

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



Department of Agricultural Resources

225 Turnpike Road, 3rd Floor, Southborough, MA 01772
617-626-1700 fax: 617-626-1850 www.mass.gov/agr



Maura T. Healey
GOVERNOR

Kimberley Driscoll
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Rebecca L. Tepper
SECRETARY

Ashley E. Randle
COMMISSIONER

NOTICE: PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR 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 (MDAR) 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 municipalities are advised that MDOT D3 proposes to utilize herbicides to treat their Rights-of-Way throughout Massachusetts:

Acton, Ashburnham, Ashby, Ashland, Auburn, Ayer, Bellingham, Berlin, Blackstone, Bolton, Boxborough, Boylston, Brookfield, Charlton, Clinton, Douglas, Dudley, Dunstable, East Brookfield, Fitchburg, Framingham, Franklin, Gardner, Grafton, Groton, Harvard, Holden, Holliston, Hopedale, Hopkinton, Hubbardston, Hudson, Lancaster, Leicester, Leominster, Littleton, Lunenburg, Marlborough, Maynard, Medfield, Medway, Mendon, Milford, Millbury, Millis, Millville, Natick, North Brookfield, Northborough, Northbridge, Oakham, Oxford, Paxton, Pepperell, Princeton, Rutland, Sherborn, Shirley, Shrewsbury, Southborough, Southbridge, Spencer, Sterling, Stow, Sturbridge, Sudbury, Sutton, Townsend, Upton, Uxbridge, Wayland, Webster, West Boylston, Westborough, Westford, Westminster, Worcester.

PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULED:

In accordance with 333 CMR 11.05 MDAR will conduct regional hearings to receive public comment on the proposed Vegetation Management Plan for the MDOT D3 Vegetation Management Plan.

To provide all interested parties an opportunity to comment on the proposed VMP, a public hearing will be held via ZOOM Conference at the address below:

Topic: MDOT D3 VMP Public Hearing
Time: Mar 27, 2026 09:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84318776838?pwd=otwzPqTeKT3afy5Hsu04aROwpGFq9Z.1>

Meeting ID: 843 1877 6838
Passcode: 073342

Available for Public Review Prior to 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:

Angela Schofield
MassDot, District 3- Highway
Project Development, Assistant Environmental Review Engineer
499 Plantation St., Worcester, MA, 01605
Angela.C.Schofield@dot.state.ma.us

The proposed VMP is posted at <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/agr/pesticides/vegetation-management-and-yearly-operation-plans.html> for reviewing. It is also available for review at the Reference Desk of the following public libraries:

Webster Public Library, 2 Lake Street, Webster, MA 01570
Worcester Public Library, 3 Salem Street, Worcester, Massachusetts 01608

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. MDAR will accept written testimony concerning the MDOTD3 VMP until the close of business (5pm), March 27, 2026.

Commentary should be sent to:

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

Comments must be received by close of business (5pm): March 27, 2026