

YEARLY OPERATIONAL PLAN (“YOP”) PROCESS STEP BY STEP PURSUANT TO 333 CMR 11.00

VMPs and YOPs Found At: [Rights of Way Vegetation Management – VMPs, YOPs, and Notices | Mass.gov](#)

1. YOP submitted via email or direct mail by the applicant (“Applicant”) to the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (“MDAR”) Rights-of-Way (“ROW”) Coordinator (“ROW Coordinator”).
2. Applicant sends notice of submission is provided to the local board of health, Conservation Commission, Chief Elected Official, MWRA (where applicable) and DCR (where applicable).
3. ROW Coordinator gives preliminary reviews to ensure that all the elements required by 333 CMR 11.00 and other applicable laws are incorporated into the YOP.
4. ROW Coordinator reviews YOP to ensure it is consistent with the VMP and applicable laws. If changes are needed, the ROW Coordinator works with the Applicant to ensure the changes are made.
5. ROW Coordinator posts a notice of submission and 45-day public comment period in Environmental Monitor and to interested parties.

Description of the Environmental Monitor: [The Environmental Monitor | Mass.gov](#) and [MEPA Environmental Monitor \(state.ma.us\)](#)

6. ROW Coordinator, and other MDAR staff as necessary, review the YOP and public comments to make a recommendation to the Commissioner of MDAR.
7. Notification of the decision is sent to the Applicant.

Definitions pursuant to 333 CMR 11.02

Applicant is any person representing any federal, state, or local government or agency, utility, railroad or pipeline that intends to maintain a right -of-way in the commonwealth by application of herbicides.

Rights- of- way (ROW) is any roadway or thoroughfare on which public passage is made and may corridor of land over which facilities such as railroads, power lines, pipelines, conduits, channels or communication lines or bicycle paths are located.