



Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP) Report
for
Three Rivers Fire District

What is SWAP?

The Source Water Assessment Protection (SWAP) program, established under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, requires every state to:

- inventory land uses within the recharge areas of all public water supply sources;
- assess the susceptibility of drinking water sources to contamination from these land uses; and
- publicize the results to provide support for improved protection.

Susceptibility and Water Quality

Susceptibility is a measure of a water supply's potential to become contaminated due to land uses and activities within its recharge area.

A source's susceptibility to contamination does *not* imply poor water quality.

Water suppliers protect drinking water by monitoring for more than 100 chemicals, disinfecting, filtering, or treating water supplies, and using source protection measures to ensure that safe water is delivered to the tap.

Actual water quality is best reflected by the results of regular water tests. To learn more about your water quality, refer to your water supplier's annual Consumer Confidence Reports.

Table 1: Public Water System Information

<i>PWS Name</i>	Three Rivers Fire District
<i>PWS Address</i>	2031 Main Street, P.O. Box 182
<i>City/Town</i>	Palmer
<i>PWS ID Number</i>	1227003
<i>Local Contact</i>	John Sasur
<i>Phone Number</i>	(413) 283-9284

Introduction

We are all concerned about the quality of the water we drink. Drinking water wells may be threatened by many potential contaminant sources, including storm runoff, road salting, and improper disposal of hazardous materials. Citizens and local officials can work together to better protect these drinking water sources.

Purpose of this report:

This report is a planning tool to support local and state efforts to improve water supply protection. By identifying land uses within water supply protection areas that may be potential sources of contamination, the assessment helps focus protection efforts on appropriate best management practices (BMPs) and drinking water source protection measures.

Refer to Table 3 for Recommendations to address potential sources of contamination. Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff are available to provide information about funding and other resources that may be available to your community.

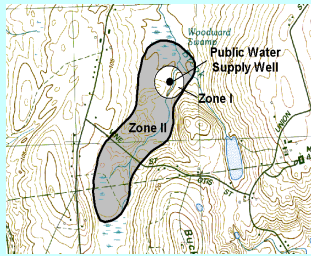
This report includes the following sections:

1. Description of the Water System
2. Land Uses within Protection Areas
3. Source Water Protection Conclusions and Recommendations
4. Appendices

Section 1: Description of the Water System

What is a Protection Area?

A well's water supply protection area is the land around the well where protection activities should be focused. Each well has a Zone I protective radius and a Zone II protection area.



Glossary

Aquifer: An underground water-bearing layer of permeable material that will yield water in a usable quantity to a well.

Hydrogeologic Barrier: An underground layer of impermeable material (i.e. clay) that resists penetration by water.

Recharge Area: The surface area that contributes water to a well.

Zone I: The area closest to a well; a 100 to 400 foot radius proportional to the well's pumping rate. This area should be owned or controlled by the water supplier and limited to water supply activities.

Zone II: The primary recharge area for the aquifer. This area is defined by hydrogeologic studies that must be approved by DEP. Refer to the attached map to determine the land within your Zone II.

Zone II #: 465

Susceptibility: High

Well Names	Source IDs
Well #1	1227003-01G
Well #3	1227003-03G

Three Rivers is a village within the town of Palmer Massachusetts, a medium sized community in south central, Massachusetts. Palmer, established in the early 1700's, initially developed as an industrial community along the numerous brooks and rivers that flow through the area. Palmer consists of the villages of Bondsville, Three Rivers, Whipples, Thorndike and Palmer. The Swift River flows into the Ware River and the Ware and Quabaug Rivers join to form the Chicopee River. The area east of the confluence is known as Three Rivers.

There are four community public water supply systems in Palmer: Thorndike, Palmer, Bondsville and Three Rivers Fire Districts. The Bondsville District currently supplies water to the Thorndike system with the Three Rivers District supplying a portion due to previous water quality problems with the Thorndike Fire District's source. Three Rivers Fire District maintains two active water supply wells 01G and 03G. The wells are located approximately 1,200 feet apart, immediately south of the Ware River. Both are gravel packed wells constructed in an unconfined sand and gravel aquifer. The wells for Three Rivers Water District are located within the same hydrogeologic regime and are within the same Zone II contribution area.

The wells are located in sand and gravel deposited during the recession (melting) of the glaciers some 12-18,000 years before present. Streams and rivers have reworked the deposits and recent stream have deposited additional alluvial material. Boring logs and maps in the vicinity of the wells indicate medium to coarse sand, deposits approximately 45 to 85 feet in depth. There is no evidence of a confining clay layer. Under long duration pumping conditions, the river likely contributes water to the aquifer. The bedrock in the area is mapped as the Belchertown Complex, an igneous, quartz monzodiorite.

Each well has a Zone I radius of 400 feet and the Zone II was delineated as part of the SWAP program utilizing geological mapping and analytical modelling. Data for the analysis was gathered from extended duration pumping tests. The wells are located in an aquifer with a high vulnerability to contamination due to the absence of hydrogeologic barriers (i.e. clay) that can prevent contaminant migration. Please refer to the attached map to view the boundaries of the Zone II.

Sodium hydroxide is added to the water from both wells to raise the pH for corrosion control. The District has the capability of adding sodium hypochlorite as a disinfectant in the event of an emergency, however, it is not regularly added to the water. For current information on monitoring results and treatment, please contact the Public Water System contact person listed above in Table 1 for a copy of the most recent Consumer Confidence Report.

Section 2: Land Uses in the Protection Areas

The Zone II for Three Rivers is a mixture of forest, cropland, and residential, with a small portion commercial/light industrial land uses (refer to attached map for details). Land uses and activities that are potential sources of contamination are listed in Table 2, with further detail provided in the Table of Regulated Facilities and Table of Underground Storage Tanks in Appendix B.

Key Land Uses and Protection Issues include:

1. Zone I Protection
2. Residential land uses
3. Transportation corridors
4. Agricultural activities
5. Comprehensive wellhead protection planning

The overall ranking of susceptibility to contamination for the system is high, based on the presence of at least one high threat land use within the water supply protection areas, as seen in Table 2.

1. Non-conforming Zone Is – The Zone I for each of the wells is a 400 foot radius around the wellhead. Currently, Massachusetts drinking water regulations (310 CMR 22.00 Drinking Water) require public water suppliers to own the Zone I, or control the Zone I through a conservation restriction. The public water supplier does not own or control the entire Zone I for either of the wells. Only water supply activities are allowed in the Zone I. The river and a portion of a farm are within the Zone I, however, there is no active crop cultivation within the Zone I. Numerous water sources were developed prior to the 400-foot Zone I requirement and are therefore grandfathered. The Department encourages grandfathered systems to acquire ownership or control of the Zone I. The Three Rivers District has actively pursued methods of protecting and/or acquiring the Zone I land.

Zone I Recommendations:

- ✓ Keep any new non-water supply activities out of the Zone I.
- ✓ Continue your current efforts to purchase land and/or negotiate a conservation restriction for land within the Zone I.

2. Residential Land Uses – Approximately 25% of the Zone II consists of residential areas. Much of the area south of the river is served by public

sewers, however, some residential/rural areas use septic systems. If managed improperly, activities associated with residential areas can contribute to drinking water contamination. Common potential sources of contamination include:

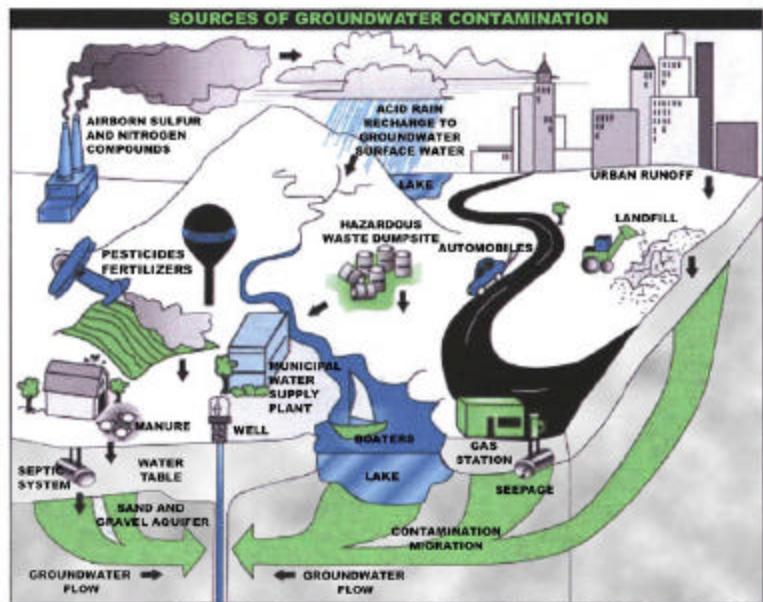
- **Septic Systems** – Improper disposal of household hazardous chemicals to septic systems is a potential source of contamination to the groundwater because septic systems lead to the ground. If septic systems fail or are not properly maintained they can be a potential source of microbial contamination.
- **Household Hazardous Materials** - Hazardous materials may include automotive wastes, paints, solvents, pesticides, fertilizers, and other substances. Improper use, storage, and

Benefits of Source Protection

Source Protection helps protect public health and is also good for fiscal fitness:

- Protects drinking water quality at the source
- Reduces monitoring costs through the DEP Waiver Program
- Treatment can be reduced or avoided entirely, saving treatment costs
- Prevents costly contamination clean-up
- Preventing contamination saves costs on water purchases, and expensive new source development

Contact your regional DEP office for more information on Source Protection and the Waiver Program.



disposal of chemical products used in homes are potential sources of contamination.

- **Heating Oil Storage** - If managed improperly, Underground and Aboveground Storage Tanks (UST and AST) can be potential sources of contamination due to leaks or spills of the fuel oil they store.
- **Stormwater** – Catch basins transport stormwater from roadways and adjacent properties to the ground. As flowing stormwater travels, it picks up debris and contaminants from streets and lawns. Common potential contaminants include lawn chemicals, pet waste, and contaminants from automotive leaks, maintenance, washing, or accidents.

Residential Land Use Recommendations:

- ✓ Educate residents on best management practices (BMPs) for protecting water supplies. Distribute the fact sheet “Residents Protect Drinking Water” available in Appendix A and on www.mass.gov/dep/brp/dws/protect.htm, which provides BMPs for common residential issues.
- ✓ Work with planners to control new residential developments in the water supply protection areas.
- ✓ Promote BMPs for stormwater management and pollution controls.

3. Transportation Corridors - Local roads are common throughout the Zone II. Roadway construction, maintenance, and typical highway use can all be potential sources of contamination. Accidents can lead to spills of gasoline and other potentially dangerous transported chemicals. Roadways are frequent sites for illegal dumping of hazardous or other potentially harmful wastes. De-icing salt, automotive chemicals and other debris on roads are picked up by stormwater and wash in to catch basins.

Railroad tracks run through the Zone II. Rail corridors serving passenger or freight trains are potential sources of contamination due to chemicals released during normal use, track maintenance, and accidents. Accidents can release spills of train engine fluids and commercially transported chemicals.

Transportation Corridor Recommendations:

- ✓ Identify stormwater drains and the drainage system along transportation corridors. Wherever possible, ensure that drains discharge stormwater outside of the Zone II.
- ✓ Work with the Town and State to have catch basins inspected, maintained, and cleaned on a regular schedule. Street sweeping reduces the amount of potential contaminants in runoff.
- ✓ Work with local emergency response teams to ensure that any spills within the Zone II can be effectively contained.
- ✓ If storm drainage maps are available, review the maps with emergency response teams. If maps aren't yet available, work with town officials to investigate mapping options such as the upcoming Phase II Stormwater Rule requiring some communities to complete stormwater mapping.
- ✓ Work with local officials during their review of the railroad right of way Yearly Operating Plans to ensure that water supplies are protected during vegetation control.

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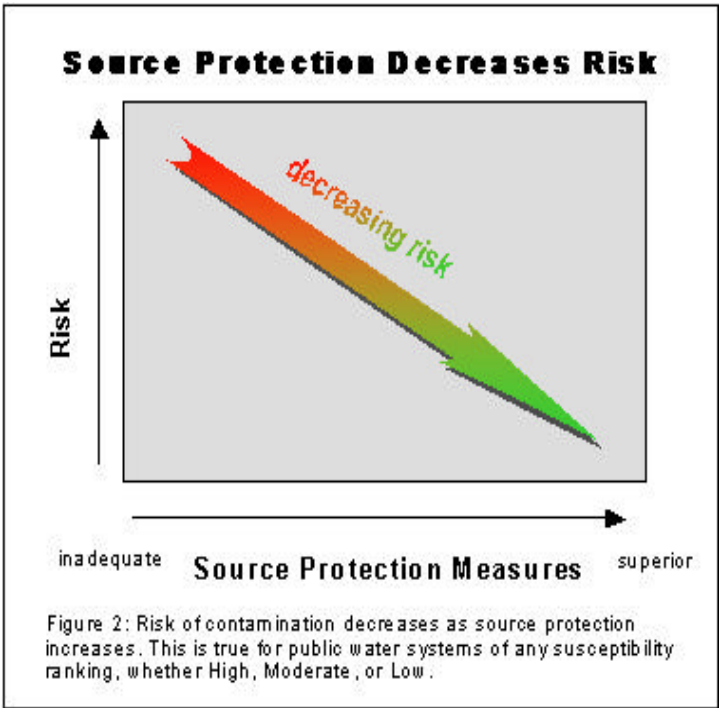
What are "BMPs?"

Best Management Practices (BMPs) are measures that are used to protect and improve surface water and groundwater quality. BMPs can be structural, such as oil & grease trap catch basins, nonstructural, such as hazardous waste collection days or managerial, such as employee training on proper disposal procedures.

For More Information

Contact Catherine Skiba in DEP's Springfield Office at (413) 755-2119 for more information and assistance on improving current protection measures.

Copies of this report have been provided to the public water supplier, board of health, and the town.



Potential Source of Contamination vs. Actual Contamination

The activities listed in Table 2 are those that typically use, produce, or store contaminants of concern, which, if managed improperly, are potential sources of contamination (PSC).

It is important to understand that a release may never occur from the potential source of contamination provided facilities are using best management practices (BMPs). If BMPs are in place, the actual risk may be lower than the threat ranking identified in Table 2. Many potential sources of contamination are regulated at the federal, state and/or local levels, to further reduce the risk.

Table 2: Land Use in the Protection Areas (Zones I and II)

For more information, refer to Appendix B: Regulated Facilities within the Water Supply Protection Area

Activities	Quantity	Threat*	Potential Source of Contamination
Commercial			
Cemeteries	2	M	Over-application of pesticides: leaks, spills, improper handling; historic embalming fluids
Railroad Tracks And Yards	1	H	Herbicides: over-application or improper handling; fuel storage, transported chemicals, and maintenance chemicals: leaks or spills
Sand And Gravel Mining/Washing	1	M	Heavy equipment, fuel storage, clandestine dumping: spills or leaks
Residential			
Fuel Oil Storage (at residences)	Numerous	M	Fuel oil: spills, leaks, or improper handling
Lawn Care / Gardening	Numerous	M	Pesticides: over-application or improper storage and disposal
Septic Systems / Cesspools	Numerous	M	Hazardous chemicals: microbial contaminants, and improper disposal
Miscellaneous			
Aboveground Storage Tanks	1	M	Materials stored in tanks: spills, leaks, or improper handling
Combined Sewer Overflows	3	L	Microbial and non-microbial contaminants including industrial wastewater; improper disposal of hazardous wastes
Schools	3	M	Fuel oil, laboratory, art, photographic, machine shop, and other chemicals: spills, leaks, or improper handling or storage
Stormwater Drains/ Retention Basins	1	L	Debris, pet waste, and chemicals in stormwater from roads, parking lots, and lawns
Transmission Line Rights-of-Way	1	L	Corridor maintenance pesticides: over-application or improper handling; construction
Transportation Corridors	Several	M	Fuels and other hazardous materials: accidental leaks or spills; pesticides: over-application or improper handling
Underground Storage Tanks	2	H	Stored materials: spills, leaks, or improper handling
Utility Substation Transformers	1	L	Chemicals and other materials including PCBs: spills, leaks, or improper handling

Table 2 Notes:

1. When specific potential contaminants are not known, typical potential contaminants or activities for that type of land use are listed. Facilities within the watershed may not contain all of these potential contaminant sources, may contain other potential contaminant sources, or may use Best Management Practices to prevent contaminants from reaching drinking water supplies.
2. For more information on regulated facilities, refer to Appendix B: Regulated Facilities within the Water Supply Protection Area information about these potential sources of contamination.
3. For information about Oil or Hazardous Materials Sites in your protection areas, refer to Appendix C: Tier Classified Oil and/or Hazardous Material Sites.
4. * **THREAT RANKING** - The rankings (high, moderate or low) represent the relative threat of each land use compared to other PSCs. The ranking of a particular PSC is based on a number of factors, including: the type and quantity of chemicals typically used or generated by the PSC; the characteristics of the contaminants (such as toxicity, environmental fate and transport); and the behavior and mobility of the pollutants in soils and groundwater.

4. Agricultural Activities – There are several farms throughout the Zone II. Pesticides and fertilizers have the potential to contaminate a drinking water source if improperly stored, applied, or disposed. If not contained or applied properly, animal waste from barnyards, manure pits and field application are potential sources of contamination to ground and surface water.

Agricultural Activities Recommendation:

- ✓ Work with farmers in your protection areas to make them aware of your water supply and to encourage the use of a US Natural Resource Conservation Service farm plan to protect water supplies.
- ✓ Work with the Department to negotiate Conservation Restrictions as appropriate.

5. Protection Planning – Currently, the Town has water supply protection controls, but they do not meet the minimum requirements of the Department’s Wellhead Protection regulations 310 CMR 22.21(2). Protection planning protects drinking water by managing the land area that supplies water to a well. A Wellhead Protection Plan coordinates community efforts, identifies protection strategies, establishes a timeframe for implementation, and provides a forum for public participation. There are resources available to help communities develop a plan for protecting drinking water supply wells. The Department recognizes the difficulty for one of four water supply districts to work independently to achieve comprehensive source protection.

It should be noted that activities within the Zone III may pose a potential threat to the water supply. Specifically, under conditions when the river contributes water to the aquifer an accidental release to the river may pose a threat to water quality. This report does not include facilities located upgradient of the wells along the Ware River.

Protection Planning Recommendations:

- ✓ Consider the fiscal and practical aspects of consolidating the Districts. It is our understanding that a feasibility study has been conducted to consider combining Districts. The Department endorses and encourages consolidation of systems when it will result in improved compliance and customer service, lower costs, and broaden rate options. The Department will assist the Districts if all or some of the Districts wish to consolidate.
- ✓ Inventory facilities upstream within, the Zone III, and incorporate any potentially high threat facilities into you Emergency Response Action Plan.
- ✓ Keep your Wellhead Protection Plan up to date. Meet with your protection team, and refer them to <http://mass.gov/dep/brp/dws/protect.htm> for a copy



Additional Documents:

To help with source protection efforts, more information is available by request or online at mass.gov/dep/brp/dws including:

1. Water Supply Protection Guidance Materials such as model regulations, Best Management Practice information, and general water supply protection information.
2. MA DEP SWAP Strategy
3. Land Use Pollution Potential Matrix
4. Draft Land/Associated Contaminants Matrix

- of DEP's guidance, "Developing a Local Wellhead Protection Plan".
- ✓ Coordinate efforts with local officials to compare local wellhead protection controls with current MA Wellhead Protection Regulations 310 CMR 22.21 (2). If they do not meet the current regulations, adopt controls that meet 310 CMR 22.21(2). For more information on DEP land use controls see <http://mass.gov/dep/brp/dws/protect.htm>.
- ✓ Local controls do not regulate floordrains; work with the Board of Health to adopt floordrain controls that meet 310 CMR 22.21(2).

Other land uses and activities within the Zone II are listed in Table 2. Refer to Table 2 and Appendix 2 for more information about these land uses.

Identifying potential sources of contamination is an important initial step in protecting your drinking water sources. Further local investigation will provide more in-depth information and may identify new land uses and activities that are potential sources of contamination. Once potential sources of contamination are identified, specific recommendations like those below should be used to better protect your water supply.

Section 3: Source Water Protection Conclusions and Recommendations

What is a Zone III?

A Zone III (the secondary recharge area) is the land beyond the Zone II from which surface and ground water drain to the Zone II and is often coincident with a watershed boundary.

The Zone III is defined as a secondary recharge area for one or both of the following reasons:

1. The low permeability of underground water bearing materials in this area significantly reduces the rate of groundwater and potential contaminant flow into the Zone II.
2. The groundwater in this area discharges to a surface water feature such as a river, rather than discharging directly into the aquifer.

The land uses within the Zone III are assessed only for sources that are shown to be groundwater under the direct influence of surface water.

Current Land Uses and Source Protection:

As with many water supply protection areas, the system Zone IIs contain potential sources of contamination. However, source protection measures reduce the risk of actual contamination, as illustrated in Figure 2. The water supplier is commended for taking an active role in promoting source protection measures in the Water Supply Protection Areas through:

- Requiring residential UST owners to register their UST in order to fill it.
- Pursuing funds to aid homeowners in replacing or upgrading older USTs.
- Successfully acquiring grant funds to study upstream land uses and prepare emergency response plan for addressing potential upstream impacts.

Source Protection Recommendations:

To better protect the sources for the future:

- ✓ Inspect the Zone I regularly, and when feasible, remove any non-water supply activities.
- ✓ Work with the Department to acquire a Conservation Restriction for the Zone I area not currently owned by the District.
- ✓ Educate residents on ways they can help you to protect drinking water sources.
- ✓ Work with emergency response teams to ensure that they are aware of the stormwater drainage in your Zone II and to cooperate on responding to spills or accidents.
- ✓ Partner with local businesses to ensure the proper storage, handling, and disposal of hazardous materials. Since the wells can induce recharge from the river, include those businesses in the Zone III along the river.
- ✓ Monitor progress on any ongoing remedial action conducted for the known oil or contamination sites.
- ✓ Work with farmers in your protection areas to make them aware of your water supply and to encourage the use of a NRCS farm plan to protect water supplies.

Top 5 Reasons to Develop a Local Wellhead Protection Plan

- 1 Reduces Risk to Human Health
- 2 Cost Effective! Reduces or Eliminates Costs Associated With:
 - ♦ Increased groundwater monitoring and treatment
 - ♦ Water supply clean up and remediation
 - ♦ Replacing a water supply
 - ♦ Purchasing water
- 3 Supports municipal bylaws, making them less likely to be challenged
- 4 Ensures clean drinking water supplies for future generations
- 5 Enhances real estate values - clean drinking water is a local amenity. A community known for its great drinking water in a place people want to live and businesses want to locate.

- ✓ Develop and implement a Wellhead Protection Plan. Work with the other water suppliers in Palmer to present a joint effort within Town.

Conclusions:

These recommendations are only part of your ongoing local drinking water source protection. Additional source protection recommendations are listed in Table 3, the Key Issues above and Appendix A.

DEP staff, informational documents, and resources are available to help you build on this SWAP report as you continue to improve drinking water protection in your community. The Department's Wellhead Protection Grant Program and Source Protection Grant Program provide funds to assist public water suppliers in addressing water supply source protection through local projects. Protection recommendations discussed in this document may be eligible for funding under the Grant Program. Please note: each spring DEP posts a new Request for Response for the grant program (RFR).

Other grants and loans are available through the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund, the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, and other sources. For more information on grants and loans, visit the Bureau of Resource Protection's Municipal Services web site at: <http://mass.gov/dep/brp/mf/mfpubs.htm>.

The assessment and protection recommendations in this SWAP report are provided as a tool to encourage community discussion, support ongoing source protection efforts, and help set local drinking water protection priorities. Citizens and community officials should use this SWAP report to spur discussion of local drinking water protection measures. The water supplier should supplement this SWAP report with local information on potential sources of contamination and land uses. Local information should be maintained and updated periodically to reflect land use changes in the Zone II. Use this information to set priorities, target inspections, focus education efforts, and to develop a long-term drinking water source protection plan.

Section 4: Appendices

- A. Protection Recommendations
- B. Regulated Facilities within the Water Supply Protection Area
- C. Table of Tier Classified Oil and/or Hazardous Material Sites within the Water Supply Protection Areas
- D. Additional Documents on Source Protection

Table 3: Current Protection and Recommendations

Protection Measures	Status	Recommendations
Zone I		
Does the Public Water Supplier (PWS) own or control the entire Zone I?	NO	Follow Best Management Practices (BMP's) that focus on good housekeeping, spill prevention, and operational practices to reduce the use and release of hazardous materials. Continue working with land owners to negotiate a Conservation Restriction and other forms of protection.
Is the Zone I posted with "Public Drinking Water Supply" Signs?	YES	Additional economical signs are available from the Northeast Rural Water Association (802) 660-4988.
Is Zone I regularly inspected?	YES	Continue daily inspections of drinking water protection areas.
Are water supply-related activities the only activities within the Zone I?	NO	Continue to keep other land uses out of the Zone Is. Continue working with land owners to negotiate a Conservation Restriction and other forms of protection.
Municipal Controls (Zoning Bylaws, Health Regulations, and General Bylaws)		
Does the municipality have Wellhead Protection Controls that meet 310 CMR 22.21(2)?	Partial	Palmer does have controls in place, however the Zone II area must be modified and some language in the by law should be revised to meet DEP's requirements for wellhead protection. Refer to www.state.ma.us/dep/brp/dws/ and Zone II report.
Do neighboring communities protect the Zone II areas extending into their communities?	NA	Zone II is completely within the Town of Palmer. However, under stressed conditions, the river can contribute water to the aquifer, therefore activities within the Zone III should be monitored and Emergency Response Plans should include upstream land uses .
Planning		
Does the PWS have a Wellhead Protection Plan?	YES	When updating plan, follow "Developing a Local Wellhead Protection Plan" available at: www.state.ma.us/dep/brp/dws/ . The four water departments/districts in the community should work together in water supply protection efforts. Plans should include consolidation and redundancy options.
Does the PWS have a formal "Emergency Response Plan" to deal with spills or other emergencies?	NO	Augment plan by developing a joint emergency response plan with fire department, Board of Health, DPW, and local and state emergency officials. Coordinate emergency response drills with local teams.
Does the municipality have a wellhead protection committee?	YES	Include representatives from citizens' groups, neighboring communities, and the business community.
Does the Board of Health conduct inspections of commercial and industrial activities?	PARTIAL	For more guidance see "Hazardous Materials Management: A Community's Guide" at www.state.ma.us/dep/brp/dws/files/hazmat.doc Work with neighboring communities to adopt floor drain regulations and work with industries to protect water supplies.
Does the PWS provide wellhead protection education?	YES	Aim additional efforts at commercial, industrial and municipal uses within the Zone II and as appropriate Zone III.

APPENDIX B:

REGULATED FACILITIES WITHIN THE WATER SUPPLY PROTECTION AREA

DEP Permitted Facilities

DEP Facility Number	Facility Name	Street Address	Town	Permitted Activity	Activity Class	Facility Description
331161	Pathfinder Regional High School	240 Sykes St.	Palmer	Generator of Hazardous Waste	Very Small Quantity Generator of Hazardous Waste, Waste Oil, or PCBs	Educational
363363	Public Petroleum	2394 Main St.	Palmer	Fuel Dispenser	Fuel Dispenser	Petroleum Distribution
				Generator of Hazardous Waste	Very Small Quantity Generator of Waste Oil or PCBs	Petroleum Distribution

Note: This appendix includes only those facilities within the water supply protection area(s) that meet state reporting requirements and report to the appropriate agencies. Additional facilities may be located within the water supply protection area(s) that should be considered in local drinking water source protection planning.

APPENDIX C – Table of Tier Classified Oil and/or Hazardous Material Sites within the Water Supply Protection Areas

DEP’s datalayer depicting oil and/or hazardous material (OHM) sites is a statewide point data set that contains the approximate location of known sources of contamination that have been both reported and classified under Chapter 21E of the Massachusetts General Laws. Location types presented in the layer include the approximate center of the site, the center of the building on the property where the release occurred, the source of contamination, or the location of an on-site monitoring well. Although this assessment identifies OHM sites near the source of your drinking water, the risks to the source posed by each site may be different. The kind of contaminant and the local geology may have an effect on whether the site poses an actual or potential threat to the source.

The DEP’s Chapter 21E program relies on licensed site professionals (LSPs) to oversee cleanups at most sites, while the DEP’s Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup (BWSC) program retains oversight at the most serious sites. This privatized program obliges potentially responsible parties and LSPs to comply with DEP regulations (the Massachusetts Contingency Plan – MCP), which require that sites within drinking water source protection areas be cleaned up to drinking water standards.

For more information about the state’s OHM site cleanup process to which these sites are subject and how this complements the drinking water protection program, please visit the BWSC web page at <http://www.state.ma.us/dep/bwsc>. You may obtain site -specific information two ways: by using the BWSC Searchable Sites database at <http://www.state.ma.us/dep/bwsc/sitelist.htm>, or you may visit the DEP regional office and review the site file. These files contain more detailed information, including cleanup status, site history, contamination levels, maps, correspondence and investigation reports, however you must call the regional office in order to schedule an appointment to view the file.

The table below contains the list of Tier Classified oil and/or Hazardous Material Release Sites that are located within your drinking water source protection area.

Table 1: Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup Tier Classified Oil and/or Hazardous Material Release Sites (Chapter 21E Sites) - Listed by Release Tracking Number (RTN)

RTN	Release Site Address	Town	Contaminant Type
1-0000247	RTE 181 MAIN ST	Palmer	Oil or Hazardous Material

For more location information, please see the attached map. The map lists the release sites by RTN.