Board of Health

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MEMORANDUM

TO: **Sherborn Zoning Board of Appeals, ZBA**
FROM: **Julie Dreyfus and Daryl Beardsley, on behalf of the Sherborn BoH**
DATE: **February 5, 2024**
RE: **Greenwood Homes 40B: Title 5 Compliance, Local Waivers Requested by Applicant, and Recommendations from the Board of Health**

The following sections of Sherborn's Board of Health regulations have applicability to the development phase of the multiple new residences proposed for the Greenwood Street Homes Development project:

I. Sewage Disposal
II. Domestic Water Supply
III. Public and Environmental Health Review Regulations and Standards for Other than a Single Family Dwelling on a Single Lot

Other health regulations may have applicability to the project in the future but did not warrant evaluation at this time.

Evaluation of the Project's Septic Systems

Title 5 Compliance

The Sherborn Board of Health ("the Board") reviewed the applications for the Disposal Works Permit for Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4 (permit #23-57, #23-58, #23-59, #23-60 respectively) on Greenwood Street for the Greenwood Homes Development following the completed application, fees, and submittals on October 24, 2023 (original) and December 11, 2023 (revision). The initial request was for the plans to be reviewed for compliance with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's (MassDEP) state-level regulations only. Following its review, the Board moved to approve the plans for all four lots as compliant with 310 CMR 15.000 ("Title 5"), conditional to the opportunity to re-review if there are substantive change in the final lots line upon ZBA review, or if there is any change to the wetlands delineation or other conditions set following Conservation Commission review. The Board reserves the right to require new plans for review if any of the above conditions are met. The motion passed with 4-1 approval.

Applicant's Request for Septic Waivers by Lot

The following tables summarize the nature of the requested waivers and design status for each of the 4 lots.

Lot #1			
Section	**Section Title**	**Local Requirement**	**Provided**
I.7.1 Sewage Disposal	Leaching Area Size	Bedrooms are any room with a full bathroom opening directly into it	Room count not consistent with 4 BR
I.7.1 Sewage Disposal	Leaching Area Size	Any room above the 1st floor is considered a bedroom	Room count not consistent with 4 BR

Lot #2			
Section	**Section Title**	**Local Requirement**	**Provided**
I.8.1 Sewage Disposal	Vertical Grades and Clearances	The bottom of any leaching area shall be a minimum of 5 feet above the maximum high ground water table.	4.1 ft
I.8.2 Sewage Disposal	Vertical Grades and Clearances	Subsurface sewage disposal systems shall not be constructed in fill when the maximum groundwater level is 5 ft or less below natural grade	4.5 ft
I.10.1 Sewage Disposal	Well Distance	No leaching area shall be less than 150 ft from a well located downhill from leaching area	122.7 ft from onsite well
I.10.1 Sewage Disposal	Well Distance	No leaching area shall be less than 150 ft from a well located downhill from leaching area	125.9 ft from Lot 3 well
I.7.1 Sewage Disposal	Leaching Area Size	Bedrooms are any room with a full bathroom opening directly into it	Room count not consistent with 4 BR
I.7.1 Sewage Disposal	Leaching Area Size	Any room above the 1st floor is considered a bedroom	Room count not consistent with 4 BR

Lot #3			
Section	**Section Title**	**Local Requirement**	**Provided**
I.10.1 Sewage Disposal	Well Distance	No leaching area shall be less than 150 ft from a well located downhill from leaching area	108.2 ft from on-site well
I.7.1 Sewage Disposal	Leaching Area Size	Bedrooms are any room with a full bathroom opening directly into it	Room count not consistent with 4 BR
I.7.1 Sewage Disposal	Leaching Area Size	Any room above the 1st floor is considered a bedroom	Room count not consistent with 4 BR

Lot #4			
Section	**Section Title**	**Local Requirement**	**Provided**
I.10.2 Sewage Disposal	Minimum Distances	Subsurface sewage disposal areas shall be 125 ft from any wetland	123 ft
I.7.1 Sewage Disposal	Leaching Area Size	Bedrooms are any room with a full bathroom opening directly into it	Room count not consistent with 4 BR
I.7.1 Sewage Disposal	Leaching Area Size	Any room above the 1st floor is considered a bedroom	Room count not consistent with 4 BR

Response to Applicant's Sewage Disposal Waiver Requests

I.5.3 Watercourses and Wetlands

The applicant requests a waiver to 1.5.3, however, none of the proposed septic systems are within the boundary of a wetland. Waiver not applicable unless the Conservation Commission's evaluation changes the existing plan information that was reviewed by the Board, in which case the Board will need to conduct a review of any changes.

I.10.1 Distance from Well to SAS

Title 5 requires 100 ft between the soil absorption system (SAS) and private water supply well, while local regulations require 125 ft if the well is uphill, or 150 ft if the well is downhill from the SAS. The Board recommends the distance between the SAS and down hill abutting wells be maintained at 150ft. See waiver charts for Lots #2 and #3.

I.7.1 Leaching Area Size

The applicant requests a waiver to the local definition of a bedroom, which determines design flow and leaching area size. The room count is non-compliant with Title 5 which totals the numbers of rooms and divides by two to arrive at the bedroom count. A four-bedroom deed restriction is sought to bypass this requirement. While a deed restriction is allowed under Title 5, it is not an entitlement. **There are serious concerns for health and safety if this regulation is waived and a deed restriction is granted**.

The proposed floor plans for the affordable home show nine rooms distributed over the first and second floors, including four bedrooms. This floor plan complies with local regulation 1.7.1, as well as the Title 5 limit of nine rooms on a four-bedroom system. As such, the approved Title 5 compliant septic system is appropriately sized for both flow and leaching area. No deed restriction is required and no waiver is necessary. Finishing the unfinished space above the garage should not be permitted unless combined with the elimination of an existing second floor bedroom as this would be non-compliant with both Title 5 and with local regulations as above.

The proposed floor plans for the three market-rate homes show 12 rooms over four finished floors, including two finished rooms in the basement and one finished room on the third floor, along with full bathrooms in both the basement and third floor. A deed restriction would not offer adequate protection as both the third floor space and basement space meet the Title 5 definition of a bedroom as designed. *This is substantially different from previous 40B projects in town (59 North Main and the Fields at Sherborn), where deed restrictions were granted for rooms that would require construction in order to convert them to private, conditioned bedroom space meeting the Title 5 definition.*

Each of the four lots are at their maximum nitrogen-loading capacity as determined by Title 5 (440 gpd/40,000sqft). Excess nutrient loading onto the sites would result in ineffective treatment and filtration of wastewater effluent, creating health and safety risks to sensitive receptors downgradient (wells and wetlands).

If the approved Title 5 systems receive excess wastewater flow beyond the designed capacity, the system is at risk of ponding and premature failure, creating hardship for owners, while putting downgradient sensitive receptors at risk of contamination. Given the size constraints of the lots, expansion of the septic systems is not an option for achieving drinking water protection if bedrooms exceed four per lot. The sizes and layouts of the houses can mislead residents about the limitations of use. The unfinished space in the affordable unit can be a temptation for future finishing. Current practice of the Board limits deed recordings affecting bedroom count to basement rooms.

Furthermore, it appears more likely than not that the Zone II of the public water supply wells (PWS) supplying the proposed Washington Street Homes project will overlap with properties subject to this impact of excessive nitrogen loading if room counts in excess of those permitted by Title 5 are allowed via deed recording. Zone II/IWPA are explicitly designated as nitrogen

sensitive areas. Permitting excessive room count via deed recording, and thereby excessive nitrogen loading, will pose health and safety risks to the residents of the forthcoming, adjacent Washington Homes affordable housing project. [1]

Evaluation of the Project's Private Water Supply Wells

While MassDEP offers guidelines for private wells, the state acknowledges Boards of Health are the regulatory authority on private water supplies (see Attachment A). The guidelines are intended to provide consistency from town to town, while informing Boards of Health in developing local regulations, but are not intended to be "a substitute for existing regulations and statutes." The Board maintains that, in the interest of equity, health protections for this project should be consistent with protections in the rest of town, and therefore local regulations should be adhered to.

In accordance, the Board requests that Regulation II of the local Board of Health regulation be applied to the *maximum* extent possible, particularly with regards to:

1. **Well Construction**- for integrity of the wells and construction of the casing and apron
    a. Well Protection (II.5.0)
    b. Sanitary Performance (II.3.0)
    c. Well Drillers (II.4.0)
    d. Pipes and Equipment (II.16.0)
    e. Grade Termination (II.14.0)

2. **Quantity**- pump test and tank size to ensure sufficient availability of water
    a. Well Yield (II.11.1)
    b. Storage (II.11.1)
    c. Pump Tests (II.12.0)

3. **Quality**- performance standards for health and safety
    a. Sanitary Protection (II.17.1)
    b. Sampling/Quality (II.17.2)
    c. Laboratory Tests (II.17.3)
    d. Water Conditioning (II.17.4)
    e. Enforcement (II.18.0)

[1] In connection with The Fields at Sherborn project, comparison projects were submitted by the applicant. Approximately 15 projects across Dover, Holliston, Hopkinton, Southbridge, Sudbury, Wayland, and Weston were identified as having deed restrictions on bedrooms, despite higher associated room counts. Upon review of the specifics for those projects, all were supplied by water from municipalities, private companies, or the MWRA (i.e., PWSs monitored with greater frequency and not located on-site). In some cases, wastewaters were managed by small or municipal plants with advanced treatment ability. Thus, contaminant loading in proximity to drinking water supplies was not a risk as it is here.

4. **1 Well per property**- compliance with the local regulation that no more than one well be present on a property (II.7.0).

5. **Well permits-** should be applied for and received in accordance with local regulations, including applicable fees (II.1.0)

Applicant's Request for Water Supply Waivers by Lot

The following tables summarize the nature of the requested waivers and design status for each of the 4 lots.

Lot #1			
Section	**Section Title**	**Local Requirement**	**Provided**
II.6.0 Domestic Water Supply	Well Location	Domestic wells shall be located no less than 25 ft from any lot line	11 ft

Lot #2			
Section	**Section Title**	**Local Requirement**	**Provided**
II.6.0 Domestic Water Supply	Well Location	Domestic wells shall be located no less than 25 ft from any lot line	11 ft

Lot #3			
Section	**Section Title**	**Local Requirement**	**Provided**
None requested	NA	NA	NA

Lot #4			
Section	**Section Title**	**Local Requirement**	**Provided**
II.6.0 Domestic Water Supply	Well Location	Domestic wells shall be located no less than 25 ft from any lot line	11 ft
II.6.0 Domestic Water Supply	Well Location	Wells shall be located no less than 55 ft from the edge of the traveled way or 50 ft from the edge of the right-of-way, whichever is greater	27 ft

Response to Applicant's Water Supply Waiver Requests

II.6.0 Well Location

The applicant requests a waiver from the local regulation of 25 ft from the on-site well to the property line, while Title 5 requires 10 ft. The applicant noted the wells are sited on the lots to optimize the distance between the soil absorption system (SAS) and on-site well. The Board supports maximizing the distance between the on-site well and SAS, and acknowledges the need to reduce the distance to the property line given lot size.

The applicant also requests a waiver under this section for well distance to a traveled way (55 ft) or right of way (50 ft). As presented on the disposal works permit, the well on Lot 4 is 27 ft from the traveled way. The Board recommends protection of the wellhead as specified by the local regulations be required. This recommendation benefits the future property owners by reducing the risk of damage to their well and of resulting expenses and/or health impacts.

II.17.3 Laboratory Tests

The applicant requests a waiver to testing for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) at the time of well establishment. The Board strongly recommends against granting this waiver and maintains adherence to all testing and water quality standards is important for health and safety (see Attachment A). For private wells, well installation is the one opportunity for the Board to oversee water quality and to ensure that key information is available to well owners. VOCs have rarely been detected in Sherborn wells, other than as contaminants from the well-drilling process (which can be avoided through best drilling practices or purging). Persistent VOCs have been associated with contamination incidents, which would be an important dynamic to identify for new wells. Well owners would be alerted to the need to continue to monitor the situation.

Evaluation of the Project Under Regulation III

Response to Applicant's Public and Environmental Health Review Waiver Requests

III.3.1 Environmental Health Impact Report (EHIR)

The applicant requests a waiver to the local regulation requiring an EHIR for projects surpassing a set threshold of size, scale and magnitude; however, as currently proposed and described, Greenwood Homes does not trigger any of the requirements set forth in the Regulation as written at the time of project eligibility. Waiver not applicable unless and until a threshold condition is met.

Summary of Requested/Needed Waivers and Recommended Action

Section	Subject	Recommendation by BoH	Applicable Lot #
310 CMR 15.000 Title 5	4 bedroom Sewage Disposal System	Approve	1, 2, 3, 4
I.7.1	Leaching Area Size- Bedroom definition and Room Count	Not Approve	1, 2, 3, 4
I.8.1	Vertical Grades & Clearances- 5ft from bottom of leaching area to maximum high groundwater	Approve	2
I.8.2	Vertical Grades & Clearances- SAS not constructed in fill when less than 5ft from max groundwater to natural grade	Approve	2
I.10.1	Well Distance- No leaching area shall be less than 150 ft from a well located downhill	Not Approve	2, 3
I.10.2	Sewage disposal areas shall be 125 ft from any wetland	Approve- conditional to no change in wetlands delineation	4
I.5.3	Sewage Disposal shall not be constructed inside wetlands boundary	Not Applicable- conditional to no change in wetlands delineation	1, 2, 3, 4
II.6.0	Well Location- well setback from property line	Approve	1, 2, 4
II.6.0	Well Location- well distance from traveled way	Approve- conditional to protection of the wellhead as specified by local regulations	4
II.17.3	Laboratory Tests- VOCs	Not Approve	1, 2, 3, 4
III.3.1	Environmental Health Impact Report (EHIR)	Not Applicable- conditional to no threshold condition being met as the project advances	1, 2, 3, 4

Additional Recommendations

Garbage Grinder Deed Restriction

The Board requests the garbage grinder deed recording be made prior to releasing plans for construction.

The Applicant requested an exemption from including the flow volume estimate for a garbage grinder in the design of the soil absorption system. For each of the 4 lots, a 4-bedroom house design flow reduces from 660 gallons to 440 gallons without a garbage grinder. In addition to higher flow from the use of a garbage grinder, the undigested solids loadings are particularly detrimental to the performance of the soil adsorption system. The key condition for this important exemption is that a relevant deed recording be made.

When a garbage grinder deed recording is required by the Board, an approved plan is not released until the recording is complete. The development team requested the garbage grinder deed recording be issued at the same time as the Certificate of Occupancy. The Board is concerned this could create an issue if a garbage grinder is installed prior to the issuance of a deed recording. Even if the garbage grinder is subsequently removed, the infrastructure to support such will already be in place and may be suggestive of reinstallation in the future. These properties are already marginal with respect to sewage disposal.

ATTACHMENT A

D R I N K I N G W A T E R F A C T S

PRIVATE WELLS IN URBAN AREAS

An increasing number of people in the Boston metropolitan area are installing private wells in areas where public water supply is available. Some of them are installing wells because of the increase in MWRA water rates; some because they live in towns with summer water restrictions. But are these wells really safe? And are they being connected in a way that puts the public supply at risk?

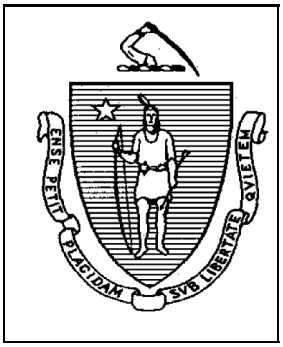
Most private wells are not tested for volatile organic compounds (VOCs), which include many of the most common – and potentially dangerous – groundwater contaminants, such as industrial solvents and gasoline. The standard well test only includes bacteria and a few inorganic chemicals like nitrate and sodium. A clean bill of health for the standard test does not mean a well is free of VOCs. Most of these chemicals are tasteless and odorless in drinking water. Unless you test your well for VOCs, you won't know whether you have a VOC problem.

VOCs have been found in many private wells in pristine settings in Massachusetts. In developed and urbanized communities like those that make up the MWRA service area, the chance of having VOCs in the groundwater is much greater. All private wells in these areas should be tested for VOCs before being used for drinking water.

*If a residence is connected to both a private well and public water supply, the piping carrying the private well and public water cannot be connected **anywhere**. Otherwise an illegal "cross connection" is created, through which private well water in the building's pipes may be siphoned into the public water mains. Therefore, residences served by private wells must either be physically disconnected from the public water system, or the pipes carrying private well and public water must be kept **completely** separate.*

If you intend to install a private well, you must contact your local Board of Health. If you presently receive public water supply, you must also contact your local water supplier.

This fact sheet is designed to give guidance to Boards of Health, public water suppliers, plumbing inspectors and present or potential well owners.



- Prepared by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, Northeast Regional Office, July 1992. Contact and reference information updated October 2008.

Private Wells

Neither the Federal government nor the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has direct jurisdiction over private water supplies. Under Massachusetts law, local Boards of Health have broad authority to "make reasonable health regulations" and are specifically authorized to require a safe and adequate supply of water for any place of habitation. Therefore, local Boards of Health have jurisdiction over private wells.

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has published the *Private Well Guidelines* to assist Boards of Health in regulating private wells. This publication discusses design, construction, maintenance, testing, contamination sources and closure procedures for private wells; a model Health regulation for private wells is included. The *Private Well Guidelines* may be obtained from the State Bookstore in Boston or Springfield.

A simple, but vital, fact about private wells is that they are "private." The well owner is not subject to water bills or to the requirements placed upon public water suppliers; however, the well owner has the responsibility to maintain the well and ensure that the water is fit to drink.

Public water supplies must be tested for bacteria and many chemicals on a regular basis – and must meet drinking-water standards – under the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act. State and Federal officials review tests of the public supplies to ensure their fitness to drink. Beyond the testing required by the local Board of Health, a private well is only tested at the discretion of the owner. Therefore, a private water supply is not likely to be as thoroughly tested as a public water supply unless the owner of the private supply makes a concerted effort to do so.

If a private well is contaminated by petroleum or a hazardous material, the Department of Environmental Protection will endeavor to find the party (or parties) responsible for the contamination. However, finding the source of the contamination and cleaning up the water supply can take years. In the meantime, connection to a public water supply or installation of a home water treatment device may be necessary — at the well owner's expense.

Overburden and Bedrock Wells

Contrary to popular belief, the groundwater that supplies wells does not flow in underground rivers (except in rare cases in limestone areas; the only limestone in Massachusetts is west of the Berkshires). Groundwater originates with rain or melted snow that soaks into the ground and seeps downward due to gravity. If contaminants have been disposed on the ground or buried, the water may soak through them and carry contamination down into the groundwater.

Overburden wells (often called "dug" or "shallow" wells) are installed in sand or gravel. These wells pump water that fills the tiny spaces between the grains of sand and gravel. The wells have some form of screen at the bottom to keep sand out. Usually these wells are not drilled more than twenty or thirty feet below the water table. Contaminants that reach an overburden well

usually come from a source fairly close to the well.

Bedrock wells (often called "drilled" or "artesian" wells) are drilled deep – usually hundreds of feet – into rock. Except for sandstone, most rock does not have pore spaces like sand and gravel for water to move through. The water in bedrock wells usually fills cracks in the rock. Depending on where these cracks reach the surface, the water in a bedrock well may be coming from nearby or from miles away. It can be difficult to find the source of contamination in bedrock wells because the source may not be nearby.

Well Testing

The traditional analysis for private wells is often called the "sanitary series" of chemicals or "regular chemical analysis". This includes bacteria, nitrate, sodium and several inorganic chemicals that may affect the aesthetics of the water, such as hardness, iron and manganese. Lead is occasionally included.

The laboratory that does the regular chemical analysis will point out any results that indicate a potential health threat or aesthetic problem. But this analysis can only tell you about the chemicals that were specifically tested for. A clean bill of health on the regular chemical analysis does not necessarily mean that the well water is free of all undesirable chemicals. Many chemicals require separate tests to determine whether or not they are present.

The most important of these undesirable chemicals are the volatile organic compounds (VOCs). This group of chemicals includes many of the most common contaminants in Massachusetts groundwater. VOCs also tend to be more soluble and mobile in groundwater than other contaminants such as heavy metals or PCBs. Many industrial chemicals and the major components of gasoline and fuel oil are VOCs. These chemicals are potentially dangerous if present in well water (depending on how much of any chemical is present). At the levels found in drinking water, VOCs are usually colorless, tasteless and odorless. So a VOC problem may not be obvious to the well owner.

Many public wells in eastern Massachusetts have had to be shut down because of VOC contamination – some of them in pristine areas with no obvious source of contamination. Likewise, contaminated private wells have been found in undeveloped towns where no threat is apparent. The more developed and urbanized an area is, the greater the chance that the groundwater is contaminated with VOCs. These chemicals have been in use for many decades, and until about 1970, a common method for disposing of VOCs was to pour them out on the ground (or down the drain into a septic system). This led to widespread groundwater contamination.

Thousands of underground tanks used for storage of gasoline or oil have been found to be leaking in Massachusetts. A well drilled near an active (or former) service station could be at high risk for contamination. Wells drilled in neighborhoods where houses have underground tanks for heating oil may be threatened by leaking oil.

One common group of VOCs is the "chlorinated solvents." This group includes many chemicals used as solvents, degreasers and drying agents, such as trichloroethylene (TCE) and tetrachloroethylene (also called perchloroethylene, or PCE). More public wells have been shut down in Massachusetts because of TCE in the last fifteen years than any other contaminant. Chlorinated solvents are heavier than water and tend to sink in the groundwater. They can therefore be a bigger threat to bedrock wells than petroleum chemicals.

There are many possible sources for chlorinated solvent contamination. Any business that has to clean equipment or wash trucks may use solvents (or may have used them previously). TCE is widely used for cleaning and finishing metal. Dry cleaners use large amounts of PCE. In areas with septic systems, any chemical that is poured down the drain may end up in the groundwater. Many septic system cleaners and additives contain solvents such as TCE or 1,1,1-trichloroethane; use of septic system cleaners or additives may cause groundwater contamination.

A VOC analysis costs about $150. The analysis includes dozens of common industrial and petroleum-related chemicals. A VOC test should be done on any new well before it is used for drinking water. Once the well is in use for a period of time, it will gradually begin pulling in water from farther away – from areas that might be contaminated. Therefore, another VOC test should be done after the well has been used for a year or two. After that, tests should be done every three to five years. The DEP Drinking Water Program can tell you what laboratories in your area are certified by the Commonwealth to do VOC analyses.

Bedrock wells should also be tested for radon. Radon is a radioactive gas that occurs naturally in rock; it can be released from drinking water into household air and inhaled. Other chemicals that may be tested for in private wells include trace metals (lead, arsenic, etc.), phenols and base-neutral compounds (such as naphthalene). These chemicals are found in private wells much less often than VOCs and radon. Naturally high levels of trace metals can occur in bedrock wells; arsenic problems have been found in some bedrock wells in New England. Pesticides and herbicides may be a problem for wells in current or former agricultural areas and near utility right-of-ways.

Even if a private well is only used for non-drinking purposes, it should be tested. Bathing in contaminated water, or swimming in a pool filled with it, can cause skin contact with contaminants. VOCs and radon can be released from the water into household air during bathing, laundering or dishwashing. If well water with high levels of trace metals is used to water a vegetable garden, the metals may accumulate in the vegetables.

Cross Connections

Massachusetts drinking-water regulations state that an approved public water supply may not be connected to an unapproved supply, such as a private well. Such a hookup is considered an illegal cross connection. Therefore, a residence may receive water from a private well or from a public water supply — but not from both, unless the two sets of pipes are kept **completely** separate.

For a residence to have a legal hookup to both a private well and a public water supply, the pipes carrying private well water must not be connected **anywhere** to the pipes carrying public water; there is no cross connection in such an arrangement. For example, a private well may be used for laundry, filling a swimming pool, or watering the yard, while public water is used for drinking and cooking, as long as the two sets of water pipes are not connected anywhere.

Cross connections expose the public water supply to potential contamination. A drop in the pressure in the public water main, or high water pressure in the house (from a pressure storage tank for the well), can cause water from the household pipes to siphon back into the public water main. If the private well is contaminated, the contaminated water can enter the public water supply in this way. The private well owner could be liable for the cost of correcting the contamination in the public water supply.

To prevent cross connections, residences served by private wells must be physically disconnected from the public water system, unless the two sets of pipes are completely separate. People who wish to use private wells instead of public water must notify the public water supplier of their intention (in MWRA communities, this is the local Water Department, not the MWRA). The supplier will then disconnect the service line from the residence to the main. Plumbers, plumbing inspectors, building inspectors and well drillers should be aware that connections between private wells and public water systems are prohibited.

Contacts and Sources of Additional Information

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

If you have general questions regarding private wells, you may call the Boston office of the DEP Drinking Water Program at **(617) 292-5770**.

To obtain information on State-certified laboratories in your area, call the DEP Drinking Water Program in your region. If you have reason to believe your well has been contaminated by oil or a hazardous material, call the DEP Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup in your region. The Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup may have information on known or suspected contamination sites in your area. The regional offices of DEP are:

Western (Springfield)	**(413) 784-1100**
Central (Worcester)	**(508) 792-7650**
Northeast (Wilmington)	**(978) 694-3200**
Southeast (Lakeville)	**(508) 946-2700**

This fact sheet is available on-line at:

http://www.mass.gov/dep/water/drinking/privatew.htm

The following publications, along with other information on private wells, are available on-line on the DEP web site at:

http://www.mass.gov/dep/water/drinking.htm

- ***Private Well Guidelines*** - A DEP guidance manual for the construction and maintenance of private wells.
- ***Guidelines and Policies for Public Water Systems*** - A complete guidance manual for public drinking water purveyors detailing water supply facility maintenance, approved procedures, and construction requirements.
- ***Drinking Water Regulations, 310 CMR 22.00*** - The regulations pertaining to Massachusetts public drinking water supplies.

A searchable database of State-certified laboratories is available on-line at:

http://public.dep.state.ma.us/Labcert/Labcert.aspx

For information on the requirements for siting, installing, and testing a private well in your city or town, contact your local Board of Health.