

TOWN OF NORFOLK

Water Source Protection Notification:

We are posting this notice to advise you of the location of Norfolk Water Division public water supply which serves apartments and homes in your neighborhoods. Your property is located within the area from which water flows to the well, and this area needs protection from land uses that threaten the water supply.

Groundwater comes from rain and snowmelt percolating through the ground, and flows through the spaces between soil particles and through fractures in rock. Groundwater is vulnerable to contamination from many types of land uses and activities, including road salt, septic systems, and improper disposal of hazardous materials. If the groundwater becomes contaminated, it may be impossible to eliminate the contamination so the well can be used for drinking water.

We are requesting your assistance and cooperation in protecting this supply. There are a number of ways in which you can help reduce the possibility of contamination of this water supply. For example:

- € If your house/business is served by a septic system: pump out the tank every two to three years; do not use commercial septic tank cleaners or put hazardous materials down the sink, toilet, or floor drain. These materials reduce the effectiveness of the system by killing necessary microorganisms, and they can pass through the system and contaminate the groundwater.
- € Avoid applying hazardous or toxic materials to lawns or other areas of your property.
- € Never dispose of used motor oil or other hazardous materials on your property or in storm sewers.

We urge you to read the attached fact sheet. If you have any questions, please contact WhiteWater at (888) 377-7678 or DEP/Drinking Water Program at (617) 292-5770.

The management and customers of the Norfolk Water System appreciate your cooperation in protecting this important source of drinking water.

NORFOLK WATER DIVISION
WHITEWATER, INC.

Source Protection Fact Sheet: What residents can do to protect drinking water supplies

Household Hazardous Waste

- Participate in Household Hazardous Waste Collection days or centers for used oil, antifreeze, paints, and other chemical disposal.
- Substitute less hazardous substances for products used in the home. See <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/recycle/hazardous/household-hazardous-waste.html>

Septic systems

- Never dispose of household hazardous waste to your septic system.
- Prevent failed septic systems by locating system components, maintaining, and inspecting your system regularly. See also <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/wastewater/septic-systems-title-5.html>.

Underground and Aboveground Storage Tanks

- Upgrade fuel oil tanks to include proper containment and safety measures. Consult with the fire department before making changes, as any changes must comply with plumbing, building, and fire codes.
- Catch costly leaks by inspecting fuel lines and keeping a fuel log.

Car Care

- Check your car for oil leaks, and repair leaks quickly.
- Dispose of waste oil properly, never in drains or on the ground. Recycle oil at a car care center or hazardous waste center. See <http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/conservematerials/usedoil/index.htm> and <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/recycle/programs/fact-sheets-brochures-and-other-resources.html>.

Lawn Care and Landscaping

Apply pesticides and fertilizers minimally and properly. More information on environmentally sound lawn care is available at <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/agr/pesticides/water-well-being-where-to-get-more-information.html> and <http://www.mass.gov/agencies/massdep/water/watersheds/lawns-and-landscapes-in-your-watershed.html>.

Pet Waste

- Don't walk your pet near wells or reservoirs.
- Practice proper pet waste disposal, picking up after your pet and preferably flushing waste, or disposing of waste in the garbage.

Do you already do all of this and want to do more to protect your drinking water? Contact your local water supplier to volunteer.