



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
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Water Management Act (MGL c 21G) 20-Year Permit Renewal  
Ipswich River and North Coastal Watersheds

Under MGL c 21 G, The Massachusetts Water Management Act, the Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) issues permits to anyone who withdrawals 100,000 gallons per day or more for any period of three consecutive months or more. Water Management Permits are issued on a 20-year cycle for each of the 27 major watersheds in Massachusetts. All permits in a watershed expire on the same date.

The initial 20-year permit cycle in the Ipswich River and North Coastal watersheds will expire on August 31, 2009. Permittees can apply to renew their Water Management permits between 120 and 90 days before the permits expire. The withdrawal volumes listed below are those requested in the permit renewal application. In cases where permittees will need more water during the next 20 years than is authorized in their expiring permit, they will need to apply for a new permit for the additional water prior to increasing their withdrawals.

The Department has received permit renewal applications from the following permit holders in the Ipswich River watershed:

**Danvers Water Department, Permit 9P-3-17-071.01**

- Registered for historic withdrawals (1981-1985) of 3.14 mgd from the Ipswich watershed
- Permit Renewal requested for withdrawal of up to 0.74 mgd (expiring permit = 0.58 mgd)

**Hamilton Water Department, Permit 9P-3-17-119.01**

- Registered for historic withdrawals (1981-1985) of 0.92 mgd from the Ipswich watershed
- Permit Renewal requested for withdrawal of up to 0.11 mgd (expiring permit = 0.11 mgd)

**Lynnfield Center Water District, Permit 9P2-3-17-164.01**

- Registered for historic withdrawals (1981-1985) of 0.29 mgd from the Ipswich watershed
- Registered for historic withdrawals (1981-1985) of 0.32 from the North Coastal watershed
- Permit Renewal requested to continue to withdraw registered volumes from Glen Drive Wells 1-4 which were constructed after 1985, no withdrawal volumes above the registered withdrawal are permitted

**Salem-Beverly Water Supply Board, Permit 9P-3-17-258.01**

- Registered for historic withdrawals (1981-1985) of 10.17 mgd from the Ipswich watershed
- Permit Renewal requested for withdrawal of up to 2.27 mgd (expiring permit = 2.27 mgd)

**Thomson Country Club, Permit 9P2-3-17-213.01**

- Registered for historic withdrawals (1981-1985) of 0.15 mgd from the Ipswich watershed during the irrigation season
- Permit Renewal requested to continue to withdraw registered volumes from Sutcliff Well which was constructed after 1985, no withdrawal volumes above the registered withdrawal are permitted

**Topsfield Water Department, Permit 9P-3-17-298.01**

- Registered for historic withdrawals (1981-1985) of 0.43 mgd from the Ipswich watershed

- Permit Renewal requested for withdrawal of up to 0.17 mgd (expiring permit = 0.17 mgd)
- Wenham Water Department**, Permit 9P2-3-17-320.01
- Registered for historic withdrawals (1981-1985) of 0.29 mgd from the Ipswich watershed
  - Permit Renewal requested for withdrawal of up to 0.21 mgd (expiring permit = 0.10 mgd)

The Department has received permit renewal applications from the following permit holders in the North Coastal watershed:

**Bass Rocks Golf Club**, Permit 9P2-3-18-107.01

- Permit Renewal requested for withdrawal of up to 0.08 mgd during the irrigation season (expiring permit = 0.08 mgd)

**Eastman Gelatine Corporation**, Permit 9P-3-18-229.02

- Registered for historic withdrawals (1981-1985) of 2.73 mgd from the North Coastal watershed
- Permit Renewal requested for withdrawal of up to 0.60 mgd (expiring permit = 0.60 mgd)

**Gloucester Department of Public Works**, Permit 9P-3-18-107.01

- Registered for historic withdrawals (1981-1985) of 3.38 mgd from the North Coastal watershed
- Permit Renewal requested for withdrawal of up to 0.37 mgd (expiring permit = 0.37 mgd)

**Kernwood Country Club**, Permit 9P2-3-18-258.01

- Registered for historic withdrawals (1981-1985) of 0.10 mgd from the North Coastal watershed during the irrigation season
- Permit Renewal requested to continue to withdraw registered volumes from Wells #1 and #2 which were constructed after 1985, no withdrawal volumes above the registered withdrawal are permitted

**Rockport Water Department**, Permit 9P2-3-18-252.01

- Registered for historic withdrawals (1981-1985) of 0.72 mgd from the North Coastal watershed
- Permit Renewal requested to withdraw registered volumes from Flat Ledge Quarry when the reservoir comes on-line, no withdrawal volumes above the registered withdrawal are permitted

**Town of Salisbury**, Permit 9P2-3-18-259.01

- Registered for historic withdrawals (1981-1985) of 0.81 mgd from the North Coastal watershed
- Registered for historic withdrawals (1981-1985) of 0.25 mgd from the Merrimack watershed
- Permit Renewal requested to withdraw up to 0.09 mgd and to withdraw from Well #8 when the well comes on-line (expiring permit = 0.03 mgd)

**Sheraton Colonial**, Permit 9P-3-18-164.01

- Permit Renewal requested for withdrawal of up to 0.17 mgd during the irrigation season (expiring permit = 0.2 mgd)

For specific information about withdrawal points included in permit renewal applications, please contact Beth McCann, MassDEP Boston Office at (617) 292-5901.

20-Year Demand Projections

Public Water Supply permit renewals will be based on the Department of Conservation and Recreation's Office of Water Resources (OWR) water needs forecasts. These forecasts are based on information contained in each permittee's annual statistical reports (ASRs) filed with MassDEP for the years 2004 through 2008, employment and population projections prepared by the regional planning agency, and information concerning water use patterns and service area supplied by each public water supplier.

- In cases where the OWR forecast for the coming 20 years is lower than the authorized withdrawal in the current permit, MassDEP may elect to maintain the current withdrawal authorization or reduce the allowable withdrawal as it determines is necessary to promote the goals of the Act.
- In cases where the OWR forecast for the coming 20 years is higher than the authorized withdrawal in the current permit, MassDEP may renew the current permitted withdrawal volume, and the permittee will be required to apply for additional volumes through a full permit application as actual withdrawals reach the current permit limit.

- In cases where existing data is insufficient to develop a 20-year forecast at this time, MassDEP may issue renewed permits based on interim demand projections.

Preliminary forecasts indicate that some public water supply systems' future demand might not support renewal of the full permitted volume.

Non-public water supply permit renewals will be based on detailed 20-year demand projections developed and submitted by the permittees. Such demand projections will need to be approved by the Department and show projected changes in process, production or business plan that justify increased demand over the withdrawals documented in the ASRs filed with MassDEP for the years 2004 through 2008.

- In cases where the demand projected for the coming 20 years is lower than the authorized withdrawal in the current permit, MassDEP may elect to maintain the current withdrawal authorization or reduce the allowable withdrawal as it determines is necessary to promote the goals of the Act.
- In cases where the demand projected for the coming 20 years is higher than the authorized withdrawal in the current permit, MassDEP may renew the current permitted withdrawal volume, and the permittee will be required to apply for additional volumes through a full permit application as actual withdrawals reach the current permit limit.

#### Massachusetts State Water Conservation Standards

To better achieve a balance between competing water withdrawals and uses mandated by the Act, to protect the natural environment, and to provide continued and sustainable economic growth in the Commonwealth, Permit Renewals will include water conservation measures consistent with the State Water Conservation Standards approved by the Water Resources Commission (WRC) in July 2006. Water conservation measures in permit renewals include:

- A requirement that public water supply permittees meet the WRC's performance standards of 65 residential gallons per capita day water use (RGPCD) and 10% unaccounted for water loss (UAW) or else develop and implement plans for meeting the performance standards;
- A requirement that those not meeting the RGPCD and UAW performance standards after five years must implement a MassDEP-approved Compliance Plan;
- A requirement that all permittees implement restrictions on nonessential outdoor water use between May 1<sup>st</sup> and September 30<sup>th</sup> when local streamflow falls below protective flow levels set in the permit, and when the Massachusetts Drought Management Task Force declares a drought level of "Advisory", "Watch", "Warning" or "Emergency" for the region in which the supplier's withdrawals are located.

#### Public Comment Period

MassDEP will take comment on the Ipswich River and North Coastal watershed permit renewal applications for 30 days from publication of this notice. Permit renewal applicants will have 30 days respond to all reasonable comments as part of the permit renewal process.

Please send copies of any comments to both:

Beth McCann  
 MassDEP  
 One Winter Street, 5<sup>th</sup> floor  
 Boston, MA 02108

For additional information, please contact either:

Beth McCann, MassDEP Boston Office at (617) 292-5901