

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

State Reclamation Board

NORTHEAST MASSACHUSETTS MOSQUITO CONTROL AND

WETLANDS MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

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Dear Board of Health Member,

With the mosquito over for this season, we are already gearing up for the next season. As you may know, residents can exempt their property from pesticide application and in the past we did our best to accommodate all requests. Beginning in 2014, we were no longer able to accommodate requests that did not adhere to 333 CMR 13:00, due to a determination by the State's legal department (please see attached regulation). We are asking that you inform the residents of your town to insure that those who wish to exempt their property send their certified letter to the town clerk no later than the March 1 of the year they are requesting exemption. Designation for exclusion may be made prior to March 1st of each year and shall be effective from April 1st of that year through March 31st of the following year.

Properties to be exempted will be entered into our new data collection and mapping program. This program is designed to alert the applicator of an upcoming, exempted property allowing the sprayer to be turned off in an appropriate time frame. Properties included in the exemption layer of the mapping program are based on the actual parcel boundaries (according to the Mass GIS database) to allow for better exemption of the entire property.

We are informing the local Boards of Health and Municipal Clerks as this is a change from previous years when residents could call us directly to have their property exempted. As requests come in to the Clerk's office, they may be forwarded directly to us, entered into one database to be sent to our office no later than March 5 or collected by the clerk for pick up by a District representative in early March. The desires of the owner of the property will take precedence over those of a tenant according to 333 CMR 13:00.

If you should have any questions regarding these changes, please feel free to contact our office. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Robyn Januszewski, District Administrator

Committed to a partnership of the principles of mosquito control and wetlands management