

WPC ANNUAL REPORT FY10

The Wellhead Protection Committee (WPC) was formed in 2007 to “develop, maintain, and oversee the Wellhead Protection Plan and ensure that every effort is made to carry out its details; encourage community discussion through public outreach and education; develop strategies needed to protect our water supply in accordance with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection’s Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP) report and other pertinent information; advise the Board of Water Commissioners (successor Department of Public Works) and make recommendations regarding wellhead protection issues; and support ongoing source protection efforts.”

Phase II of the hydrogeological study of the groundwater capture zone of the Happy Hollow wells was completed in June 2010. The Happy Hollow wells had been identified for further study due to water quality protection concerns. Recommendations to minimize contamination risks to the wells will be reviewed and implemented.

As part of its educational efforts, the WPC and Mass Audubon presented the RiverFest event, “The River Comes Out of Your Faucet.” Sponsored by a grant from the Wayland and Massachusetts Cultural Councils, the interactive family program showed the vital connection between the Sudbury River and our drinking water. The WPC also participated in the town’s Earth Day celebration and plans to develop a program for Drinking Water Week in May.

As part of its conservation efforts, the WPC again co-sponsored the Organic Demonstration Lawn at Mellen Green, a prime example of smart lawnkeeping. Op eds concerning the water ban as well as residential water saving suggestions were published in the Town Crier.

The WPC updated its draft wellhead protection plan for the town’s wells. The committee looks forward to working with the Massachusetts Rural Water Association which will assist with the development and writing of the long-range planning document for submission to MassDEP.