

Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup Advisory Committee Meeting

May 22, 2025

** This meeting is being recorded.*



WSC Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda

Welcome / Agenda Review - Adoption - 5 minutes

Millie Garcia-Serrano, BWSC

21E Program Updates - 25 minutes

- **Administrative (5)**
- **Federal Programs (5)**
- **Policy (5)**
- **ER & MOSPRA (5)**
- **NRD (5)**

Millie Garcia-Serrano, BWSC
Diane Baxter, BWSC
Ken Marra, BWSC
Cathy Kiley, BWSC
Michelle Craddock, BWSC

Demo on WSC Public Data Portal – 10 minutes

Shannon Smith, EIO
Matthew Cogliano, BWSC

LSP Board Updates – 5 minutes

Terry Wood, LSP Board

LSP Association Updates - 5 minutes

Joe Roman, LSP Association



WSC Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda

ORS Updates - 15 minutes

- **Dioxin TEF Process (5)**
- **PFAS Signature in Private Septic Systems (5)**
- **Risk Characterization Guidance (5)**

Greg Braun, ORS

PFAS Update - 10 minutes

John Ziegler, BWSC

Engineered Barriers and Financial Assurance Mechanisms (310 CMR 40.0998) - 20 minutes

Millie Garcia-Serrano, BWSC

Brian Roden, BWSC

Erica Judd, BAS

Eric Fahle, BAS

Q&A - 5 minutes

Millie Garcia-Serrano, BWSC

Appreciation Awards – 25 minutes

Commissioner Bonnie Heiple, MassDEP

Millie Garcia-Serrano, BWSC



Next WSC Advisory Committee Meeting: Thursday, August 21, 2025 (Virtual)

Administrative Updates



MassDEP

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Environmental Protection

Millie Garcia-Serrano, MPH, Assistant Commissioner
MassDEP | Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup

Administrative Updates

- **State Budget Process - FY26**
 - 1/2025 - Governor filed proposal
 - 4/2025 – House debated/completed their version
 - **5/20/25 – Senate starts debating / finalizing their version**
 - 6/2025 – House & Senate reconcile 2 versions / send for Governor review/signature
- **Hiring Freeze (effective 5/27/25)**
 - Hiring freeze across all Executive Department agencies per A&F
 - Proactive step to manage spending
 - Federal funding cuts, tariffs, increased inflation and spending pressures -> uncertainty for FY26
 - Freeze to be reevaluated

- **Staffing Changes**
 - NERO DRD (*and* ER Chief)
 - Andrew Clark (position formerly held by Steve Johnson)
 - SERO ER Chief
 - Andy Jones (position formerly held by Dan Crafton)
 - WERO ER Chief
 - Derrick Bruce (with David Slowick supporting through 6/27/25)
- **Advisory Committee Membership**
 - “21E Consultant” Open Slot (formerly held by Larry Feldman, retired)
- **“At the Podium”**
 - 6/4/25 – EBC Apex Award - James D.P. Farrell Award for Brownfields - Remediation Project of the Year
 - City Pier, Fall River MA



Program Updates



MassDEP

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Environmental Protection

**Diane Baxter, Ken Marra,
Cathy Kiley, Michelle Craddock**
MassDEP | Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup

Federal Programs Updates



MassDEP

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Environmental Protection

Diane Baxter, Division Director, Federal Grants Program
MassDEP | Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup

Federal Programs Highlights

- Federal Sites
- Brownfields
- RCRA Hazardous Waste – Contained-In Determinations



Federal Sites Program

- Oversight of CERCLA Response Actions
 - 31 Non-DOD “Superfund” Sites
 - >12 Military Installations
 - 10 Formerly Used Defense Sites
- Recent highlights
 - Remedial construction initiated at 2 sites and continuing at a 3rd site
 - Removal actions to address newly identified concerns at a site that has been in long-term operation, maintenance, monitoring (OMM) phase



Walton & Lonsbury Superfund Site, Attleboro

March/April 2025



Platform Construction in preparation for
Permeable Reactive Barrier Installation



Facility Demolition in Preparation for
Source Control Remedy



Creese & Cook Superfund Site, Danvers

April/May 2025



Photo by: Paul Dimakos

Former railroad trestle on spur to be used for construction access across river. Temporary bridge to be installed over it.



Photo by: Paul Dimakos

Placing clean fill after excavation of contaminated soil along former railroad spur.



Creese & Cook Superfund Site, Danvers

April/May 2025



Photo by: Paul Dimakos

Collection of in-situ waste classification soil samples with DPT drill rig.



Endicott-Peabody Cemetery.
Historical feature to be protected.



Nuclear Metals Superfund Site, Concord

May 2025



In-Situ Sequestration (ISS) in former Holding Basin

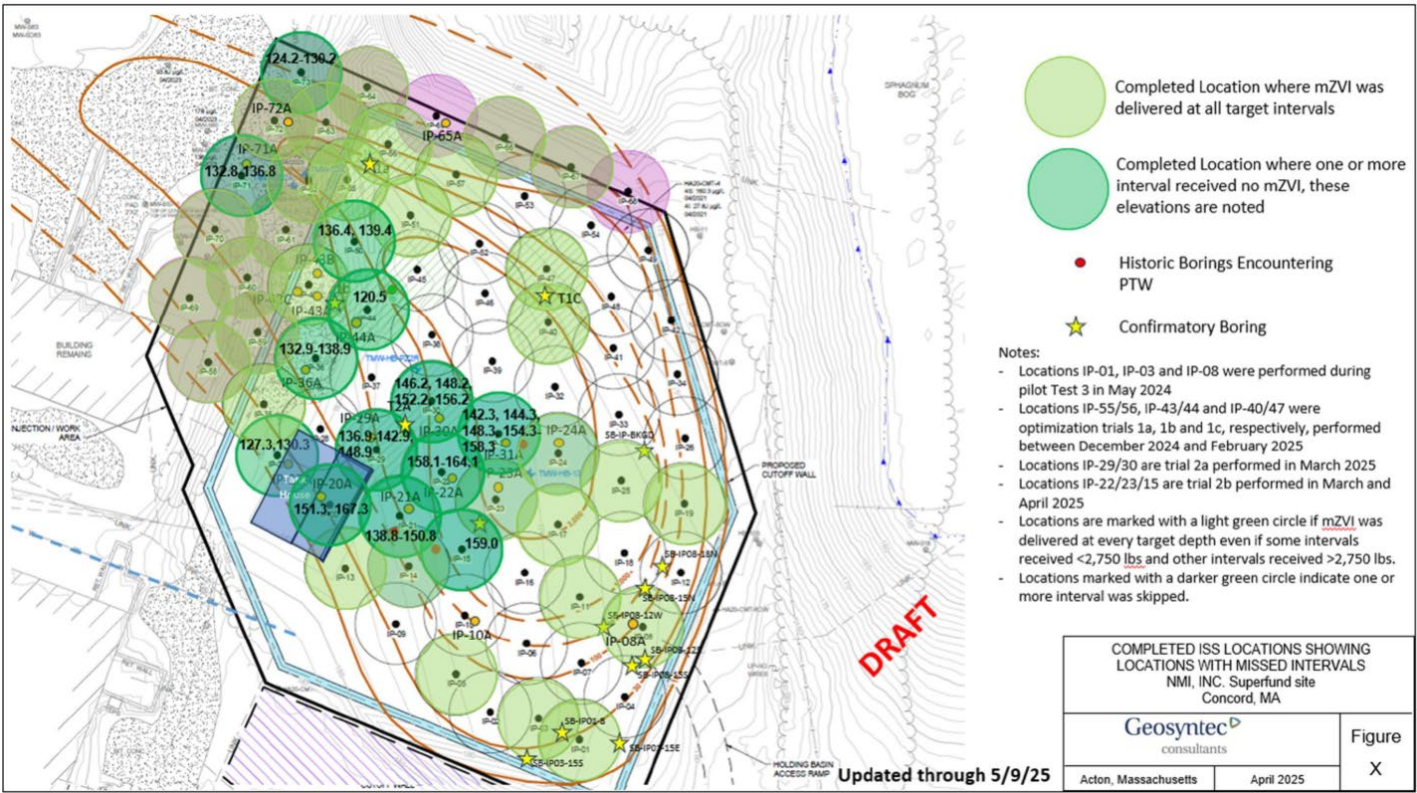


Figure used to track progress of the injections on a weekly basis.



Industri-Plex Superfund Site, Woburn



Removal of drums found inside a building under a concrete floor during redevelopment of the property.



2025 – Regional Brownfields Roundtables



EPA Assessment Grantee

WESTERN REGION

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission
Franklin Regional Council of Governments
Pioneer Valley Planning Commission

CENTRAL REGION

Montachusett Regional Planning Commission
Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC Applied FY24)

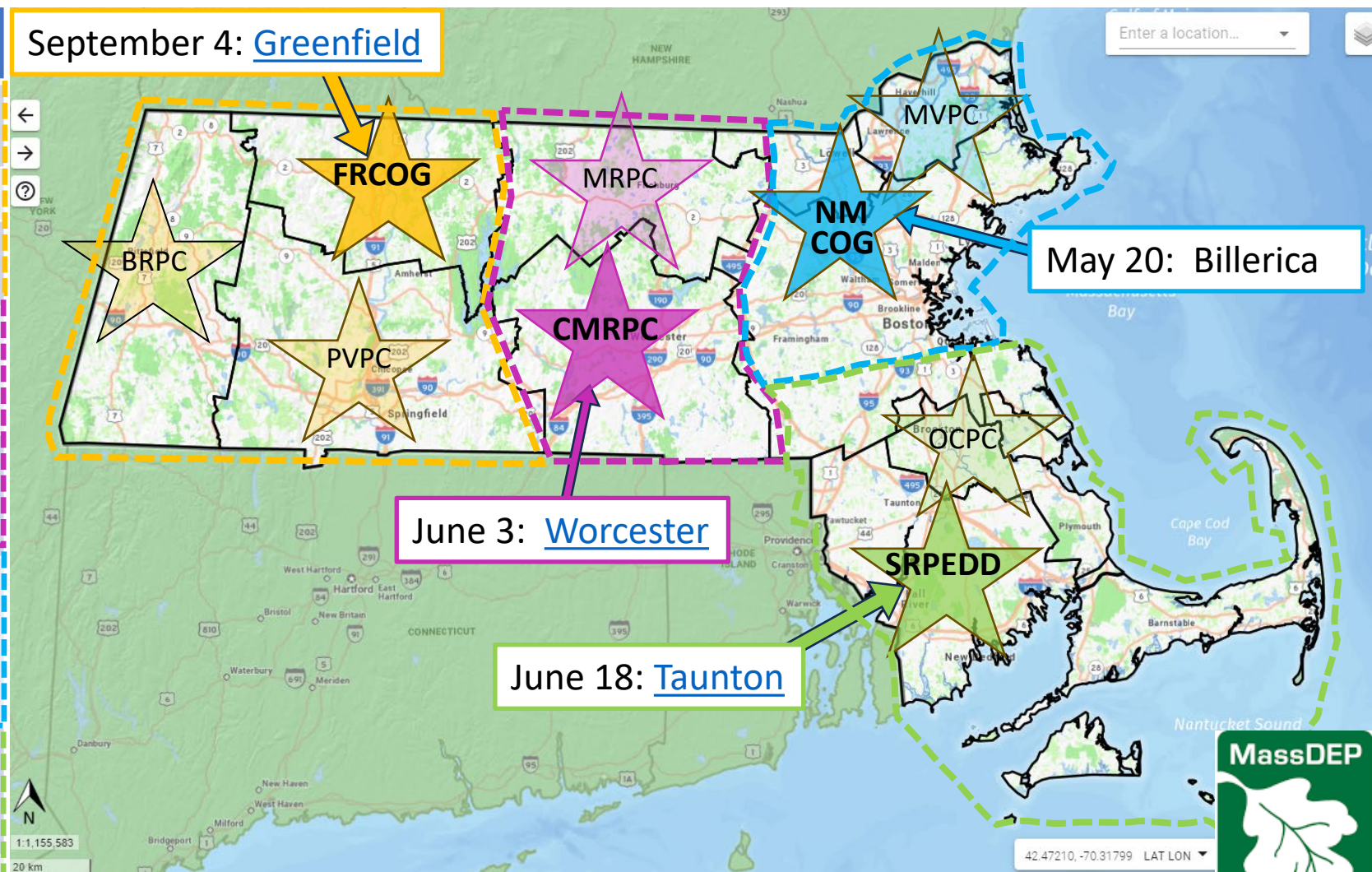
NORTHEAST REGION

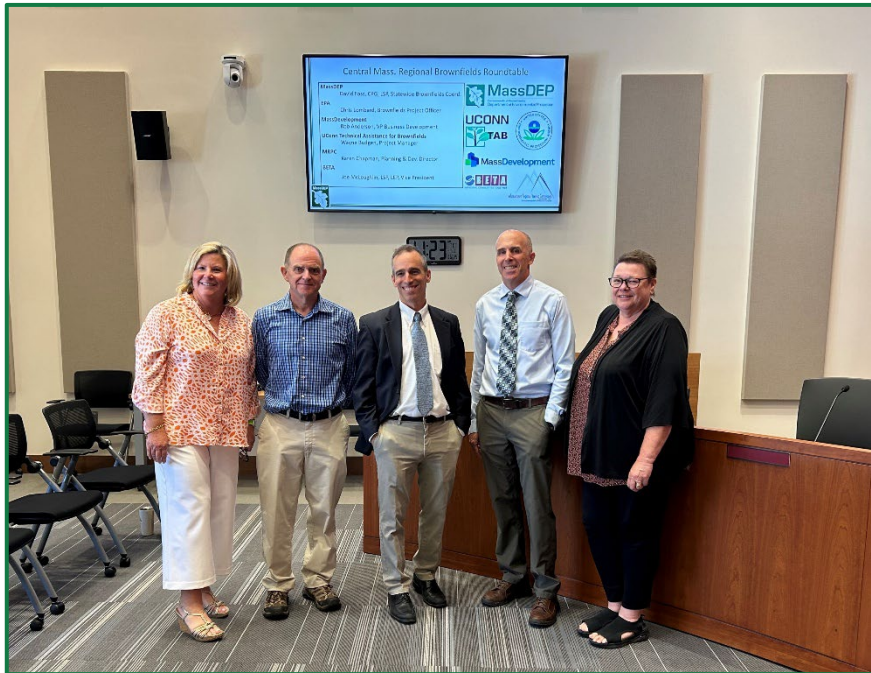
Merrimack Valley Planning Commission
Northern Middlesex Council of Government (NMCOG Applied FY24)

SOUTHEAST REGION

Southeastern Regional Economic Development District
Old Colony Planning Commission

September 4: [Greenfield](#)





MassDevelopment



Contained-In Determination (CID) Petition Process

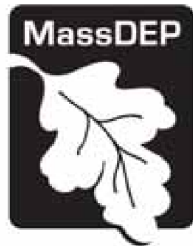
- MassDEP Policy provides for use of MCP S-1 standards to make a determination that soil containing constituents derived from a RCRA Listed Haz Waste does not have to be managed as a hazardous waste.
- All criteria outlined in guidance policy must be met.
- LSP overseeing the site assessment submits the petition using Form BWSC-126 through eDEP.
- 21-day presumptive approval, starting from date of receipt by MassDEP.
- 10 petitions received in 2024. 9 petitions received so far in 2025.
- Contact/Reviewer: Rose Knox at rosemary.knox@mass.gov



MassDEP CID Guidance Policy

(August 2010)

<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/soil-as-rcra-hazardous-waste>



Massachusetts Department of
Environmental Protection

T e c h n i c a l U p d a t e

Considerations for Managing Contaminated Soil: RCRA Land Disposal Restrictions and Contained-In Determinations

The information contained in this Technical Update is intended solely as guidance. This document does not create any substantive or procedural rights, and is not enforceable by any party in any administrative proceeding with the Commonwealth. Parties using this guidance should be aware that there may be other acceptable alternatives for achieving and documenting compliance with the applicable regulatory requirements and performance standards of the Massachusetts Contingency Plan ("MCP").

1.0 Summary

This Technical Update revises and expands a November, 2002 MCP Q&A question on the implications and application of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("USEPA") Land Disposal Restrictions ("LDR") regulations under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA") to soil managed under the Massachusetts Contingency Plan ("MCP" 310 CMR 40.0000). This Technical Update provides guidance on

Massachusetts Department of
Environmental Protection
One Winter Street



Policy Updates



MassDEP

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Environmental Protection

**Ken Marra, Division Director,
Policy & Program Development**
MassDEP | Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup

Policy/Guidance Updates

FINAL COMPLETE:

- AULs – 4/23/25

NEXT UP:

- Risk Characterization
- Engineered Barriers/FAMs
- Public Involvement
- MCP Amendments Q&As
- PFAS:
 - PFAS Q&A
 - PFAS Interim Sampling
 - PFAS CAM
- COMM-25 Soils

IN PROGRESS:

- Master Q&A
- CAMs
- VPH/EPH
- Off-Gas Treatment
- UST Closure Assessment Manual
- eDEP Forms
- Shortforms
- Vapor Intrusion



Emergency Response & MOSPRA Updates



MassDEP

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Environmental Protection

Cathy Kiley, Emergency Planning & Response Coordinator
MassDEP | Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup

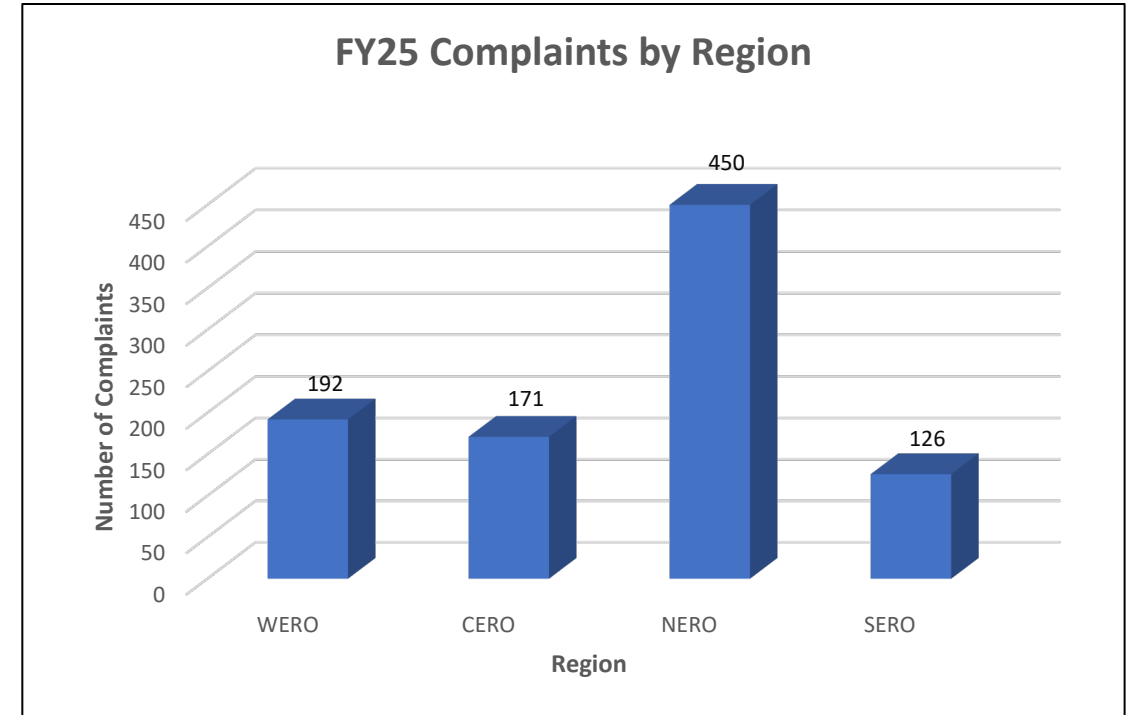
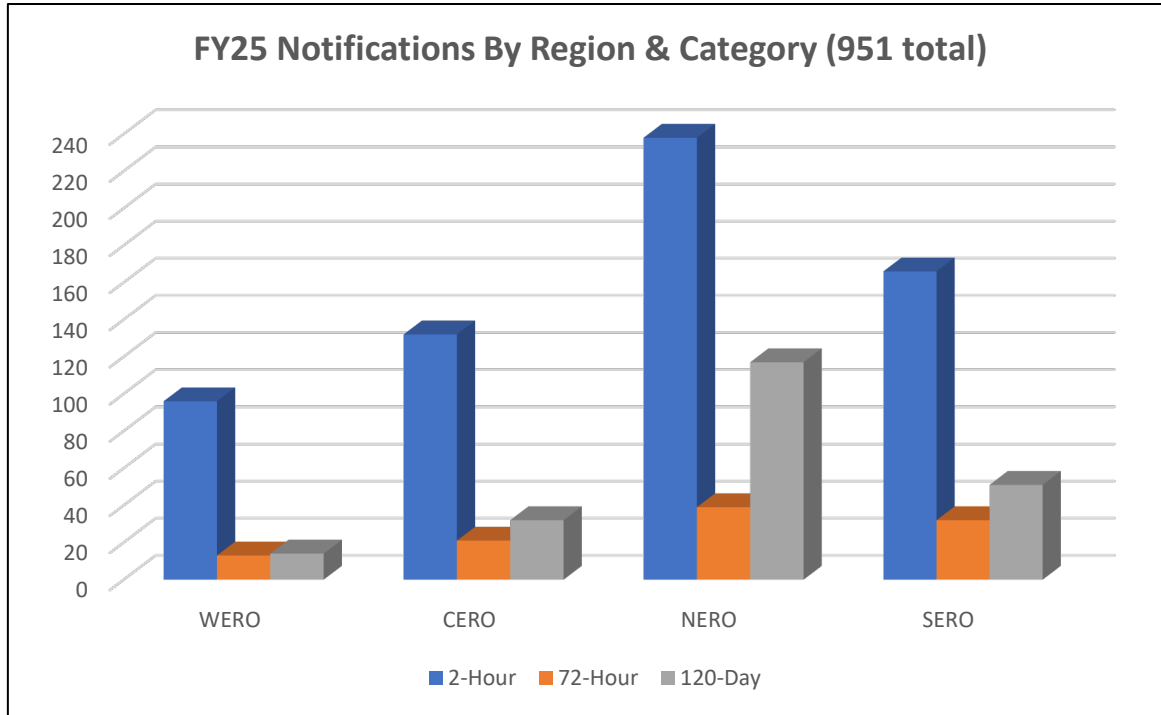
Emergency Response

- **Cathy Kiley, Emergency Planning and Response Coordinator,**
cathy.kiley@mass.gov
- **ER Staff Changes**
 - Dave Slowick, WERO ER Section Chief retiring end of June 2025
 - Derrick Bruce, new WERO ER Section Chief started 5/19/25
 - Andy Jones – new SERO ER Section Chief
 - Andrew Clark – NERO DRD BWSC, remains acting ER Section Chief in interim
- **AFFF Take Back Program**
 - From June 2018 – April 2025, over 420,000 lbs. (over 49,000 gals) of foam have been collected from 166 fire departments and facilities in MA; 75 are in EJ communities
- **FY25 – to date: 951 Releases/939 Complaints**
For Reference, FY24: 1,083 Releases/1,072 Complaints



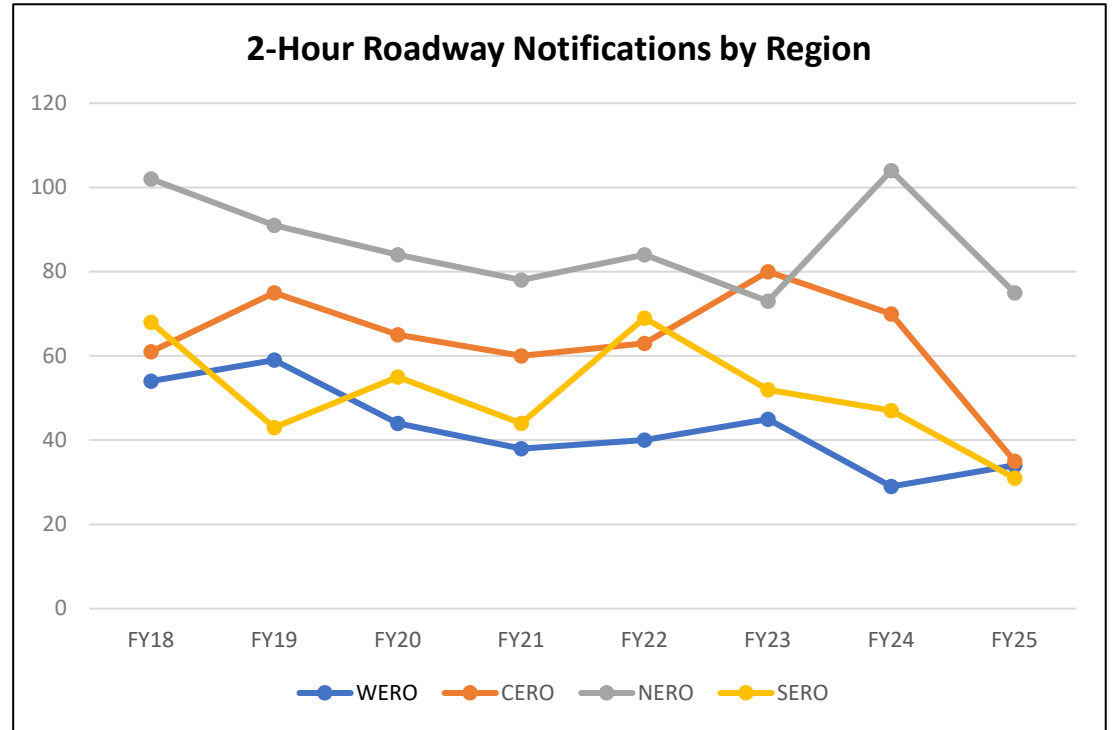
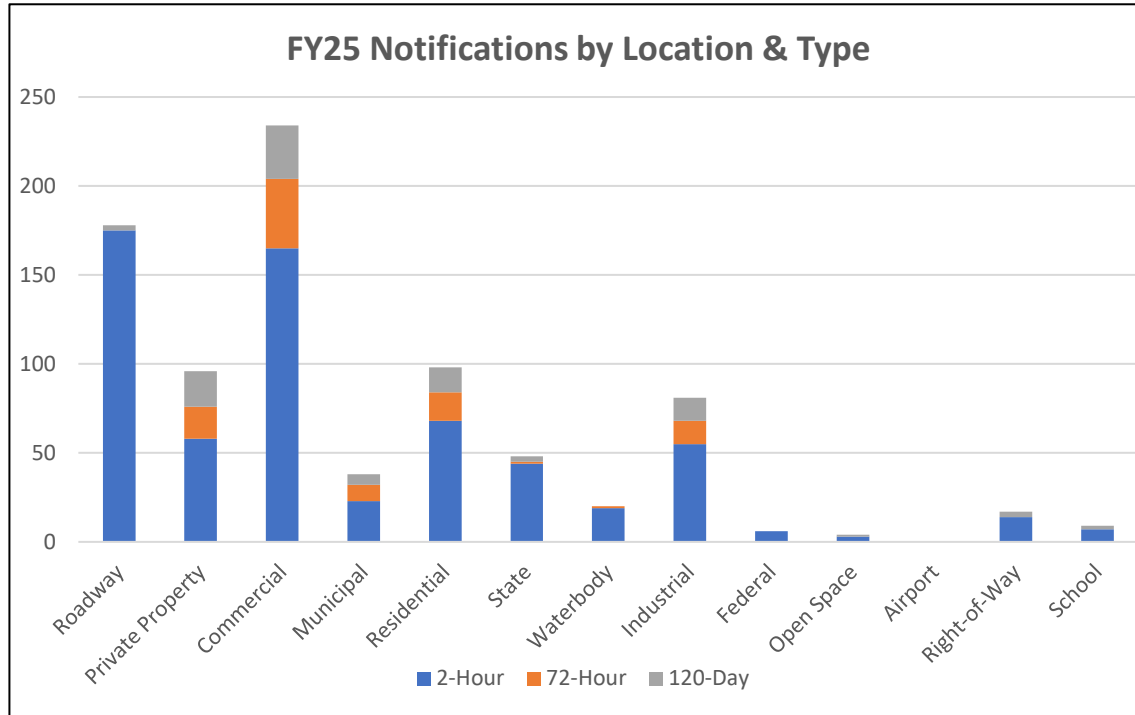
Emergency Response

- Trends



Emergency Response

- Trends



MOSPRA Program

- **Website:** <https://www.mass.gov/oil-spill-prevention-response>
- **MOSPRA Program Coordinator – Julie Hutcheson**
Julie.Hutcheson@mass.gov
- **Participate in Area Committees with USCG**
 - Plymouth-Salisbury Area Committee (PSAC)(USCG Sec Boston)
 - Rhode Island and Southeastern MA Area Committee (USCG Sec SENE)
- **PSAC: South Shore Seminar, 5/8/2025**
 - MassDEP, USCG, and NOAA presented overview of tools/resources each agency provides for preparing/responding to oil spills affecting coastal areas. Southshore and Boston–area coastal communities.



MOSPRA Program

- **Inland Geographic Response Strategy Exercises**
 - EPA/MassDEP GRS Exercise – Merrimack River 6/2 and 6/3/2025, MassDEP ER, NERO
- **Coastal First Responder Training and GRS Testing Exercises**



MOSPRA Program

2025 Planned Exercises

Date	GRS Region	Towns
APR 29	South Shore	Kingston, Plymouth
MAY 12	North Shore	Essex, Ipswich, Rowley
MAY 14	Boston Harbor	Boston, Winthrop
MAY 15	North Shore	Newbury, Newburyport, Salisbury
JUN 9	Boston Harbor	Braintree, Quincy
TBD	Cape & Islands	C-O-MM, Cotuit, W. Barnstable
TBD	Cape & Islands	Falmouth, Mashpee
TBD	Buzzards Bay	Fairhaven, New Bedford, Acushnet
TBD	Buzzards Bay	Marion, Mattapoisett
TBD	Mount Hope Bay	Berkley, Dighton



Natural Resource Damages Program



MassDEP

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Environmental Protection

Michelle Craddock, NRD Program Coordinator
MassDEP | Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup

Natural Resource Damages Program 2025 Updates

NEW NRD SETTLEMENTS

Shpack Landfill Superfund Site

- Consent Decree filed in court in January 2025 to settle claims for injury to natural resources
- \$2.1M cash out settlement – funds to be used towards habitat restoration

NRD RESTORATION

- **Restoration Planning** – issued 2 solicitations for project ideas for Gloucester Manufactured Gas Plant and Ocean King NRD settlements. Currently evaluating projects.
- **Restoration Design** - 10 active grants for design and permitting for habitat restoration projects using NRD settlement funds.
- **Restoration Implementation** - Kirvin Park Floodplain and Wetland Restoration (Pittsfield)



Gloucester Public Meeting (USFWS)



Kirvin Park, Floodplain and Wetland Restoration (Pittsfield)



Waste Site Cleanup Data Portal Demo



MassDEP

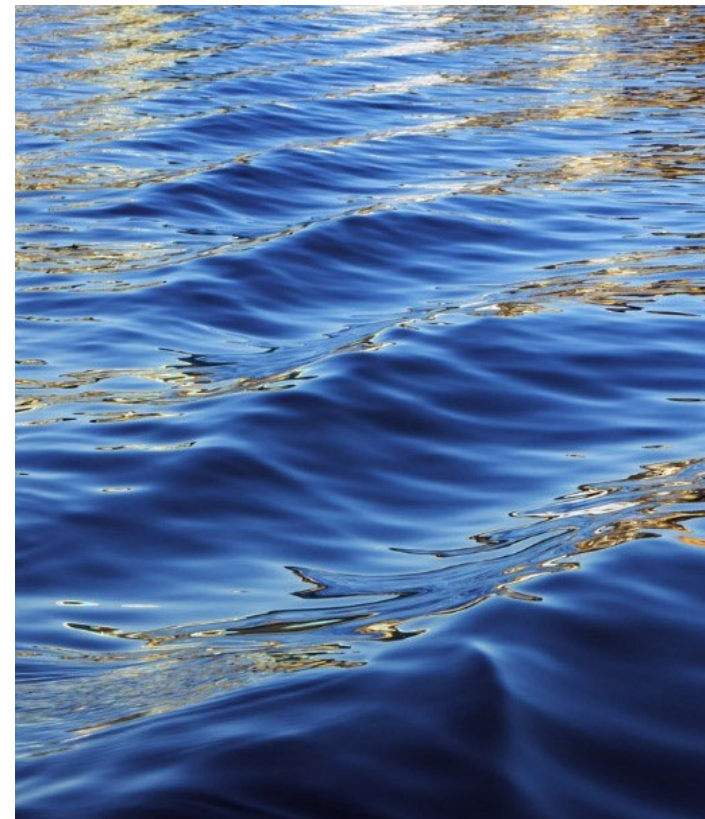
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Environmental Protection

Shannon Smith, Director of Enterprise Information
Matthew Cogliano, BWSC Information Technology
MassDEP



BWSC Advisory Meeting

Enterprise Information Office
May 2025





Massachusetts Department of
Environmental Protection

Agenda



INTRODUCTIONS



BWSC DATA PORTAL
UPDATE DEMO



TOOLS FEEDBACK



Who We Are

Massachusetts Department of
Environmental Protection

Shannon Smith,
Director
Enterprise Information
Office

Seldron Geziben,
Deputy Director
Enterprise Information
Office

Matthew Cogliano,
BWSC Information
Technology &
Purchasing



Massachusetts Department of
Environmental Protection

What is Enterprise Information Office?



GIS

Build mapping tools



Software & Data Solutions

Lead application development and environmental data reporting



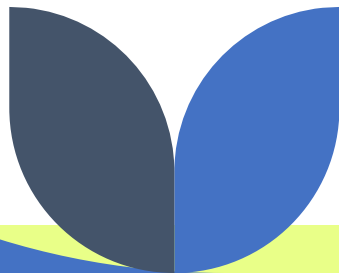
IT Coordination

Liaison with state-level IT agencies
(Energy & Environmental Affairs –
EEA, Executive Office Technology
Services & Security - EOTSS)



Online Services

Develop online permitting, reporting,
and data portals





BWSC Data Portal Demo


Matt Cogliano



WSC Data Portal Updates

Massachusetts Department of
Environmental Protection

- ✓ **Permanently** resolved Regulatory Status becoming null at random times
- ✓ **2 Minute daily** refresh time (was 4-12 hours!)
- ✓ **New Search Fields**

 **Energy & Environmental Affairs
Data Portal**

HOME DASHBOARD SEARCH DATA ▼ HELP ▼

Waste Site & Reportable Releases Results

[VIEW MAP](#) Displaying 136 Mapped Points out of 153 listed RTN's

Search Criteria Town Name: ACTON

Sel...	RTN	CITY/TOWN	RELEASE ADD...	ZIP ...	SITE NAME LOCATIO...	REPO...	NOTIFICATI...	REGULATOR...	REGU...	PHASE	RAO C...	CH
<input type="checkbox"/>	2-0050245	ACTON	NEAR MAIN ST	01720	321 MAIN STREET; OC...	TWO HR	05/28/2024	PSNC	07/30...		PN	Oil
<input type="checkbox"/>	2-0050088	ACTON	533 MAIN STREET	01720	533 MAIN ST.; ETCR, IN...	72 HR	04/18/2024	RTNCLOSED	03/03...			Oil
<input type="checkbox"/>	2-0022560	ACTON	139 PROSPECT ...		ROADWAY RELEASE	TWO HR	02/21/2024	PSNC	04/22...		PN	Oil
<input type="checkbox"/>	2-0022456	ACTON	53 RIVER STREET	01720	MILL SITE	120 DY	10/02/2023	TIERII	10/02/...			Oil
<input type="checkbox"/>	2-0022435	ACTON	FRONT OF 85 H...		MODF RELEASE	TWO HR	09/09/2023	PSNC	11/07/...		PN	Oil
<input type="checkbox"/>	2-0022434	ACTON	FRONT OF 502 ...		MODF RELEASE	TWO HR	09/08/2023	PSNC	11/07/...		PN	Oil
<input type="checkbox"/>	2-0022209	ACTON	50 QUARRY RD		ROADWAY	TWO HR	01/30/2023	PSNC	03/28...		PN	Oil
<input type="checkbox"/>	2-0022076	ACTON	FRONT OF 385 ...		ROADWAY RELEASE	TWO HR	09/14/2022	PSNC	11/11/2...		PN	Oil
<input type="checkbox"/>	2-0021979	ACTON	5 NAGOG PARK	01720	NAGOG PARK	72 HR	06/16/2022	RTNCLOSED	01/21/...			Oil



Tools Feedback



Massachusetts Department of
Environmental Protection

BWSC Data Portal

Can you find the data you need?

What's easy?

What's confusing?

Energy & Environmental Affairs
Data Portal

HOME DASHBOARD SEARCH DATA ▼ HELP ▼

Search for Waste Site & Reportable Releases

Site Type ⓘ
Select Site Type ▼

City/Town ⓘ
Select City/Town ▼

Release Tracking Number ⓘ
Select Release Tracking Number

Zip Code ⓘ
Select Zip Code ▼

Chemical ⓘ
Select Chemical Name

Address ⓘ
Select Address

Site Name ⓘ
Select Site Name

Licensed Site Professional ⓘ
Select Licensed Site Professional ▼

Regulatory Status ⓘ
Select Regulatory Status ▼

◀ PREVIOUS CLEAR

SEARCH

Please contact BWSC.eDEP@mass.gov with questions.
Data is updated once a day

[BWSC Data Portal](#)




Waste Site File Viewer

Massachusetts Department of
Environmental Protection

Is it helpful?

What additional search fields
do you wish it had?

Mass.gov | Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) [LE](#)

 **Energy & Environmental Affairs**
Waste Site/Reportable Release File Viewer

Region
All ▾

RTN
All ▾

Submit Date
6/28/2004 5/15/2025

Transaction ID
All ▾

Form Name

- ☐ BWSC Amended Log Form (BEAR Form)
- ☐ BWSC Document Upload Form (BEAR Form)
- ☐ BWSC Inspection / Meeting Form (BEAR Form)
- ☐ BWSC IRA Approval Form (BEAR Form)
- ☐ BWSC Log Form (BEAR Form)
- ☐ BWSC101 Release Log Form (Discontinued Form)
- ☐ BWSC102 Release Amendment Form (Discontinued Form)
- ☐ BWSC103 Release Notification & Retraction Form (eDEP Form)
- ☐ BWSC103 Release Notification Form for 120 Day Reporting (eDEP Form)
- ☐ BWSC104 Permanent And Temporary Solution Statement (eDEP Form)
- ☐ BWSC105 Immediate Response Action Transmittal Form (eDEP Form)
- ☐ BWSC106 Release Abatement Measure Transmittal Form (eDEP Form)
- ☐ BWSC107 Tier Classification Transmittal Form (eDEP Form)
- ☐ BWSC108 Comp. Res. Action Transmittal Form & Phase I (eDEP Form)
- ☐ BWSC109 Tier I Minor Permit Mod. Transmittal Form (eDEP Form)
- ☐ BWSC111 Audit Plan & Post-Audit Completion Statement (eDEP Form)

Search **Clear**

Please contact BWSC.eDEP@mass.gov with questions.

Last Refresh: 5/15/2025 11:06:51 PM

[Waste Site / Reportable Release File Viewer](#)




eDEP

Massachusetts Department of
Environmental Protection

What feature do you love?

What problems have you had?



MassDEP's Online Filing System

[MassDEP Home](#) | [Contact](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)

Username:MADEP_TEST
Nickname: DEP_TEST

LOG OFF

[My eDEP Forms](#) | [My Profile](#) | [Help](#) | [Notifications](#)

Cleanup of Sites & Spills

Instructions:

Find the form you want to complete below. Then click the button to the far right of the form name in the same row.

Form Name	Description	Instructions
Cleanup of Sites & Spills		
BWSC103 Release Notification & Retraction Form	Used by an RP, PRP or Other Person to provide written notification of a release or threat of release of oil and/or hazardous materials. See 310 CMR 40.0335 and 40.0371 for more information.	Instructions Start Transaction
BWSC103 Release Notification Form for120 Day Reporting	BWSC103 Release Notification Form for120 Day Reporting	Instructions Start Transaction
BWSC104 Permanent And Temporary Solution Statement	Used by an RP, PRP or Other Person to document the outcomes of actions taken in response to a release or threat of release of oil/hazardous materials. See 310 CMR 40.1000 for more information.	Instructions Start Transaction
BWSC105 Immediate Response Action Transmittal Form	Used by an RP, PRP or Other Person to document assessment and/or remedial actions that are required to respond to a time-critical release, threat of release and/or site conditions. See the 310 CMR 40.0424-0427 for more information.	Instructions Start Transaction
BWSC106 Release Abatement Measure Transmittal Form	Used by an RP, PRP or Other Person to document risk reduction measures of limited scope and complexity. See 310 CMR 40.0444-0446 for more information.	Instructions Start Transaction



Thank you!

Contact Us:

Shannon Smith:

Shannon.smith4@mass.gov

Seldron Geziben

Seldron.D.Gezipen@mass.gov

Matthew Cogliano

matthew.cogliano@mass.gov



Licensed Site Professional Board Report Out



MassDEP

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Environmental Protection

Terry Wood, Executive Director
MA Licensed Site Professional Board (LSPB)

Licensed Site Professional Association Report Out



Joe Roman, LSPA Board of Directors
MA Licensed Site Professional Association (LSPA)



assess.
advise.
restore.

LSPA Update

MassDEP BWSC Advisory Committee
May 22, 2025

LSPA Leadership Updates



Mariellen Morris
LSPA Executive Director



Wendy Rundle
Outgoing LSPA
Executive Director



Katherine Kudzma, LSP
Director, Site Investigation
& Remediation, VHB
Incoming LSPA President

LSPA Continues Environmental Justice (EJ) Grant Program

- ▶ Supports and celebrates environmental and natural resource projects in EJ populations in Massachusetts.
- ▶ Distribute a total of \$5,000 in 2025 to one or more grantees serving EJ populations in Massachusetts.
- ▶ Applications due to the LSPA **by July 1, 2025**; grant awards announced **by August 31, 2025**.
- ▶ Visit www.lspa.org for more information, details, and grant guidelines.
- ▶ **Questions?** Contact us at EJGrant@lspa.org.

LSPA September 2025 Kick-Off Meeting

September 17, 2025 | Westborough, MA

Featured Speakers:



Millie Garcia-Serrano
MassDEP BWSC
Assistant Commissioner



John Beling
MassDEP
Deputy Commissioner

LSPA Fall Programming

- Ideas for speakers and topics for fall programming are welcome!
- Email Mariellen Morris,
LSPA Executive Director,
mmorriss@lspa.org.

ORS Updates



MassDEP

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Environmental Protection

Greg Braun, Chief, Risk Analysis Division
MassDEP | Office of Research and Standards

Dioxin Toxic Equivalency Factors (TEFs)



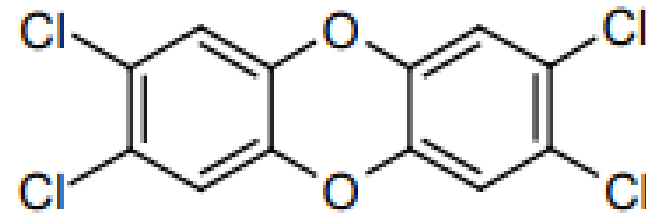
MassDEP

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Environmental Protection

Greg Braun, Chief, Risk Analysis Division
MassDEP | Office of Research and Standards

Dioxin TEFs

- Late 2024: materials on MassDEP website needed updating
- TEFs are based on toxicity relative to 2,3,7,8-TCDD
- Discussions with toxicologist about which TEFs to use
 - 1998 TEFs
 - 2005 WHO TEFs (VanDen Berg et al., 2006)
 - 2022 WHO TEFs (DeVito et al., 2024)
 - Other approaches
- Analytical issues



2,3,7,8-TCDD



Dioxin – Analytical

- USEPA Method 8290A:
 - Quantifies 7 of the 75 potential dioxin congeners
 - Also reports total values for the 4-, 5-, 6-, and 7-chlorinated homologs
- Early applications of the dioxin TEFs (circa 1990s) relatively small TEF were included for these “Total homologs” to account for the uncertainty
- ORS had discussions with dioxin researchers about how to address the homologs reported in Method 8290A



Dioxin – Analytical

- The 4-, 5-, 6-, and 7-chlorinated homologs:
 - Are less commonly detected
 - Do not appear to bioaccumulate
 - Do not appear to activate transcription via the aryl hydrocarbon receptor (AhR)
 - Have insufficient data to appraise their potential toxicity
- ORS is unaware of any guidance or recommendation as to what risk, if any, these additional “Total homolog” data may pose



Dioxin TEFs

- ORS has concluded the 2005 Dioxin TEFs are the most appropriate TEFs to use at this time
- ORS is unaware of any other state regulatory agency that does not use the 2005 WHO dioxin TEFs
- An April 17, 2025 memo recommending the use of the 2005 WHO TEFs (Van den Berg et al., 2006): <https://www.mass.gov/doc/dioxin-toxicity-equivalency-factors-final-policy-memo-april-17-2025>
- ORS recommends reporting any total homolog data reported in Method 8290A but not including those values in the TEF calculation



PFAS in Septic Systems



MassDEP

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Environmental Protection

Greg Braun, Chief, Risk Analysis Division
MassDEP | Office of Research and Standards

Published studies assessing septic PFAS signatures

1. Cape Cod - Septic system as sources PFAS in drinking water wells (2016)
2. Wisconsin - Statewide survey of private wells with information on potential sources (2023)
3. New York - Community assessment of septic and wastewater signatures in groundwater (2024)
4. Ohio - Composite grab samples of septic pump outs (2025)
5. New Hampshire - Wastewater sampling from a residential community septic system (2023 – ongoing)



Cape Cod Study (Schaider, et al., 2016)

- Twenty houses with septic systems were selected for the study
- Analyzed for five PFAS:
 - PFBS, PFHxS, PFHxA, PFOS & PFHpA,
- PFAS detected 55% of wells
- Acesulfame is a sensitive marker of wastewater compounds in groundwater
- Septic systems are a likely PFAS source



Wisconsin Study (Silver, et al., 2023)

- 450 shallow (i.e., <40 ft.) private wells sampled for PFAS
- 71% of samples had at least one PFAS
- PFOA & PFBA most common (45%, 46%)
- “Effluent discharged from septic systems likely a major source of PFAS in groundwater.”
- Insufficient information to derive a “septic” signature
- ~30% of wells have acesulfame detections suggesting a wastewater contribution.



New York Study (Raup, et al., 2024)

- Community assessment of PFAS groundwater signature
- Consumer product use and discharge to septic systems in a densely developed residential area resulted in the widespread presence of PFAS in water supply wells
- Pumping of PFAS-impacted groundwater from water supply wells and discharge to shallow septic systems results in vertical mixing/homogenization of the PFAS signatures throughout the area
- Authors emphasize the presence of septic tracer compounds as a line of evidence for septic system contributions



Ohio Study (Penrose, et al., 2025)

- 32 composite grab samples collected from septic pump out hauler trucks during discharge at Cincinnati WWTP
- Analyzed solids for PFAS using Method 537 and Total Oxidizable Precursor (TOP) Assay
- Post TOP assay median [PFAS] roughly 8-fold greater than median [PFAS] with Method 537
- Septage likely contains significant concentrations of PFAS precursors
- Notable finding of dialkyl perfluoroalkyl phosphates (diPAPs), frequently used in consumer products & known to degrade to terminal PFAS



New Hampshire Study - NHDES in progress

- Wastewater sampled from a 24-unit community septic system
- Monthly grab samples of wastewater effluent collected between Jan 2023 – Oct 2024
- Effluent flows to three separate settling tanks
- PFAS signature from the 3 tanks significantly different
- Preliminary data from 12/24 had mean PFOA = 90.2 ng/L



Conclusions

- Septic systems are potential sources of PFAS to groundwater
- Septage likely contains significant concentrations of PFAS precursors
- Septic tracer compounds (e.g., acesulfame) detected in groundwater may indicate a septic or wastewater contribution
- This is an active area of research with multiple unresolved questions



References

- Harfmann Jennifer, Presence of PFAS in Domestic Wastewater and Potential Sources, NEWMOA Webinar, December 11, 2024
- Penrose, M. et al., Elevated PFAS Precursors in Septage and Residential Pump Stations *Environ. Sci. Technol. letters* 2025, v.12:4
- Schaider L.A., Ackerman J.M. and Rudel R.A., Septic systems as sources of organic wastewater compounds in domestic drinking water wells in a shallow sand and gravel aquifer, *Science of the Total Environment* 547 (2016) 470–481
- Raup, et al., A Conceptual Site Model for Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substance Water Supply Impacts in a Residential Community, *Remediation Journal* 2024, v.35:1
- Silver, et al., Prevalence and Source Tracing of PFAS in Shallow Groundwater Used for Drinking Water in Wisconsin, USA *Environ. Sci. Technol.* 2023, 57, 17415–17426



Risk Characterization Guidance



MassDEP

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Environmental Protection

Greg Braun, Chief, Risk Analysis Division
MassDEP | Office of Research and Standards

Risk Characterization Guidance

- Total of 17 chapters
- Received comments on the first 10 chapters up to Method 2 risk
- Chapter 11 (Method 3 risk) under internal review
- Chapters 12, 13 & 17 are ready for internal review
- Chapters 14 -17 cover ecological risk
- Multiple appendices across 17 chapters



Risk Characterization Guidance

- Environmental Risk Characterization: Chapters 14 -17
 - Ch.14: General Considerations
 - Nearly ready for internal review
 - Ch. 15 Aquatic Environmental Risk Characterization
 - Under development
 - Ch. 16 Terrestrial Environmental Risk Characterization
 - Nearly ready for internal review
 - Ch. 17 Wetland Environmental Risk Characterization
 - Ready for internal review



PFAS Updates



MassDEP

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Environmental Protection

John Ziegler, LSP
PFAS Coordinator

MassDEP | Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup

John.Ziegler@mass.gov, 617-874-6733

BWSC's Approach to PFAS in Private Wells and Public Water Systems

• Private Wells

- Regulated by local Boards of Health
- PFAS sampling not required by MassDEP (Board of Health bylaw *may* require sampling)
- Sampling may require notification under the MCP
- MCL does not apply but MCP GW-1 standard does

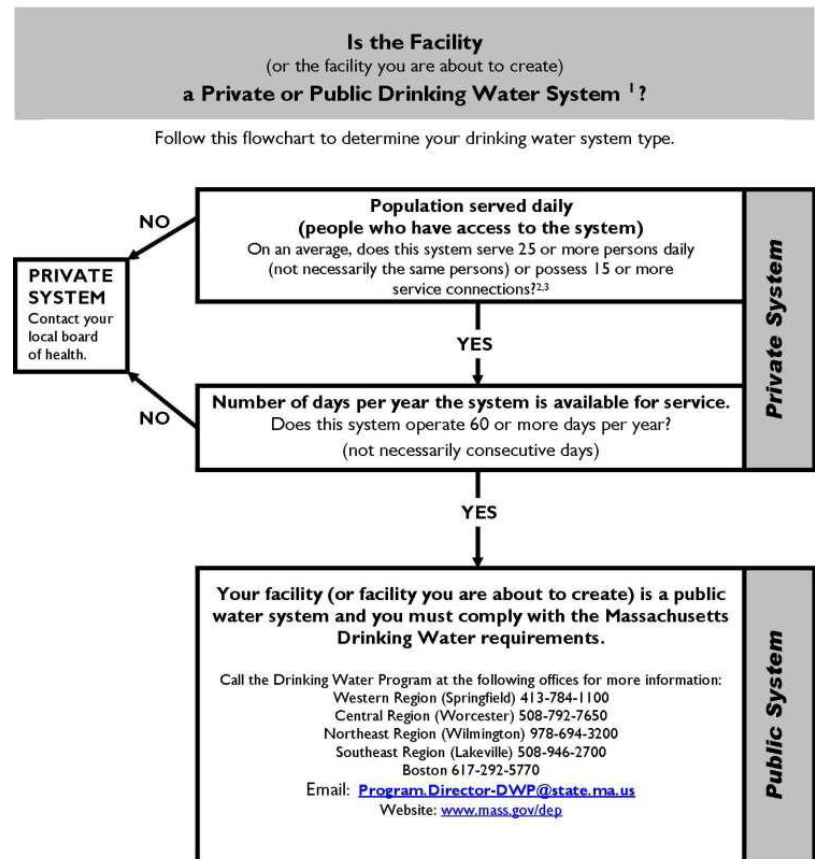
• Public Water Systems (based on population served & number of days)

- Regulated by MassDEP's DWP
 - COM (e.g., large Town systems)
 - NTNC (e.g., workplace)
 - TNC (e.g., restaurant, motel, campground, park)
- Sampling for PFAS required by MassDEP
- Exempt from MCP notification requirements
- MCL applies (except TNCs – may require individual health risk assessment)



Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Drinking Water Program

Rev. October 2018



BWSC's Approach to PFAS in Private Wells

- **Receive Notification**

- 2-Hour (≥ 20 ppt)
 - MassDEP/UMass Private Well Sampling Program 2020 - 2022
 - Homeowner
 - Board of Health/informs homeowner
- 72-Hour (GW > 20 ppt w/in 500 feet)
 - Landfill sampling

- **Mitigate Imminent Hazards - ≥ 90 ppt (no RP/PRP)**

- Provide Bottled Water and install POET system
- Sample surrounding private wells to discover IH conditions
- MassDEP has installed 60 POET systems and provides bottled water at additional 32 sites

- **Conduct Source Discovery**

- Desktop review of potential sources
- Requests for Information to potential source properties
- Sampling



BWSC's Approach to PFAS in Public Water Systems

- **Receive Notification**

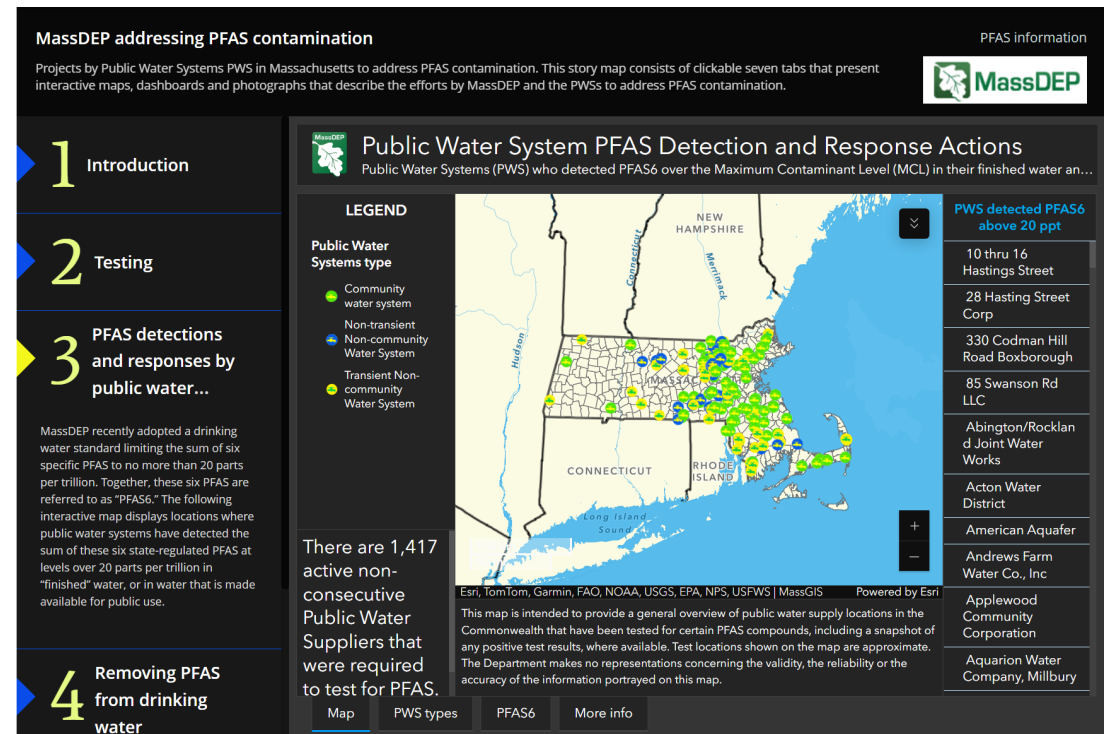
- Referral to BWSC from DWP for PWS > 20 ppt PFAS6
- Exempt from MCP notification; reporting to MassDEP's DWP

- **MassDEP's DWP assists PWS with necessary treatment**

- Technical assistance
- Zero Percent Interest Loans
- Grants

- **Conduct Source Discovery**

- Desktop review of potential sources
- Requests for Information to potential source properties
- Sampling



Private Wells and Public Water Systems with PFAS

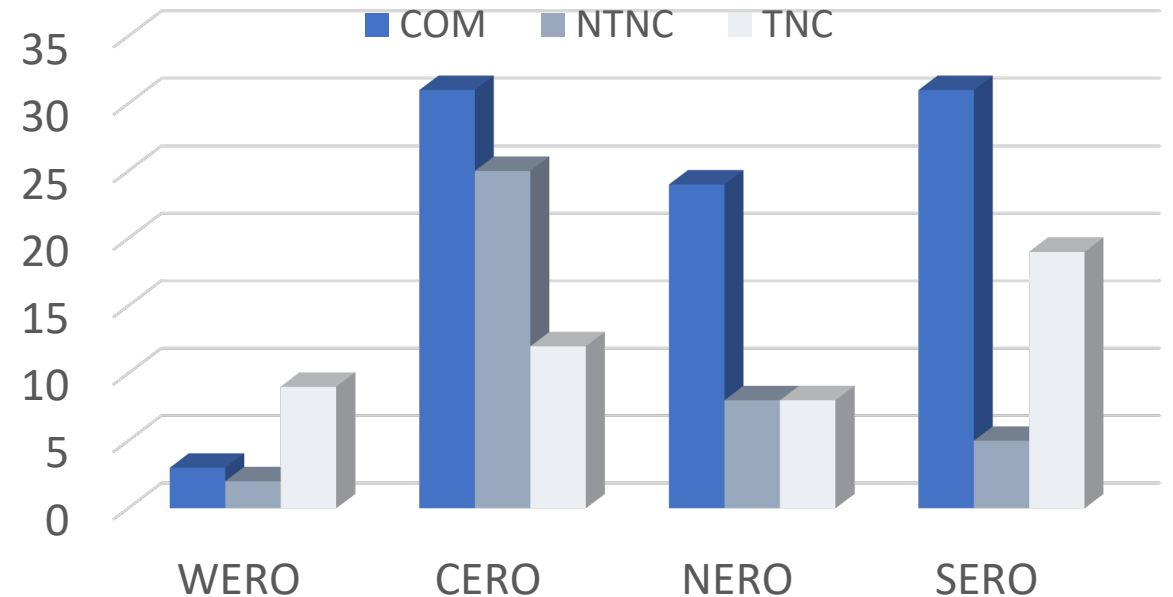
- **Private Wells**

- Estimated 200,000 private wells
- 6% of private wells exceed drinking water standard of 20 ppt and 1% exceed IH concentration of 90 ppt (MassDEP/UMass Study, 2023)

- **Public Water Systems**

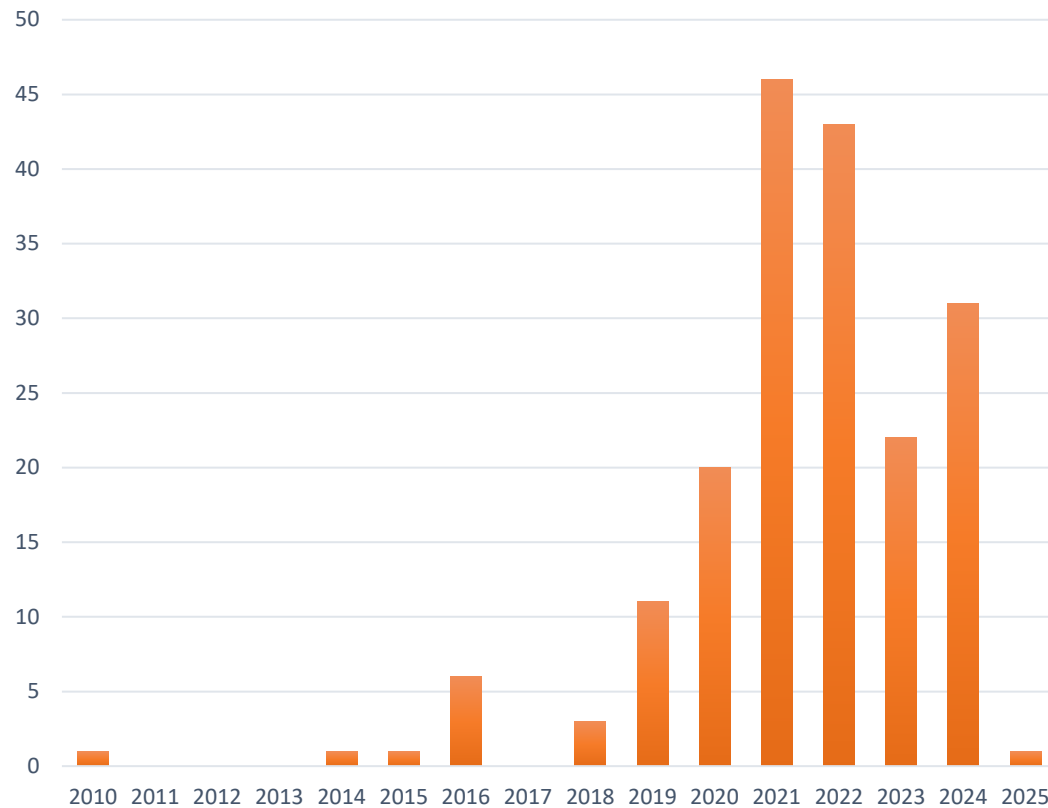
- Currently there are 1,557 active PWS in the state of which 1,418 were required to test for PFAS (have their own water source).
- **177 PWS (approx. 12%) detected PFAS above the MCL in one or more of their sources.**
- PWS PFAS testing results are available to the public on the web in the [EEA data portal](#). Search under the chemical name: “PFAS6” or to see all the PFAS chemicals, search under the contaminant group “PFAS”.
- 53 Projects received 0 percent interest loans for projects totaling \$530+ M
- 74 Towns awarded grants totaling \$45.1 M

Public Water Systems > 20 ppt

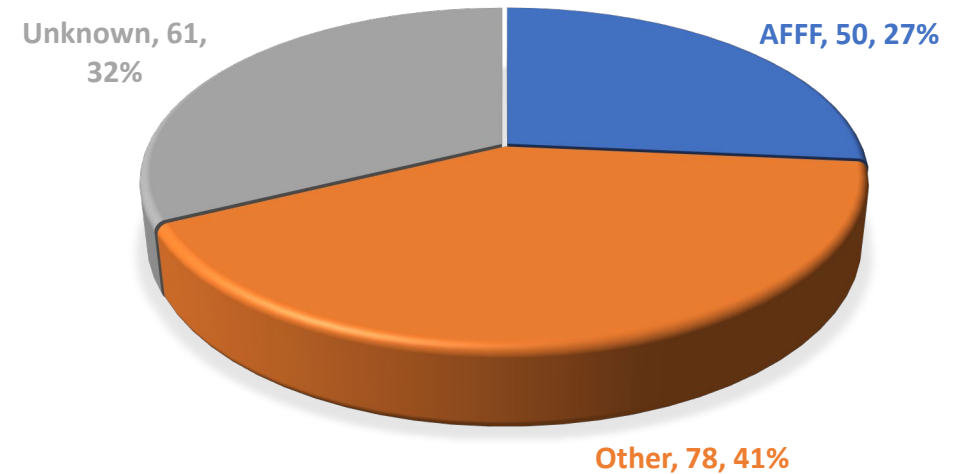


PFAS MCP Notifications Through April 30, 2025

PFAS MCP NOTIFICATIONS BY YEAR



SOURCE OF PFAS AT SITES



Engineered Barriers and Financial Assurance Mechanisms (310 CMR 40.0998)



MassDEP

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Environmental Protection

Millie Garcia-Serrano, Brian Roden
MassDEP | Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup
Eric Fahle, Erica Judd
MassDEP | Bureau of Administrative Services

EBs & FAMs: *Current State of Affairs and Proposed Path Forward*

BWSC is looking to:

- Clarify and update BWSC's *Guidance on the Use, Design, Construction and Monitoring of Engineered Barriers* (Public Comment Draft, 11/2002)
- Promote correct and consistent application of relevant regulatory requirements and provisions
- Clarify and centralize EB FAM review
- Bring additional information and some proposals to the next WSC AC meeting (8/21/25)



What is an Engineered Barrier?

310 CMR 40.0006(12) – Engineered Barrier means a permanent cap with or without a liner that is designed, constructed and maintained in accordance with the requirements of **310 CMR 40.0998** and 310 CMR 40.0000



Prior to Implementing an Engineered Barrier?

- An Engineered Barrier shall be limited to disposal sites where there are no other feasible alternative as documented in a Phase III (310 CMR 40.0859(4))
- An evaluation of the feasibility of reducing the concentrations of OHM in soil to levels at or below the Method 3 Ceiling Limit shall be conducted before implementing an Engineered Barrier (310 CMR 40.0860(4))



When is an Engineered Barrier Required?

310 CMR 40.0996(6) For a disposal site at which the concentrations of one or more OHM in soil exceeds a M3CL, a level of NSR of harm to public welfare and to the environment exists or has been achieved for both current and future conditions if a finding of NSR of harm to public welfare and the environment has been made pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0994 and 40.0995, respectively, an AUL is implemented as required in 310 CMR 40.1012(2) and the soil with concentrations exceeding a M3CL:

- (a) has been permanently immobilized or fixated as part of a remedial action;
- (b) is located at a depth greater than 15 feet from the ground surface; or
- (c) is located beneath an Engineered Barrier implemented pursuant to the requirements at 310 CMR 40.0998**



An Engineered Barrier shall....

- Prevent direct contact with contaminated media
- Control vapors or dust emanating from contaminated media
- Prevent erosion and infiltration of precipitation of run that could jeopardize integrity
- Be comprised of materials resistant to degradation
- Be consistent with technical standards of RCRA Subpart N, 40 CFR 264.300, 310 CMR 30.600
- Include defining layer that visually identified barrier
- Be appropriately monitored and maintained with a plan including a **FAM**
- Not include an existing building, structure or cover material unless it is designed and constructed to serve as an engineered barrier pursuant to the requirements of 310 CMR 40.0998.



BWSC 104 Transmittal Form



Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup

PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY SOLUTION STATEMENT

Pursuant to 310 CMR 40.1000 (Subpart J)

BWSC 104

Release Tracking Number

	-	
--	---	--

For sites with multiple RTNs, enter the Primary RTN above.

C. DESCRIPTION OF RESPONSE ACTIONS: (check all that apply; for volumes, list cumulative amounts)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Assessment and/or Monitoring Only | <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Temporary Covers or Caps |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Deployment of Absorbent or Containment Materials | <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Treatment of Water Supplies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Structure Venting System/HVAC Modification System | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6. Engineered Barrier |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7. Product or NAPL Recovery | <input type="checkbox"/> 8. Fencing and Sign Posting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 9. Groundwater Treatment Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> 10. Soil Vapor Extraction |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 11. Remedial Additives | <input type="checkbox"/> 12. Air Sparging |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13. Active Exposure Pathway Mitigation Measure(AEPM) System | <input type="checkbox"/> 14. Passive Exposure Pathway Mitigation Measure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> i. AEPM to address vapor intrusion | <input type="checkbox"/> ii. AEPM to address drinking water exposure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15. Monitored Natural Attenuation | <input type="checkbox"/> 16. In-Situ Chemical Oxidation |



Example 1 – BWSC104 Indicates Engineered Barrier

- Method 1 Risk Characterization
- No OHM in soil above M3CLs or Method 1 S-3 Standards
- A condition of NSR does not exist for human health due to EPC for lead above Method 1 S-1 Standards
- AUL used to eliminate residential use, and maintain Protective Cover
- “The Engineered Barrier consists of pre-existing asphalt pavement, pre-existing concrete pavement, and the concrete foundation and lower level floor of the existing Site building, plus newly installed asphalt pavement to permanently cover former unpaved areas outside of the building”

**Not an
Engineered
Barrier**



Example 2 – BWSC104 Indicates Engineered Barrier

- Concentrations of lead detected in soil above M3CL
- AUL filed for RTN **Is an Engineered Barrier**
 - eliminates future use of property for residence, school or daycare
 - Requires the Engineered Barrier to be maintained in accordance with the Engineered Barrier Post-Construction Monitoring and Maintenance Plan
 - Requires Financial Assurance Mechanism for long-term monitoring and maintenance of the Engineered Barrier



MassDEP Bureau of Administrative Services, Fiscal Group - Financial Assurance Section

- The Financial Assurance Section of the Fiscal Group reviews, maintains and administers Financial Assurance Mechanisms (FAMs) for:
 - Solid Waste Facilities
 - Decommissioning of Solar Arrays at Solid Waste Facilities
 - RCRA Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities
 - Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup (BWSC) Sites
- BWSC FAMs Points of Contact
 - Eric Fahle, Financial Assurance Specialist (eric.fahle@mass.gov)
 - Erica Judd, Financial Assurance Analyst (erica.judd@mass.gov)



Goals of the BAS/BWSC Collaborative Effort

- Assist BWSC with their review of sites with an Engineered Barrier which require a FAM
- Provide guidance on the establishment of BWSC FAMs
- Review BWSC FAMs to ensure compliance with the applicable regulations and provisions
- Provide ongoing administration of BWSC FAMs
- Provide more feedback at future BWSC AC meetings



Q&A



MassDEP

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Environmental Protection

Millie Garcia-Serrano, MPH, Assistant Commissioner
MassDEP | Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup

Appreciation Awards



MassDEP

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Environmental Protection

Commissioner Bonnie Heiple
Assistant Commissioner Millie Garcia-Serrano
MassDEP

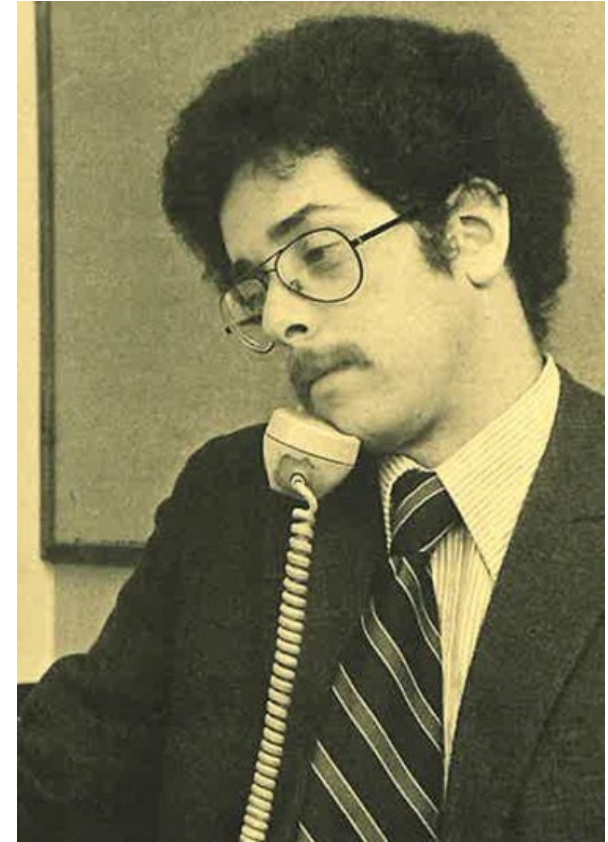
Wendy Rundle

LSPA Executive Director (2010-2025)




Larry Feldman, Ph.D.

Advisory Committee Member (1993-2024)




Next WSC Meetings & Wrap Up


- Office Hours Meeting: **6/26/25** (*Virtual*)
- WSC Advisory Committee Meeting: **8/21/25** (*Virtual*)

 **Mass.gov**

Search Mass.gov


SEARCH 

[Home](#) > [MassDEP](#) > [Meetings & events](#)

 OFFERED BY [Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection](#)

Waste Site Cleanup Advisory Committee & Office Hours Meetings

Meetings to discuss waste site cleanup regulations, policies and programs.



The Waste Site Cleanup Advisory Committee meets quarterly and provides input to MassDEP on waste site cleanup regulations, policies and programs. Monthly BWSC office hours are an opportunity to meet with the Assistant Commissioner to raise questions, issues and concerns. All are welcome to attend and participate. Meetings are recorded and may be viewed later.



Thank you from your BWSC Team!

