Drinking Water Program Reminder
MassDEP Approval Required to Acquire or Release Land

The best way to protect your public water supply is to acquire or control the land in your water supply protection areas.

State laws\(^1\) require that you obtain approval from MassDEP before you acquire or release land for water supply purposes.

**Acquire** means all methods of land acquisition, including, but not limited to, purchases, donations, conservation restrictions, rights-of-way and other easements and eminent domain takings.

**Release** means, but is not limited to, abandonment, transfer, sale, lease or change in use of lands acquired for water supply purposes.

For more information about MassDEP’s process to review acquisitions and releases of public water supply land, contact the Drinking Water Program at 617-292-5770 or program.director-dwp@state.ma.us.

Please share this message with your legal counsel.


\(^1\) MGL Chapter 40, sections 4, 15B, 38, 39B, and 41. Additional state approvals may be required.