

CONSIDERING A BYLAW? HERE'S WHAT TO DO.

Look at Similar Towns:

- Find towns that have similar needs
 - Look for similar population sizes
 - Look for similar location in Massachusetts
- Look for towns with similar infrastructure

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/18ShhtS91YIMU0HoL0JctbHNPUSL9ZFQ?usp=sharing>

Look at MassDEP's Model Bylaw:

- Consider the needs of your town
 - how many residents are on well water vs. public water?
 - what regulations do you already have?
 - what can be improved?
- What issues do you want to address?
- What issues matter to your residents?

CONTACT US

MassDEP

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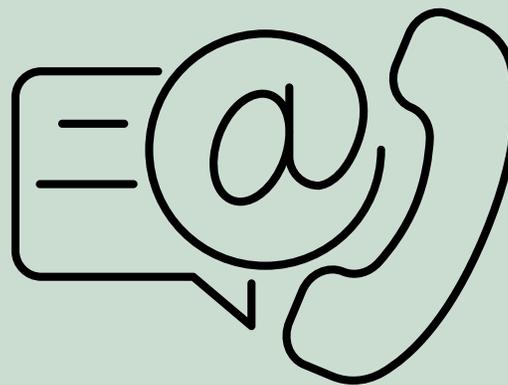
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THE INS AND OUTS OF BYLAWS AND REGULATIONS

Commonly Asked Questions

We have a drafted bylaw or regulation set. How do I get public buy in?

- Hold information sessions, and question and answer forum
- Be open to questions
- Make supporting educational materials to be mailed or circulated on social media.
 - be sure to remember your target audience
- Think of why the issue your bylaw or regulations are addressing are important and convey that to the public.

Q&A continued

What Should I add in my bylaw or regulations?

- Look at towns that are similar to your town and see what they have for their bylaw?
- Check out the MassDEP website for up to date model bylaws:
<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/private-well-guidelines>

Why should I consider a bylaw?

- Private wells are not regulated by the federal or state government
- Local boards of health have the power to regulate private wells
- Ground water may be contaminated, it's up to you to protect people's health

MassDEP Model Bylaw

- The MassDEP recommends that wells are sampled for PFAS **at least every 10 years**
- And a water quality panel is run **every 1-3 years** for other contaminants
- More frequent testing is recommended for more urban or industrial areas.
- The MassDEP also recommends testing wells when a change in color, smell, or taste of water occurs

MassDEP model Bylaw Can be Found Here

