

In The Main

A Quarterly Newsletter for
Public Water Systems

MassDEP and WSC Establish College Partnership

By Michael Maynard

MassDEP and Worcester State College (WSC) Health Sciences Department have joined together to develop and pilot the College Partnership Project. The College Partnership Project places a variety of talented MassDEP staff (drinking water, wastewater, air quality, etc.) and Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) staff into a Worcester State College classroom. As guest lecturers (for one class session), MassDEP and DPH staff have an opportunity to present their area of expertise to the students, lead classroom discussion, communicate practical solutions to environmental problems, and generate interest in the many facets of the public

health protection work that is accomplished by MassDEP.

The goal of the College Partnership Project is to create an ongoing learning community of environmental professionals, teaching professionals, and students within the state college system. The participants will increase their scientific knowledge, skills, and understanding of the natural environment through community based projects, guest lecturers, topic specific reference materials, field trips, and interaction with industry professionals. MassDEP is hopeful that some of the students will seek further training to become certified drinking

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WMA 20-Year Renewals

By Beth McCann

As Water Management permittees might recall, Water Management permits run on a 20-year cycle by river basin. The permitting first started in the Hudson River basin in 1988 and ended in 1995 in the Narragansett River Basin. These permits which were good for 20 years will now expire between 2008 and 2015 depending on the river basin where the water withdrawal is made.

Who needs to file for a permit renewal?

To continue withdrawing permitted water, all Water Management permit holders will be required to apply for permit renewal. For your permit renewal date, see the *Water Management 20-Year Permit Renewal Schedule* on page 3.

If you do not file a permit renewal application, your water withdrawals will be limited to your registered volume and sources as of the permit expiration date. (Most PWSs have a Water Management registration for annual average amount of water withdrawn between 1981

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Photo - Flickr.com

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and 1985. Registrations were first issued in 1988 and were renewed in January 2008.)

What if I need more water?

Permittees who anticipate needing more water than their current permit authorizes will want to both renew their current Water Management permit and file an application for a new permit (BRPWM03) for the additional withdrawal volumes.

Permittees who do not immediately need more water than their current permit allows, but expect to need more in five or ten years can either a) apply for a new permit for the additional water at the same time they apply to renew their existing Water Management permit, or b) can renew their existing permit now, and then file a full application for a new permit in five or ten years as their water withdrawals approach the authorized permit limit. Permittees must have the new permit for additional water in hand before taking the water. Preparation and review of a full permit application can be time consuming. Permittees should allow ample time to prepare and submit a new permit application.

How will I know when to file for a permit renewal?

MassDEP will be contacting all permit holders individually as the expiration date for their permits approaches. We will be holding workshops in each basin to outline the permit renewal process and distribute the permit renewal application forms.

All permit renewal applications will require 20-year demand projections

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Office of Water Resources will contact public water system permittees to develop new 20-year demand forecasts before their permit expires. The withdrawal volumes in renewed Water Management permits for PWSs will be based on DCR 20-year demand forecasts. Please contact Michelle Drury at DCR at 617-626-1366 if you have any questions or concerns about the 20-year demand projections for your community and the data needed to complete the projections.

Water conservation in renewed permits

Water conservation is an integral part of all Water Management permits. PWSs will complete the “Commonwealth of Massachusetts Water Resources Commission Water Conservation Questionnaire for Public Water Suppliers” as part of the permit renewal application. The questionnaire will document compliance with the conservation requirements in the current permit, and will outline your plans for any additional conservation measures during the upcoming permit period.

All renewed Water Management permits will include conservation requirements that are based on the Massachusetts Water Resources Commission’s Water Conservation Standards, July 2006 and as updated (available at http://www.mass.gov/envir/mwrc/pdf/Conservation_Standards.pdf).

Public notice for permit renewal

Permit renewal applicants are NOT required to do public notice. MassDEP is required to publish notice of all permit renewal applications in each basin in the Environmental Monitor and to accept public comment on the applications for 30 days. Because MassDEP relies on the public comment process to help identify potential impacts from water withdrawals, we cannot issue permit renewals for volumes greater than what is requested in the application and published in the Environmental Monitor.

Questions

If you have any questions about the permit renewal process, please contact either Duane LeVangie (duane.levangie@state.ma.us) or 617-292-5706) or Beth McCann (elizabeth.mccann@state.ma.us) or 617-292-5901). ITM

In The Main

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Water Management 20-Year Permit Renewal Schedule

Watershed	Filing period for Renewal Applications	Permit Renewal Date
2008 Application Dates		
Hudson River Basin	May 1-31, 2008	August 31, 2008
Blackstone River Basin & Charles River Basin	November 1-30, 2008	February 28, 2009
2009 Application Dates		
Ipswich River Basin & North Coastal Basin	May 1-May 31, 2009	August 31, 2009
Boston Harbor Basin & Taunton River Basin	November 1-30, 2009	February 28, 2010
2010 Application Dates		
South Coastal Basin	May 1-31, 2010	August 31, 2010
Cape Cod Basin	August 1-31, 2010	November 30, 2010
Islands Basin	November 1-30, 2010	February 28, 2011
2011 Application Dates		
Buzzards Bay Basin	February 1-28, 2011	May 31, 2011
Concord River Basin	May 1- 31, 2011	August 31, 2011
Ten Mile River Basin	August 1-31, 2011	November 30, 2011
Deerfield River Basin	November 1-30, 2011	February 29, 2012
2012 Application Dates		
Housatonic River Basin	February 1-29, 2012	May 31, 2012
Farmington River Basin	May 1- 31, 2012	August 31, 2012
Westfield River Basin	August 1-31, 2012	November 30, 2012
Millers River Basin	November 1-30, 2012	February 28, 2013
2013 Application Dates		
Chicopee River Basin	February 1-28, 2013	May 31, 2013
Quinnebaug River Basin	May 1- 31, 2013	August 31, 2013
Connecticut River Basin	August 1-31, 2013	November 30, 2013
Nashua River Basin	November 1-30, 2013	February 28, 2014
2014 Application Dates		
French River Basin	February 1-28, 2014	May 31, 2014
Shawsheen River Basin	May 1- 31, 2014	August 31, 2014
Merrimack River Basin	August 1-31, 2014	November 30, 2014
Parker River Basin	November 1-30, 2014	February 28, 2015
2015 Application Dates		
Narragansett River Basin	February 1-28, 2015	May 31, 2015

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water and wastewater operators or environmental professionals.

WSC Health Science faculty member Dr. Nancy Brewer said that, “This project makes sense for everyone. It provides a wonderful opportunity for the students to learn from a collection of dedicated and talented environmental professionals. It also provides the students with a group of potential mentors if they are interested in pursuing a career in the environmental field.” The sessions began in February and will continue to the end of the semester in May. Topics include:

- Green Pharmacy-Reducing the environmental load of Pharmaceutical and Personal Care Products (PPCPs)

- Air Quality-Health Based Standards for Ozone and Fine Particles
- Do Not Drink the Water - Local Board of Health and MassDEP
- Water Fluoridation-Greatest Public Health Achievement of the 20th Century
- MassDEP’s Bacteria Source Tracking Program – From Search to Solution

Dr. Brewer expressed it best when she stated after a presentation by MassDEP employee Dr. Nicholas Anastas, “The concept of Green Pharmacy was new to almost everybody in the room. Students left energized, with critical insights and well thought out

solutions regarding this important topic. After the presentation, several students who work in health care facilities reported that they approached decision makers at their places of employment to discuss how they could better dispose of pharmaceuticals. Clearly the work with WSC students was a call to action.”

Yvette DePeiza, MassDEP Water Quality Supervisor who has worked with WSC in the past feels that the relationship between WSC and MassDEP is a perfect fit. Both WSC and MassDEP are committed to the partnership and look forward to further collaboration. For more information on this training effort, contact Michael Maynard at 508-767-2735. [ITM](#)

Safe Neighborhoods

By Deirdre Cabral

Massachusetts’ Safe Neighborhoods Chemical Initiative (SNCI) seeks to prevent incidents like the 2006 Danversport explosion and South Hadley sulfuric acid leak, which



posed risks to nearby residences. SNCI seeks to prevent future incidents by conducting site visits by a team of Public Safety and Energy & Environmental Affairs personnel. The team works with facilities to discover and abate imminent hazards that threaten public safety, the health of communities, and the environment. During 2009, there will be an emphasis on chlorine gas and anhydrous ammonia, SNCI will be arranging site visits at facilities including at selected water and wastewater facilities which use chlorine gas. Facilities will be contacted for these visits

based on the following criteria:

- Potential for accident causing injury, death or destruction;
- Flammable liquids or gas, reactive and water reactive chemicals, poisonous gases (with an emphasis on chlorine and anhydrous ammonia) and liquids, explosives, or other highly hazardous materials present on-site; and
- Densely populated areas located nearby.

For more information, visit MassDEP’s website at www.mass.gov/dep/dansafen.htm. [ITM](#)

Water Security: Opportunity to Expand your Arsenal

WaterISAC, a critical part of today's security package for drinking water and wastewater utilities, is currently offering utilities that serve populations of 50,000 or less a free trial subscription. Subscriptions offer access to an internet-based security network established by utilities for the purpose of securing water systems and insuring utility operations in the face of all hazards. While other online security resources exist, none offer the comprehensive, water sector targeted services found on WaterISAC.

This cost-free entrée to the premier WaterISAC Pro service extends to the end of 2009 and is being offered in an effort to increase the vibrancy and size of WaterISAC's online community. By registering at www.WaterISAC.org, trial users will receive one free subscription to WaterISAC Pro with the option of becoming a paying subscriber at the end of this year at the very reasonable cost of \$200.

WaterISAC is the only centralized, real-time information resource of its kind for the water sector. It collects information from government, classified sources, publicly available information, the water community (utilities, water associations and research foundations) and private entities (think tanks, etc.). However, the service goes beyond information gathering.

Material is analyzed, assessed and disseminated – enabling water utilities to make better-informed security decisions. A quick rundown of items uploaded recently to WaterISAC Pro, illustrates this point:

- ✧ Getting the big picture on your security situation
- ✧ DHS cyber security monitor
- ✧ Twenty-year forecast of critical infrastructure issues
- ✧ Research challenges in combating the use of explosives in the United States

While information sharing is a priority, WaterISAC recognizes that security preparedness in the water/wastewater sector requires



a wider array of resources. The online portal serves as a one-stop shop for numerous tools (VSAT, Blast Vulnerability Assessment, SewerNet, PipelineNet, RiverSpill, Chlorine Gas Decision and many more) and training aids that are essential to the process of improving a utility's all hazards security posture. These products are further amplified by a rich and diverse library that contains both a breadth and depth of

information on issues including cybersecurity, contamination, and emergency response and recovery.

All of these resources, tools, and information-sharing capabilities are brought together in an online portal that encourages subscribers to network with colleagues from the United States, Australia and Canada. Combined with the trial offer, WaterISAC easily becomes an indispensable tool for the all hazards security operations of water and wastewater utilities. This is a unique opportunity to give WaterISAC a try with no cost or commitment for your utility.

WaterISAC

Water Security Network

Could your security program use a free upgrade? Find out what WaterISAC has to offer at www.WaterISAC.org. [ITM](#)

MassDEP Launches Green Jobs Training and Placement Partnership

By Michael Maynard

In an effort to replace retiring drinking water operators and promote Green Job growth in Massachusetts, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) has recently launched a new Green Jobs Training and Placement Partnership. This professional development initiative is aimed at bringing both high school students and adults into the water supply field. In addition to attending classroom sessions, students have the opportunity to visit public water systems and learn first hand from experienced water operators. This approach allows them to build their scientific knowledge and math skills, while developing an understanding of water supplies and the surrounding natural environment. Participants in the program may be eligible for an internship at a participating public water system.

Vocational-Technical High School Initiative

The Vo-Tech Initiative is a collaborative effort between

staff members from MassDEP's Drinking Water Program and the Massachusetts Coalition for Small System Assistance (MCSSA). Since the fall of 2008, Jennifer Pederson of Massachusetts Water Works Association has worked diligently with Minuteman Regional High School in Lexington to provide classroom instruction through guest lecturers, provide reference materials, and offer field trips to the Cambridge Water Department and the MWRA's Carroll Water Treatment Plant. Participants in this program are receiving training in the following core areas: drinking water regulations, water sources and treatment, disinfection, plant operations, laboratory procedures, maintenance, safety and many other topics. The Vo-Tech Initiative will be expanded in 2009 to the Environmental Technology Programs at Worcester Technical High School and Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical High School.

Adult Education Initiative

MassDEP's Drinking Water Program is also sponsoring a six-week evening course at Worcester Technical High School titled "Drinking Water Operator Training Course for Very Small Systems (VSS)". Offered through the Worcester Public Schools' Night Life Division, this 15-hour classroom course is designed to prepare students

to sit for the Massachusetts VSS Operator Exam. Course material will introduce students to the water supply field and the responsibilities of certified drinking water operators. Topics covered will include an overview of public water supplies and the regulatory framework, water quality sampling, wells and source protection, water distribution, safety, water disinfection and other treatment, reporting and much more. Students will learn to use basic math formulas for calculating water storage, pressure, flow, water usage, and treatment dosing. In addition, students can attend three optional field trips, including a visit to the New England Water Works Joint Conference in Worcester. To view a description of the course, visit www.wpsweb.com/adulted/vocational.asp.

Green Jobs Placement Partnership - Internship at Public Water Systems

The MassDEP recognizes that one measure of the success of a job training program is the number of graduates who receive a job offer upon graduation. In an effort to improve job placement for newly trained drinking water operators, MassDEP and MCSSA partners have developed a public water system internship program entitled the Green Jobs Placement Partnership (GJPP). The GJPP is a pilot program (with limited funding) that is designed to provide a



Photo by Jen Pederson

Minuteman School field trip

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quality internship experience for students who have participated in the aforementioned drinking water training program or other accredited certificate program. Massachusetts Water Works Association and MassDEP will work to identify public water systems that will act as mentors for the training program's graduates. The public water systems that host the interns should be prepared to play an active role in the development of the individual as a water supply professional. It is recommended that interns receive training in the following categories; regulations, water source, source protection, treatment, distribution, storage, cross connections, water quality, sampling, management and finance. MassDEP is pursuing additional funding sources to support this initiative. If you are interested in being a mentor for this initiative please send an email to Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us or Director@masswaterworks.org and include Green Jobs Placement Partnership in the subject line. ITM

Fix a Leak

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On March 16-20, 2009, EPA's WaterSense program had its first "Fix a Leak Week" to remind Americans to correct leaks in their household fixtures and irrigation systems. EPA has developed a suite of materials to help promote this effort including a special logo to raise awareness; easy-to-tailor web text and graphics; a fact sheet full of numbers and tips about how many gallons of water can be saved from fixing leaks; as well as postcards and bill stuffers for water utilities. State drinking water programs will want to use these resources to help spread the word and get their utilities on board to promote "Fix a Leak" to their customers.

EPA estimates that the average household can save more than 11,000 gallons of wasted water per year (not to mention more than 10% percent cost savings on their water bills) by fixing easily corrected problems such as leaking toilet flappers and dripping faucets. Significant water and cost savings can also be realized by replacing leaking fixtures with new WaterSense labeled products that increase water efficiency by up to 30 percent without a noticeable difference in flow.

For more information, and to download and print the "Fix a Leak" promotional materials, visit the WaterSense web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/watersense/fixaleak/index.htm>. ITM



CCR Highlights for Community Systems

- ✓ April 15 - Any selling systems must get their information to the buying system
- ✓ July 1 – all CCRs must be delivered to consumers and MassDEP/ DPH/ BOH.
- ✓ All CCRs must include the new lead educational language.
- ✓ For systems that have IDSE information to report - you must report the highest and lowest detects in the range columns but do not include them in the running annual average since IDSE sampling is not used for compliance purposes.
- ✓ Be sure to report any raw or finished water *Cryptosporidium* results.

Please go to <http://www.mass.gov/dep/water/drinking/systems.htm#ccr> to view a more detailed description of these highlights/updates for 2009. Before writing your CCR please review *Appendix M - The Consumer Confidence Reporting Guidelines* for the most recent updates to the CCR, including tables, health effects, required language, etc. The guidelines can also be found on the web. If you have questions contact your regional MassDEP office.

Preparing for a CCCP Audit

By Otavio dePaula-Santos

Public drinking water systems are responsible for providing safe and fit water to drink and for controlling cross-connections to the last free flowing consumer tap. The purpose of the cross-connection control program (CCCP) is to avoid the contamination of the drinking water distribution system through cross-connections. The CCCP audit was developed by MassDEP to evaluate the effectiveness of a public water system's CCCP and its prevention measures. The CCCP audit also serves to assess the system's capability to comply with all the requirements of the Massachusetts Cross-Connection Control Regulations, 310 CMR 22.22. The audit can also provide technical assistance to the system if necessary.

MassDEP is taking this proactive role to protect public health by conducting these audits to ensure compliance and by taking enforcement actions when violations are found. The audit

ensures that the PWS is fulfilling its responsibility by complying with the regulations and general laws. The consumers of water in the Commonwealth can be confident that the water that they drink is free from cross-connection contamination because of these efforts.

Past CCCP audits revealed that most of the deficiencies found were operational and administrative in nature, such as incomplete cross-connection survey of the service area, or forms not filled out properly or missing signatures. The audits also revealed that some systems have not fully implemented their residential education program or have discontinued some components of their MassDEP approved program.

In preparation for a CCCP audit, the PWS must at a minimum have the following information and documents available for review:

- The PWS's CCCP plan and respective letter of approval from MassDEP;
- A complete list of staff

working on the CCCP and their cross-connection certifications;

- Samples of *all* the official correspondence for the CCCP, such as forms, letters, violation notices, and enforcement letters;
- The backflow prevention device test results for the last seven years and the cross-connection survey reports of all commercial, industrial, institutional, and municipal-owned facilities;
- Other documents, such as residential educational/informational material and local ordinances/bylaws related to the CCCP.

The PWS must also complete the cross-connection survey information and provide it at the audit meeting. (See table below.)

If you have any questions on this program please contact Otavio dePaula-Santos at 617-556-1085 or Otavio.Paula-Santos@state.ma.us.

Type of Facility	Total # of Facilities Served by PWS	Total # of Facilities Surveyed up to the date of the CCCP Audit	Total # of Facilities Remaining to be Surveyed (if applicable)
Commercial*			
Industrial*			
Institutional**			
Municipal Owned			

* MassDEP has identified the following resources that may be of help in generating a total list of all facilities for surveying: local chamber of commerce- <http://www.2chambers.com>, yellow pages/phone book; local offices (board of health, building inspector's office, fire dept., revenue/permits, register of deeds); local professional organizations/associations/societies (Rotary Club/Lyons Club/Kiwanis).

** Institutional facility means any facility owned and/or operated by an institution such as: religious, educational (university, college campus, research facilities), judicial (house of correction, penitentiaries).

Groundwater Rule Training

By Denise Springborg

Beginning December 1, 2009, all Massachusetts public water systems (PWS) with ground water sources and consecutive systems serving ground water must comply with the new federal Ground Water Rule (GWR). This rule is intended to increase protection against viral contamination in PWSs that use ground water sources. It does not apply to systems with ground water under the influence of surface water or systems that combine all of their ground water with surface water prior to treatment.

The key component of the GWR requires all PWSs that do not have 4-log treatment of viruses to conduct “triggered monitoring” of their source water for a state determined fecal indicator each time a sample collected under the Total Coliform Rule is total coliform positive. The sample must be collected within 24 hours of being notified of the coliform positive and must be collected prior to any treatment or chemical addition. If the source sample is fecal indicator positive, a Tier 1 public notification (acute health concern) must be issued and an additional five source water samples collected within 24 hours.

If one or more of the additional five source samples are positive, the PWS will be required to provide emergency disinfection or an alternate source of water until one or more of the following corrective actions is completed:

- ✧ the source of contamination is identified and eliminated
- ✧ a deficiency in the water system operation or construction that could lead to fecal contamination has been corrected
- ✧ an alternate source of water is provided
- ✧ 4-log treatment for viruses using inactivation (disinfection) and/or removal (filtration) is demonstrated.

PWSs that demonstrate 4-log treatment of viruses through GWR “compliance monitoring” are not required to conduct triggered monitoring.

To help PWSs understand and prepare for the GWR, the DWP is offering two hours of GWR rule training this spring as part of a one-day workshop for water suppliers. You have received a letter with registration information. Dates and locations are as follows:

Northeast Office: April 29, 2009
Northeast Office

Central Office: April 30, 2009
Worcester Public Library

Southeast Office: May 5, 2009
UMass Dartmouth

Western Office: May 12, 2009
US Fish and Wildlife Service,
Hadley

Go to <http://www.mass.gov/dep/water/drinking/systems.htm#training> for more info.

More Training - Hands-on technical assistance and training sessions for small systems and their contract operators will be conducted by the Massachusetts Small System Coalition. For information on receiving technical assistance or registering for training or a mentoring session, contact the Coalition at: <http://www.masmallwatersystem.org/>.

For more information or to discuss compliance options, call your regional GWR contact:
CERO – Kelly Momberger
508-849-4023
NERO – Melissa Privetera
978-694-3403
SERO – Michael Quink
508-946-2766
WERO – Jim Bumgardner
413-755-2270
Boston – Denise Springborg
617-574-6879

Detailed information describing the GWR is at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/disinfection/gwr/regulation.html#therule> ITM

The MassDEP trainings in April and May also cover an array of other topics such as Emergency Response; Lead and Copper Rule updates; CCR changes pertaining to LT2, DBPR, and LCR; and Guideline Changes to Chapters 2, 5, 6, 7, and 8. Mark your calendars and attend these free trainings.

New Technology Approval in Massachusetts

By Frank Niles

Any person proposing to construct a new public water system, operate a public water system or substantially modify an existing public water system must obtain the prior written approval of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). Proponents of New Technology must therefore submit an application for review in order to be considered for New Technology approval.

From a drinking water perspective, what is New Technology? It is the sum of all drinking water treatment units, chemicals, or materials that have never been commissioned to be used in the treatment of drinking water prior to requesting such approval. For example, a simple paint might have been in existence for 10 years, but was never used before to paint a drinking water storage tank. The moment it is intended to be used as a coating for a storage tank, the proponent must request New Technology approval from MassDEP because it was never granted prior approval for use in drinking water. Hence, drinking water application is the “newness” of the technology. It

must be determined not only how the proposed technology will intrinsically perform, but also its chemical and material stability under diverse water-quality conditions, such that it will not compromise the water quality or have adverse health effects.

Third party organizations such as the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF), American Water Works Association (AWWA), US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Environmental Technology Verification (ETV) or independent laboratories, assist MassDEP in assessing the integrity of new technologies in a water environment under varying chemical and physical conditions.

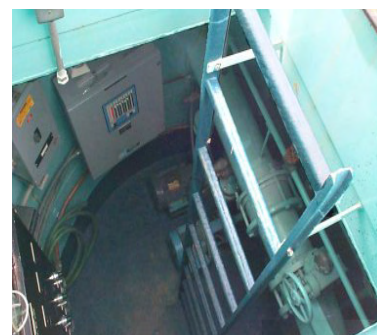
There are two methods used by MassDEP for the reviewing of all new technologies. One method is *piloting* and the other is *third party approval*.

Piloting is an experimental period in which information is obtained about a technology’s performance. It can vary from 5-10 days up to 4 seasons, depending on the technology and the source water. The proponent submits the application BRP WS 21 (Approval to Conduct

Pilot Study) to their MassDEP regional office. The regional engineer, guided by MassDEP Piloting Policy #90-04, specifies the piloting criteria including the parameters to be tested, and the frequency and duration of each test. Upon completion of the pilot study, the regional engineer reviews and evaluates the pilot results. The pilot study is either approved or disapproved. Approval is granted through BRP WS 22 (Approval of Pilot Study Report) and disapproval by written notification.

These piloted results must also be shared with the MassDEP Boston office when requesting New Technology approval. The process is initiated by the applicant filing BRP WS 11 (Minor Technology Approval, no field test required) and providing the necessary supportive documentation mentioned in the application. After the application is received, reviewed, and evaluated by the Boston office, the application is either approved or denied in writing.

Third party approval method differs from the conventional piloting method in that the proposed technologies have already been tested and proven.



Staff Spotlight

Thus, MassDEP relies on the integrity of the aforementioned third party organizations in assessing the worthiness of such technologies. It is likely, therefore, that MassDEP will grant third party approval to such applicants after review. Such applications include chemicals, coatings, media, or treatment configuration schemes that meet the following criteria: (1) The technology has been in existence for at least 5 years in the US. (2) The technology has been successfully operating in the last two years. (3) The technology has been granted approval in a New England state or in New York state, in addition to two other primacy states. For third party application, permit BRP WS 11 (Minor Technology Approval, no field test required) is used. All New Technology permits can be obtained from the website: <http://www.mass.gov/dep/water/approvals/dwsforms.htm>. For a list of MassDEP approved technologies, visit: <http://www.mass.gov/dep/water/compliance/newtech.pdf>

For further information, please contact Frank Niles at: Frank.Niles@state.ma.us or at 617-574-6871. ITM



Richard Friend's 10+ years of experience as a water supply hydrogeologist have been an asset to MassDEP since he joined the Water Management Program in May 2007. One of his primary duties is reviewing the Residential Gallons per Capita Day (RGPCD) and Unaccounted for Water (UAW) performance standards reported each year by water suppliers in their Annual Statistical Report. His other duties include review of permit applications and pumping test reports, issuing renewed Registration Statements and database maintenance.



Richard Friend

Photo by Marie Tennant

Earlier in his career Richard worked at NUS (in New Jersey) and at CDM under the Superfund program characterizing and cleaning-up of hazardous waste sites. At Whitman and Howard (which became) Earth Tech and then at Woodard and Curran he developed water supply wells, mostly for municipalities in New England. His many other duties were groundwater exploration, aquifer testing, numerical groundwater flow modeling, report writing and permit application preparation. He also performed environmental assessments of municipal landfills in Massachusetts, including design, installation, and sampling of groundwater monitoring systems.

In addition to his hydrogeology experience, Richard taught Earth and Environmental Science at Chelsea High School for three years and spent two years in Osaka, Japan teaching English as a Second Language. Richard graduated with a B.S. in Geology from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. ITM

DPL Fee Increases

By Paul Niman

Effective July 1, 2009 there will be a fee increase for all licenses issued by the Division of Professional Licensure (DPL). Although there have been increases and decreases in examination fees, this is the first increase in DPL's fees since 2003. The proposed new rates will be as follows:

Provisional and Temporary Certification \$28.00
Drinking Water Operator-Application (all type classes) \$28.00
Drinking Water Operator-Original (all type classes) \$42.00
Drinking Water Operator-Renewal (all type classes) \$42.00

Contact Sandra M. Rodriguez at (617) 727-2616 if you have any questions. Please visit DPL's website at <http://www.mass.gov/dpl>

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In The Main

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VLAC Pipe Survey - 2009

By Anita Wolovick

On December 26, 2008 the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) sent a survey to all public water systems (PWS) known to have installed vinyl-lined asbestos cement (VLAC) pipe in their distribution system.

VLAC pipe is a source of tetrachloroethylene, also known as perchloroethylene or PCE, a chemical that has been shown to be detrimental to public health when ingested and inhaled. Although the majority of VLAC pipe was installed upwards of 25 years ago, leaching of PCE from VLAC pipe continues to occur. Consequently, PCE from distribution systems continues to be a public health concern.

MassDEP records indicate that there are currently 596 sample locations throughout the state that represent approximately

332 miles of VLAC pipe (1992 survey data) still remaining in Massachusetts, with sample results ranging from no detection to 9.0 parts per billion (ug/l), which exceeds the 5.0 (ug/l) maximum contaminant level (MCL) for PCE.

The purpose of the survey is to help MassDEP determine the number of miles of VLAC pipe still in use throughout Massachusetts. If your system received a pre-populated survey on VLAC pipe, it is an indication that MassDEP records show that VLAC pipe was installed in your distribution system. Filling out and returning this survey with the most up-to-date information will greatly contribute to MassDEP's ability to work with individual PWSs to decrease the amount of VLAC pipe, thereby reducing the concentrations of PCE in drinking water, which will directly improve the protection of public health.

The standard operating procedure (SOP) for VLAC pipe monitoring was updated in May 2006 [Vinyl-Lined Asbestos-Cement Pipe (VLAC) Monitoring Program SOP for Tetrachloroethylene, a/k/a Perchloroethylene (PCE) DWP/SOP06-4]. This is an effort to assist MassDEP in determining when sampling for PCE can be reduced or eliminated. MassDEP recognizes that existing sample schedules for PCE may not reflect current pipe conditions. Submitting the survey may also lead to a reduction in monitoring if it is determined by MassDEP that a PWS has eliminated or looped sections of VLAC pipe. The SOP for VLAC Pipe Monitoring can be found on the web at: <http://www.mass.gov/dep/water/drinking/vlacsop.doc>. Please review the updates as they may affect your PWS. ITM