



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
Department of Agricultural Resources
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Governor

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Lieutenant Governor

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Acting Commissioner

NOTICE

PUBLIC HEARINGS: 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 Food and Agriculture 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 community is advised that the **Town of Franklin** proposes to utilize herbicides to treat their Rights-of-Way.

PUBLIC HEARINGS SCHEDULED:

In accordance with 333 CMR 11.05 the Department of Food and Agriculture will conduct a regional hearing to receive public comment on the proposed Vegetation Management Plan for the Town of Franklin, as submitted by: Mr. Kenneth M Torosian, Town of Franklin Insect Pest Superintendent.

To provide all interested parties an opportunity to comment on the proposed VMP, a public hearing will be held at the following location:

Thursday, April 12, 2007 from 10:30am until 12:30pm

Conference Room 106, Franklin Town Hall, 150 Emmons Street, Franklin, Massachusetts

Plans 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:

Mr. Kenneth M, Torosian, Insect Pest Superintendent

**Franklin Department of Public Works
150 Emmons Street
Franklin, Massachusetts 02038**

Copies of the proposed VMP are also available for review at the Massachusetts Department of Food and Agriculture, Pesticide Bureau, during regular business hours. It is also available for review at the Reference Desk of the following public library:

Franklin Public Library, 118 Main Street, Franklin, Massachusetts

Written Comments Requested

The public hearings 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. The Department will accept written testimony concerning the Town of Franklin VMP until the close of business: Friday, May 4, 2007.

Commentary should be sent to:

**Rights-of -Way Program
Massachusetts Department of Food and Agriculture
251 Causeway Street, Suite 500
Boston, Massachusetts 02114-2151**