



Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs

## Department of Environmental Protection

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**Maura T. Healey**  
Governor

**Kim Driscoll**  
Lieutenant Governor

**Rebecca Tepper**  
Secretary

**Bonnie Heiple**  
Commissioner

### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

This Public Hearing Notice is available in alternative languages (Español -- Tiếng Việt -- Chinese -- Kreyòl Ayisyen -- Português) on MassDEP's website at:

<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/massdep-public-hearings-comment-opportunities>.

Notice is hereby given that the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) will hold public hearings on proposed amendments to 310 CMR 22.00, *Drinking Water* pursuant to the authority of M.G.L. c. 111, § 160, M.G.L. c. 40, §§ 15B, 38, 39B and 41, M.G.L. c. 165, §4B.

The proposed amendments to 310 CMR 22.00 adopt corrections to the Revised Total Coliform Rule identified by the U.S. EPA as part of their primacy review update approved analytical methods to measure Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS), and make other corrections. Public hearings will be held virtually on:

**March 10, 2026 at 1:30 pm.** Use this link to register to attend this hearing:

[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_0wbDA8bOTMeiWKjekVI3kw](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_0wbDA8bOTMeiWKjekVI3kw)

**March 10, 2026 at 6:30 pm.** Use this link to register to attend this hearing:

[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_vs\\_3xb55RH2AQW\\_jAU1\\_9A](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_vs_3xb55RH2AQW_jAU1_9A)

Please join the public hearing from your computer, tablet, or smartphone. You can also dial in using your phone. Testimony may be presented orally at the public hearing, or written comments may be submitted until **5:00 PM on Friday, March 20, 2026**. Written comments must be submitted by email to the Drinking Water Program at [program.director-dwp@mass.gov](mailto:program.director-dwp@mass.gov) using the subject line: Public Comments – Proposed DWP and GWDPP Amendments or by mail to Damon Guterman, MassDEP, 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900, Boston, MA 02114.

The proposed amendments and hearing registration links are available on MassDEP's website at: <https://www.mass.gov/regulations/314-CMR-5-ground-water-discharge-permit-program>.

For special accommodations for these hearings, please call the EEA Diversity Office at 617-626-1282. TTY# MassRelay Service 1-800-439-2370. This Notice is available in alternate format upon request. MassDEP provides language access interpreter/translation services to limited English proficient individuals free of charge. If you need an interpreter to participate in this meeting,

translation services can be found at the following link: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massdep-language-translation-assistance>.

By Order of the Department  
Bonnie Heiple, Commissioner

**Small Business Impact Statement**  
*(As required by M.G.L. c. 30A §§ 2, 3 & 5)*  
**CMR No: 310 CMR 22.00**

**Estimate of the Number of Small Businesses Impacted by the Regulation: approximately 4,900 (including 869 non-community public water systems) small businesses that own private wells**

- Will small businesses have to create, file, or issue additional reports?  
 Yes. 310 CMR 22: Most will not see an increase in their existing reporting requirements. Some may have additional filings due to activities they conduct or the quality of their water. Also, they will still be required to comply with the federal requirements if MassDEP does not take this step to maintain primacy.
- Will small businesses have to implement additional recordkeeping procedures?  
 Yes. 310 CMR 22: A few small businesses will have to implement additional recordkeeping procedures, but most will not.
- Will small businesses have to provide additional administrative oversight?  
 Yes. 310 CMR 22: A few small businesses will have to provide additional administrative oversight, but most will not.
- Will small businesses have to hire additional employees in order to comply with the proposed regulation?  
 No. 310 CMR 22: No. All Public Water Systems are already required to employ a certified operator, which may be the owner or an existing employee.
- Does compliance with the regulation require small businesses to hire other professionals (e.g. a lawyer, accountant, engineer, etc.)?  
 No. 310 CMR 22: There is an existing requirement to employ a certified operator. These proposed changes do not alter this requirement.
- Does the regulation require small businesses to purchase a product or make any other capital investments in order to comply with the regulation?  
 Yes. 310 CMR 22: Some systems may need to install or modify existing treatment to continue to provide clean drinking water, however this would be required under the federal rule if MassDEP does not revise its regulations.
- Are performance standards more appropriate than design/operational standards to accomplish the regulatory objective? (Performance standards express requirements in terms of outcomes, giving the regulated party flexibility to achieve regulatory objectives and design/operational standards specify exactly what actions regulated parties must take.)  
 Yes. 310 CMR 22: Much of these regulations are performance standards in that although the drinking water must comply with numeric standards for regulated contaminants there exists multiple ways/products that can be utilized to achieve compliance.
- Do any other regulations duplicate or conflict with the proposed regulation?  
 No. 310 CMR 22: No other entity regulates public water systems in Massachusetts, with the exception of USEPA in situations where MassDEP fails to regulate.
- Does the regulation require small businesses to cooperate with audits, inspections or other regulatory enforcement activities?  
 Yes. 310 CMR 22: Routine MassDEP inspections occur as both announced and unannounced site visits. Permitting activities will also trigger site visits.
- Does the regulation require small businesses to provide educational services to keep up to date with regulatory requirements?  
 Yes. 310 CMR 22: Consumer education requirements are part of these regulations. The frequency and extent of these efforts will vary depending on the type and compliance history of each system.
- Is the regulation likely to *deter* the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts?  
 No. 310 CMR 22: The regulation will not deter the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts because small businesses in all states are subject to the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NPDWRs) and the corresponding state drinking water regulations.
- Is the regulation likely to *encourage* the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts?  
 Yes. 310 CMR 22: Where Massachusetts is more stringent than the NPDWRs better water is being delivered to the public which could encourage the formation of small businesses. Additionally, more small

businesses may form in Massachusetts to provide operation, laboratory, consulting and engineering services.

- Does the regulation provide for less stringent compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses?  
Yes. 310 CMR 22: Many of the individual rules within these regulations include lesser or delayed requirements based on the size of the population served by the system.
- Does the regulation establish less stringent schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses?  
Yes. 310 CMR 22: Many of the individual rules within these regulations include lesser or delayed requirements based on the size of the population served by the system.
- Did the agency consolidate or simplify compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses?  
No. 310 CMR 22: No, however, MassDEP does provide targeted compliance assistance to the smallest systems.
- Can performance standards for small businesses replace design or operational standards without hindering delivery of the regulatory objective?  
Yes. 310 CMR 22: Much of these regulations are performance standards in that although the drinking water must comply with numeric standards for regulated contaminants there exists multiple ways/products that can be utilized to achieve compliance.
- Are there alternative regulatory methods that would minimize the adverse impact on small businesses?  
No. 310 CMR 22: No. The provision of safe drinking water is a public health outcome that should not vary between systems.