

Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan

Town of Bourne, MA

Frequently Asked Questions

Update: 02/22/2021

What is a CWMP and why does the Town of Bourne need one?

Nitrogen is the number one pollutant affecting coastal water quality. About 80% of the nitrogen in Cape Cod's watersheds is from septic systems.¹ The Town of Bourne's Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan (CWMP) looks at ways to reduce nitrogen pollution and improve coastal water quality. CWMPs are required by the Cape Cod 208 Plan and typically take three to four years to complete, following steps required by MassDEP²:

1. **Needs Assessment** counts existing septic systems and nitrogen sources, and estimates future nitrogen sources.
2. **Identification of Alternatives** reviews all ways to reduce nitrogen pollution and compiles reasonable, cost-effective projects.
3. **Recommended Plan** combines the best projects into a final plan, for the Town to put into action over the next twenty-years.

The Town can use public funding programs, like the Clean Water Trust State Revolving Fund (CWTSRF) and Cape Cod and Islands Water Protection Fund (CCIWPF), to help offset project costs.

Who will be making decisions in the CWMP process?

You! Similar to the Local Comprehensive Plan, the number one priority of the CWMP is improving water quality. The CWMP covers town-wide issues and requires resident, local officials, and stakeholder input. Your participation is vital for a successful CWMP!

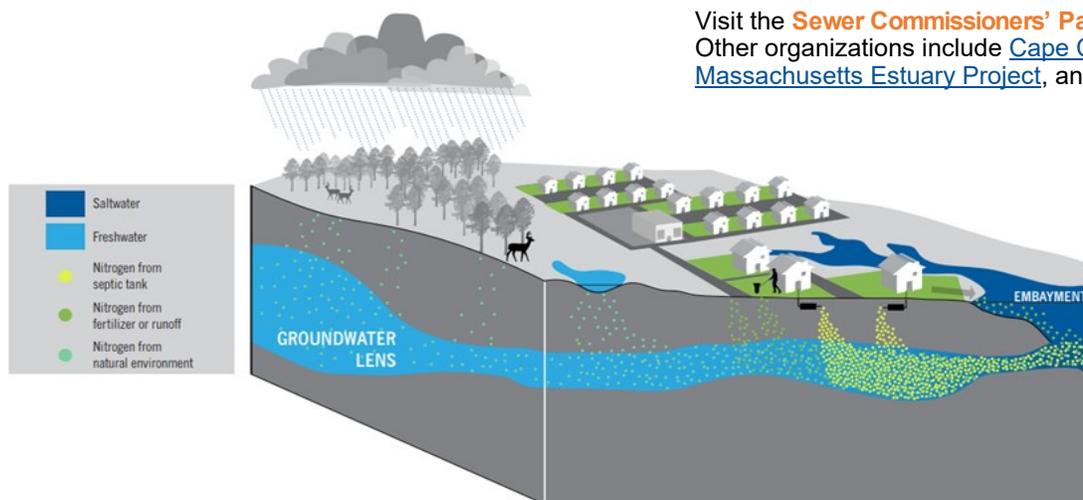
When will the first public meeting be?

Visit the [Sewer Commissioners' Page](#) on the Town Website for date, location, and time details.

CWMP Steps	Timeframe
Needs Analysis	Spring 2021-Winter 2022
Identification of Alternatives	Spring 2022-Fall 2022
Recommended Plan	Winter 2023-Summer 2023
Regulatory Review	Fall 2023

Where can I learn more?

Visit the [Sewer Commissioners' Page](#) on the Town Website. Other organizations include [Cape Cod Commission](#), [Massachusetts Estuary Project](#), and [MassDEP Websites](#).



"How Nitrogen Moves Through A Coastal Watershed" Source: Cape Cod Commission

References:

- 1: "208 Plan: Cape Cod Area Wide Water Quality Management Plan Update" Cape Cod Commission. 2015. Web. https://www.capecodcommission.org/resource-library/file/?url=/dept/commission/team/208/208%20Final/Cape_Cod_Area_Wide_Water_Quality_Management_Plan_Update_June_15_2015.pdf
- 2: "Guide to Comprehensive Wastewater Management Planning" Department of Environmental Protection. January 1996. Web. <https://www.mass.gov/doc/wastewater-facility-planning-guidance/download>

Prepared By:

