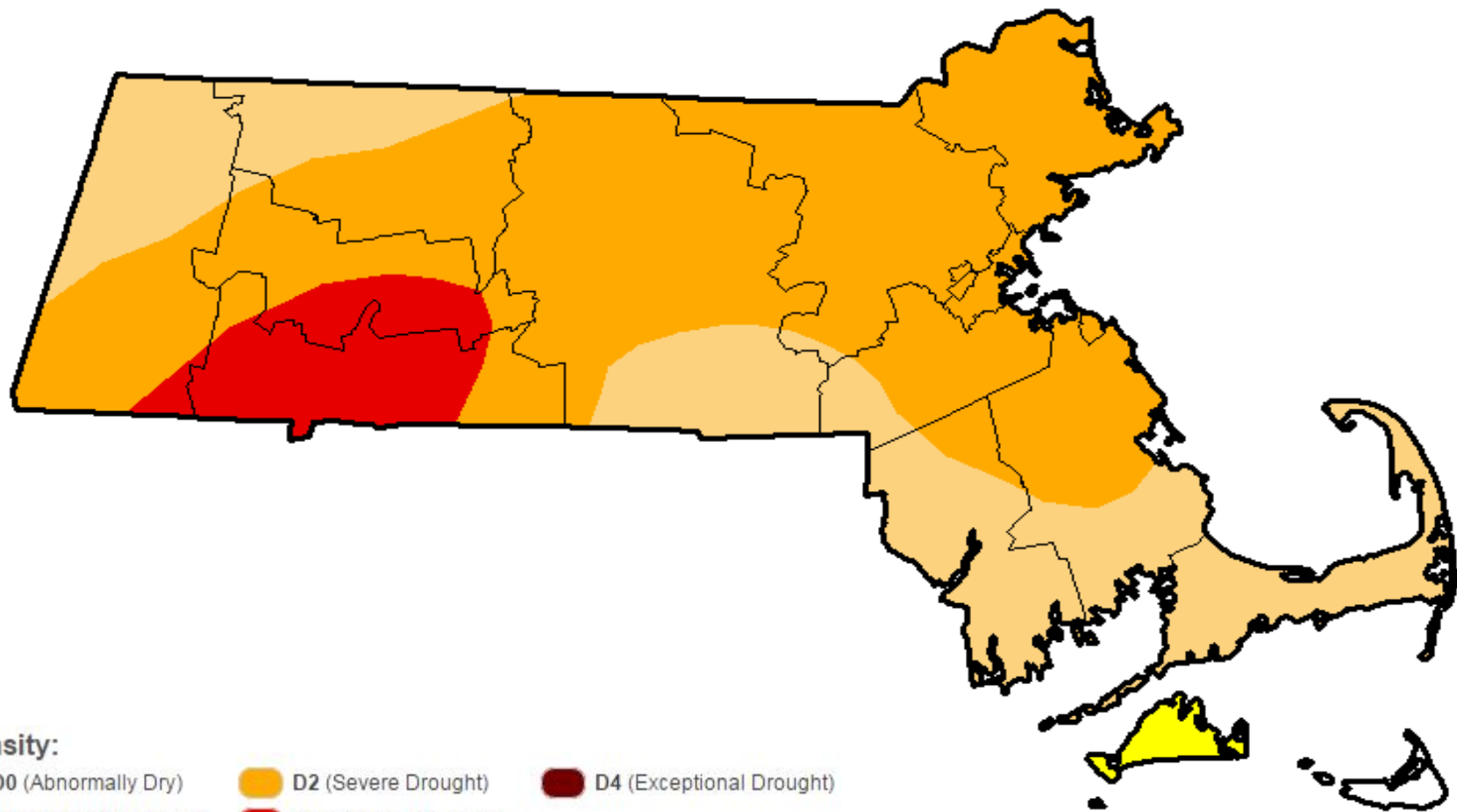


- Existing allocation appears sufficient to meet DCR WNF
- New permit necessary to meet DCR WNF
- Temporary allocation or WNF not yet developed
- All or partially supplied by MWRA
- No large municipal PWS
- Major Watersheds

September 27, 2016



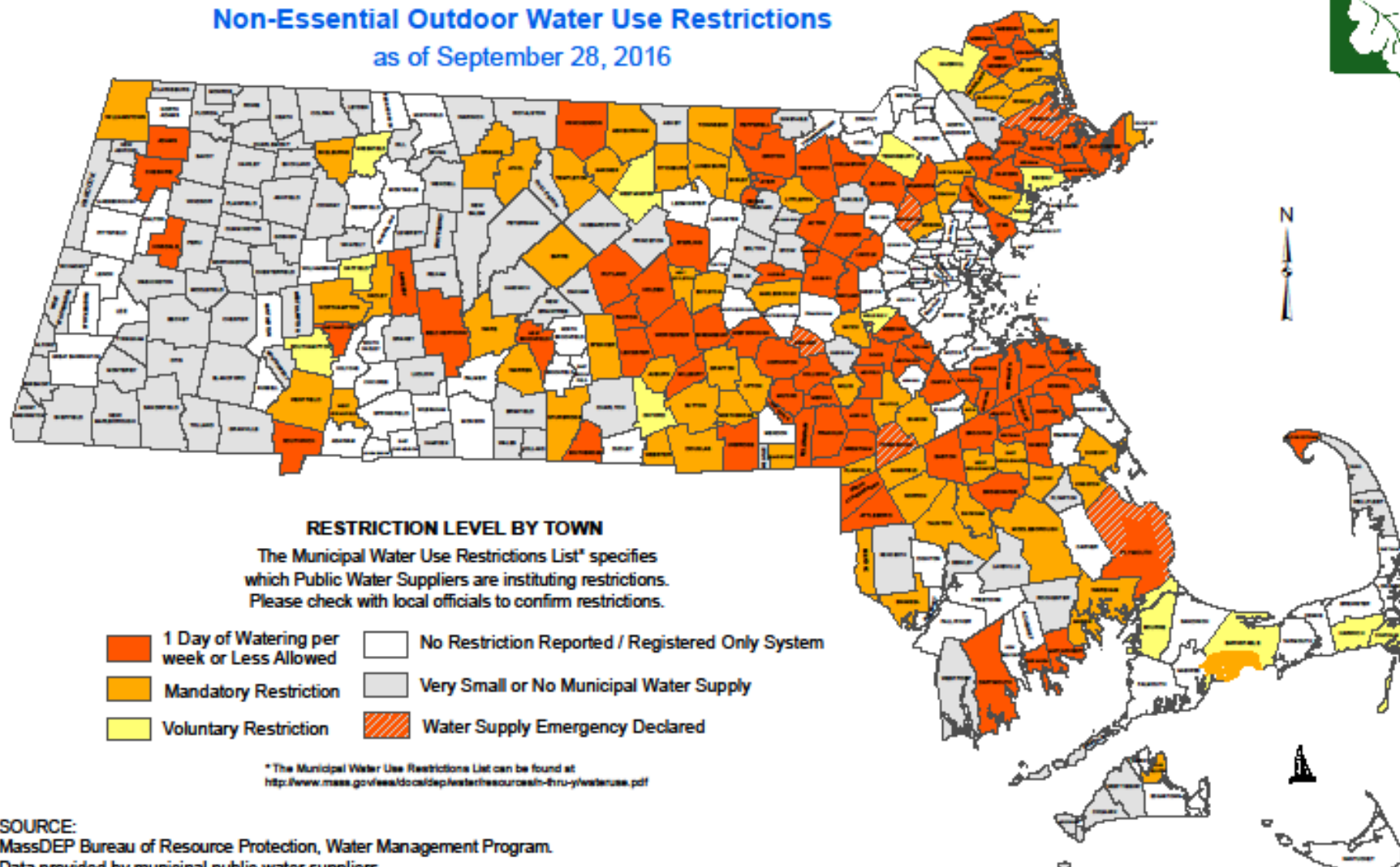
**January 17, 2017**



## CURRENT MUNICIPAL WATER USE RESTRICTIONS

### Non-Essential Outdoor Water Use Restrictions

as of September 28, 2016



#### RESTRICTION LEVEL BY TOWN

The Municipal Water Use Restrictions List\* specifies which Public Water Suppliers are instituting restrictions. Please check with local officials to confirm restrictions.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 Day of Watering per week or Less Allowed | No Restriction Reported / Registered Only System |
| Mandatory Restriction                      | Very Small or No Municipal Water Supply          |
| Voluntary Restriction                      | Water Supply Emergency Declared                  |

\* The Municipal Water Use Restrictions List can be found at <http://www.mass.gov/files/doc/dephwaterresourcesin-thru-y/wateruse.pdf>

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 617-292-5706.

MassDEP GIS Program  
9/28/2016

# Water Management Act Assistance and Outreach



- **Permitting**
  - Basin-wide outreach meetings
    - ✦ Prescreening of permitting conditions
  - Individual consultation sessions
    - ✦ Assistance with mitigation, minimization and CFR plans
- **Drought**
  - Outreach to suppliers and public
  - Technical assistance
  - Emergency Declarations
- **Financial Assistance**
  - SWMI Planning and Implementation Grants
  - Water Audit Grants

# Thank You

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