

WPC ANNUAL REPORT FY11

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.”

The Phase II final report of the hydrogeological study of the groundwater capture zone of the Happy Hollow Wells was completed in August 2010. The Happy Hollow Wells, which produce approximately half of Wayland’s potable water, had been identified for further study as having the greatest number of threats to water quality.

The WPC co-sponsored a fall town meeting warrant article with the Planning Board amending the Aquifer Protection District bylaw regarding impervious surface lot coverage as recommended by MassDEP. The WPC worked with Wayland’s GIS Coordinator to add wellhead and aquifer protection mapping information to the town’s database. The WPC also advised the Board of Health to adopt requisite floor drain control regulations.

As part of its water conservation efforts, the WPC again co-sponsored the Organic Demonstration Lawn at Mellen Green. The WPC members submitted articles for publication in the *Wayland Town Crier* and participated in the Farmers’ Market and Earth Day celebration in furtherance of its public outreach and educational mission. The WPC also compiled documents and other information about our drinking water supply and available resources for its protection for posting on the town’s website.

The Wellhead Protection Plan was completed with the assistance of the Mass Rural Water Association’s source water protection specialist and guidance from MassDEP and presented at the Board of Public Works meeting on June 6, 2011. The document, organized around the five different wellhead areas, details possible sources of contamination and provides strategies to reduce immediate threats as well as proactive strategies for future protection to ensure long-term source water sustainability.

WPC members Sherre Greenbaum, Jennifer Riley, Tom Sciacca, Linda Segal and Kurt Tramosch thank the various town officials and staff who contributed to the completion of the Plan.

The EPA’s WaterSense program awarded the WPC a Certificate of Appreciation in 2011 for participation in its program and for “practicing and promoting water efficiency” and “helping protect this precious resource for future generations.”

The WPC was dissolved by the Board of Public Works effective June 30, 2011.