

April 6, 2010

Brian Monahan, Conservation Administrator
bmonahan@wayland.ma.us
Wayland Conservation Commission
Town Building
41 Cochituate Road
Wayland MA 01778

Dear Brian:

I am writing on behalf of the Wayland Wellhead Protection Committee to raise questions our committee has regarding the proposed use of the Wayland High School (and Town Pool) parking lot as a construction site staging area and truck cleaning and fueling area for the upcoming construction at the Town Pool and the Wayland High School.

At the Wayland High School Building Committee presentation to involved Town boards and agencies in February, it was stated that this staging area would be a transition zone for vehicles and construction equipment and that fueling and cleaning of trucks and other vehicles would take place here as devised by the selected general contractor of that project.

Since this area is directly upgradient from two Happy Hollow wells of the Wayland Water Department, we would appreciate having the following questions addressed in a future meeting of the Conservation Commission as it deliberates and reviews wetland protection measures for these projects:

1. Dudley Brook and its wetland buffer runs to the south of this staging area and would be a likely receptor of any spills or rinsate from this staging area. The brook runs directly through the Zone II and Zone I wellhead protection areas and has direct impact on the groundwater quality for these shallow, gravel-packed wells. Therefore, should an intermediate intercept between this area and the brook be constructed prior to active construction use of this area?
2. If vehicles are cleaned in this staging area – especially if involving water runoff from the site – how can the Commission assure that this runoff will not carry oils, fuels, hydraulic fluids, and other hydrocarbons into the Brook and subsequently into the zone of contribution for the Happy Hollow Wells? Although a rinsate collection pad or intercept will trap runoff, it will not necessarily separate hydrocarbons from this water before infiltration into groundwater and the Dudley Brook area.

3. WPC offers the following historical information so you can appreciate the question that follows: DEP's January, 2007 high school site visit resulted in the town being cited for inappropriate activities occurring in the zone I. Attached please find the June 2007 outcome of discussions and agreement between the Town and the agency on how to best protect our nearby wells. Should the wetlands and the drinking water divisions of DEP review and approve in advance any construction activities (e.g. vehicle washing, etc.) proposed to occur in the Zone II, as specified by town boards?

The Wellhead Protection Committee would appreciate assurances that absolutely no storage of fuels and hazardous chemicals or refueling of vehicles occurs in the Zone II upgradient to the Zone I wellhead protection areas of these wells. The Committee would also appreciate the Commission requiring an explicit listing of best management practices (BMPs) for the use of this area as a construction site staging area for the duration of the project, e.g. silt socks in catch basins, etc.

Thank you for your consideration of these issues, and our thanks to the Commission for their continuing excellence in helping us protect Wayland's aquifers and wells.

Best regards,

Sherre Greenbaum
Chair
Wayland Wellhead Protection Committee