



New Drinking Water System Self Guide Minimum System Permitting and Approval Process Source Pumping 100,000 GPD or More/70 GPM or More

The purpose of this Drinking Water Program (DWP) Facility Self Guide is to assist new public water systems (PWS)¹ to prepare drinking water program permit applications and requests for approval that comply with current MassDEP regulations, policies, and guidelines found at <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/water-resources-laws-rules>. Completion of this self guide will ensure that the applicant has considered minimum permitting aspects identified by the MassDEP Drinking Water Program. Please note: MassDEP may require additional information as regulations, standards, or procedures are implemented or revised. **This self guide does not need to be submitted to MassDEP**, but may be used in planning consultations with MassDEP staff.

Instructions to Applicant – How to Use This Self Guide

1. Find the regional MassDEP office for your city or town where the proposed system including well, wellfield, or spring is or will be located: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/massdep-regional-offices-by-community>
2. Contact the regional MassDEP office in advance of planning for a new or substantial modification to a public water system. MassDEP staff will help you to identify all permits and approvals that you will need.

MassDEP Contact List

	Source Approval		System Approval	
NERO - (Northeast)	Jim Persky james.persky@mass.gov	978-694-3227	Tom Mahin thomas.mahin@mass.gov	978-694-3226
SERO - (Southeast)	Adekunle Teniola adekunle.teniola@mass.gov	508-946-2803	Rick Rondeau richard.rondeau@mass.gov	508-946-2816
CERO - (Central)	Robert Bostwick robert.bostwick@mass.gov	508-767-2724	Marielle Stone marielle.stone@mass.gov	508-767-2827
WERO - (Western)	Kim Longridge kimberly.longridge@mass.gov	413-755-2215	Deirdre Cabral deirdre.cabral@mass.gov	413-755-2148
BOSTON - (HQ)	Bruce Bouck bruce.bouck@mass.gov	617-556-1055	Yvette DePeiza yvette.depeiza@mass.gov Frank Niles (New Technology) frank.r.niles@mass.gov	617-292-5857 617-574-6871

3. Discuss your plans with MassDEP staff and check off all required items on the attached self guide. Review the web links for more information on any item. You may wish to record the name of the MassDEP staff you contacted and the date for future contact.
4. Submit your permit and/or approval request as specified by your regional contact and the MassDEP information. MassDEP has various application fees with a waiver policy in certain cases. Refer to the forms for more information or to the schedule of water supply fees and permit codes at <https://www.mass.gov/guides/massdep-permitting-assistance>.

¹ Public Water System means a system for the provision to the public of water for human consumption, through pipes or other constructed conveyances, if such system has at least 15 service connections or regularly serves an average of at least 25 individuals daily at least 60 days of the year. A public water system includes a "community water system" or a "non-community water system". For more information refer to PWS definition in MassDEP's regulations at <https://www.mass.gov/regulations/310-CMR-22-the-massachusetts-drinking-water-regulations>. Refer to MassDEP Drinking Water Policies # 88-10 and # 88-11 for calculating daily consumption and residential populations at <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/drinking-water-policies-and-guidance>.

New Drinking Water System - Self Guide

For Minimum MassDEP /DWP Approvals. Permits and Other Required Documents Needed for New System Approval For Source(s) Pumping 100,000 GPD or More/70 GPM or More

Item # Check ✓ if applicable after discussion with MassDEP contact	Permit/Approval or Other Documentation Needed MassDEP may require the following permits or approvals prior to the system receiving final approval to operate. The following permits and approvals are listed in likely sequence; however the final sequencing will be decided by the progress of each item and discussion with your MassDEP regional contact. View the web link for more information on the item.	Comments Include explanations of not applicable (N/A) items in this column
1 <input type="checkbox"/>	Consecutive Public Water System - If a new drinking public water system consists only as a new consecutive system, such that, water is received and/or purchased from one or more MassDEP approved supplying public water systems with an existing PWS ID number, then a written summary agreement is needed for submittal per MassDEP Regulations 310 CMR 22.03 Compliance at: https://www.mass.gov/regulations/310-CMR-22-the-massachusetts-drinking-water-regulations . For examples of written agreements see: https://www.mass.gov/info-details/water-systems-operations-requirements-and-guidance#consecutive-water-systems- . If this item 1 is checked, then proceed to Capacity Development -item 10, then proceed to item 15 titled Chemical Addition Permit, and then finish the remaining items.	
2 <input type="checkbox"/>	Source Permit – BRP WS 17 Approval to site and conduct a Pumping Test for a source of 70 gallons per minute or greater. The approval is to continue evaluating the water resource potential of a particular site. Form to be submitted. https://www.mass.gov/how-to/ws-17-approval-to-site-a-source-and-conduct-a-pumping-test-for-a-source-greater-than-70	
3 <input type="checkbox"/>	Source Permit BRP WS 19 - Approval of Pumping Test Report for source of 70 gallons per minute or greater. Form to be submitted. https://www.mass.gov/how-to/ws-19-approval-of-pumping-test-report-for-source-of-70-gallons-per-minute-or-greater	
4 <input type="checkbox"/>	Source Permit BRP WM 03 Water Management Act Permit Application form needs to be submitted at same time form BRP WS 19 to insure that new withdrawals (average more than 100,000 gallons per day) will not negatively impact water resources or existing users. A copy of the MEPA Environmental Notification Form (ENF) needs to be submitted. (See MEPA regulations 310 CMR 11.00) https://www.mass.gov/how-to/wm-03-water-management-withdrawal-permits	
5 <input type="checkbox"/>	Source Permit BRP WS 20 to construct a source. Form to be submitted. https://www.mass.gov/how-to/ws-20-approval-to-construct-a-source-of-70-gallons-per-minute-or-greater	
6 <input type="checkbox"/>	Wetlands Permit if work in wetlands is needed for drilling – Notice of Intent (NOI) application (401 determination). https://www.mass.gov/lists/wetlands-permitting-forms	
7 <input type="checkbox"/>	Local Conservation Commission Order of Conditions to be completed if required by the Local Conservation Commission. Over 100 Massachusetts communities have local wetlands protection bylaws in addition to the state and federal laws. Contact the conservation commission at your city or town hall for more information about local bylaws. https://www.mass.gov/guides/protecting-wetlands-in-massachusetts	

8 <input type="checkbox"/>	Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (MESA) Permit Application to be completed if applicable. If applicable an application and potentially an NOI are required. https://www.mass.gov/ma-endangered-species-act-mesa-regulatory-review	
9 <input type="checkbox"/>	Army Corps of Engineers 404 Permit to be completed if applicable. This permit may be required if alteration of wetlands occurs during pumping test. Call 1-800-362-4367 for more information. http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/pdf/reg_authority_pr.pdf	
10 <input type="checkbox"/>	Capacity Development - Business Plan for New Water Supplies to be submitted. https://www.mass.gov/info-details/water-systems-operations-requirements-and-guidance#system-development-	
11 <input type="checkbox"/>	Construction Permit – Submit proper form for approval to construct a facility depending on proposed gpd to be pumped: BRP WS23B: 40,000 gpd or more and less than 200,000 gpd; or BRP WS 23C: 200,000 gpd or more and less than 1 million gpd, or BRP WS 24: 1 million gpd or more. https://www.mass.gov/how-to/ws-23-24-approval-to-construct-a-water-treatment-facility	
12 <input type="checkbox"/>	Proof of ownership or ability to control the Zone I and 2 land use , as required, refer to MassDEP regulations 310 CMR 22.21: Ground Water Supply Protection at https://www.mass.gov/regulations/310-CMR-22-the-massachusetts-drinking-water-regulations Guidelines Chapter 4 at https://www.mass.gov/service-details/guidelines-for-public-water-systems and Best Effort Requirement 310 CMR 22.21(1) at https://www.mass.gov/doc/wellhead-protection-guidance-best-effort-requirement-310-cmr-22211 .	
13 <input type="checkbox"/>	Groundwater Under the Direct Influence of Surface Water (GWUDI) Exemption Request (if applicable). Refer to Criteria for Determining Exemption (Factsheet for Non-Community Public Water Systems). https://www.mass.gov/doc/criteria-for-determining-exemption-factsheet-non-community-systems	
14 <input type="checkbox"/>	Ground Water Rule Representative Triggered Monitoring Plan. Ground Water Rule* applies to all systems with ground water sources that do not have MassDEP certified 4-log treatment https://www.mass.gov/doc/gwr-c-representative-triggered-monitoring-plan .	
15 <input type="checkbox"/>	New Technology Permit to be completed if applicable for drinking water additives, chemicals, treatment devices or equipment, if a product or operation will come into contact with a public water supply. https://www.mass.gov/lists/drinking-water-permits-forms-and-templates#new-technology-approvals-forms-	
16 <input type="checkbox"/>	Chemical Addition Permit – Submit proper form for approval to add any treatment chemical, such as, bleach or lime, to PWS depending on proposed population to be served: Chemical Addition Permit - BRP WS 34 Chemical Addition Retrofit for Systems That Serve Less Than or Equal to 3,300 People https://www.mass.gov/how-to/ws-34-water-treatment-chemical-addition-retrofit-of-water-systems-serving-less-than-3300 or Chemical Addition Permit –BRP WS 29 Chemical Addition Retrofit for Systems That Serve More Than 3,300 People https://www.mass.gov/how-to/ws-29-chemical-addition-retrofit-of-water-systems-serving-more-than-3300-people	
17 <input type="checkbox"/>	Operation and Maintenance (O/M) procedures for all treatment to be submitted** Preventive Maintenance schedule log of routine operation and maintenance tasks to be developed, and submitted.	

	https://www.mass.gov/doc/drinking-water-policy-93-02-operation-and-maintenance-manuals-0	
18 <input type="checkbox"/>	Spare parts to be made available for all applicable components** https://www.mass.gov/guides/emergency-planning-and-preparedness-tips-for-wastewater-and-water-treatment-plant-operators	
19 <input type="checkbox"/>	Waste Disposal Permit** (If applicable) PWS must submit a Waste Disposal Plan per Guidelines Chapter 5.10 https://www.mass.gov/service-details/guidelines-for-public-water-systems	
20 <input type="checkbox"/>	Energy Saving Report or Statement* . Summary discussion to be submitted. Refer to Guidelines Chapter 1.2.10 Energy Efficiency Encouraged (if applicable). https://www.mass.gov/service-details/guidelines-for-public-water-systems	
21 <input type="checkbox"/>	Emergency Response Plan needs to be submitted* Refer to Guidelines Chapter 12. Emergency Response Planning. https://www.mass.gov/service-details/guidelines-for-public-water-systems	
22 <input type="checkbox"/>	Distribution System Permit – Submit proper form depending on proposed population to be served: Distribution Modifications Permit BRP WS 32 for systems that serve 3,300 people or more in the modification of a drinking water distribution systems, such as storage tanks, distribution pump stations, and transmission main installation https://www.mass.gov/how-to/ws-32-distribution-modifications-for-systems-that-serve-more-than-3300-people , or Distribution Modifications Permit BRP WS 33 for systems that serve 3,300 people or less in the modification of a drinking water distribution systems, such as storage tanks, distribution pump stations, and transmission main installation. https://www.mass.gov/how-to/ws-33-distribution-modifications-for-systems-that-serve-3300-people-or-fewer Map of distribution system including all pipes, valves, hydrants, storage facilities, etc. must also be submitted.	
23 <input type="checkbox"/>	Certified Operator * Submit name and staffing plan of hired certified operator responsible to run PWS system. <i>Also complete the individual duties forms for each system type.</i> https://www.mass.gov/doc/public-water-system-certified-operator-compliance-notice-0	
24 <input type="checkbox"/>	Cross Connections Program Plan* https://www.mass.gov/lists/cross-connections-forms	
25 <input type="checkbox"/>	Other permit(s), approval(s) or documents as determined by the MassDEP _____ _____	
26 <input type="checkbox"/>	Final Approval of Completed Works Letter from MassDEP which includes the issuance of a PWS ID number (generated by MassDEP) and a Sampling Schedule*. Refer to Massachusetts Drinking Water Program Testing Requirements for Public Water Systems: https://www.mass.gov/doc/testing-requirements-for-public-water-systems-summary-0 Once a system is approved and in operation, the following minimum reports and information are required: 1. Community water systems are required to test their water for coliform bacteria and other contaminants specified in the regulations and on their sampling schedule using a state certified lab, and report the results. https://www.mass.gov/guides/drinking-water-standards-and-guidelines 2. Monthly chemical reporting form to be submitted monthly (if any treatment chemicals are added to PWS) https://www.mass.gov/how-to/chemical-addition-report ** 3. Water Treatment Chemical Feed System Control and Alarm Testing Log https://www.mass.gov/doc/water-treatment-chemical-feed-system-control-and-alarm-testing-log **	

4. Consumer Confidence Reports (annually to customers required) <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/water-systems-operations-requirements-and-guidance#consumer-confidence-reports->
5. Safe Drinking Water Act Assessment. Bills for the Massachusetts Federal Safe Drinking Water Act Assessment are mailed to all public water systems based on water use reported for previous calendar year. Minimum bill is \$20.00. <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/water-systems-operations-requirements-and-guidance#safe-drinking-water-act->
6. Annual Statistical Reporting (eASR) Form *(This report is submitted online and requires proof of identity)* <https://www.mass.gov/lists/drinking-water-permits-forms-and-templates#statistical-reporting-forms->
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

**The approval for this item is generally included in final approval of complete works.*

***The approval for this item is usually given for the specific component, but approval may also be included in the final approval of complete works.*

Applicants may wish to keep the following information:

Location of new PWS: _____

Date of contact or consultation with MassDEP staff: _____

Name, phone # and email address of MassDEP contact: _____