



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

One Winter Street Boston, MA 02108 • 617-292-5500

DEVAL L. PATRICK
Governor

RICHARD K. SULLIVAN JR.
Secretary

KENNETH L. KIMMELL
Commissioner

NOTICE

September 10, 2013

Wetlands Protection

Sizing Proprietary Stormwater Treatment Separators

Notice is hereby provided that MassDEP is standardizing the computational method used to size proprietary manufactured stormwater treatment devices as part of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) Wetlands Protection Program's ongoing efforts to reduce stormwater pollution. The standardized method converts the ½- and 1-inch Water Quality Volume specified at 310 CMR 10.05(6)(k)4 and 314 CMR 9.06(6)(a)(4) to a peak water quality flow (WQF) rate.

Effective October 15, 2013, computations following the standardized method must be submitted with a Wetlands Notice of Intent (NOI) when a proprietary manufactured stormwater treatment device sized using flow rate is proposed in connection with work proposed in a wetland resource area or associated buffer zone. The computational method will primarily affect the sizing of the proprietary manufactured stormwater treatment separators, and not other types of stormwater treatment practices that are volume based (such as extended detention basins) or proprietary stormwater treatment filters sized using the WQV.

This standard method to convert the WQV to a peak flow rate is the result of the recommendation of the Proprietary Best Management Practices (PBMP) Subcommittee made to the MassDEP Stormwater Management Advisory Committee. The PBMP, which includes stormwater treatment product manufacturers, relied upon study conducted by researchers at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst to standardize the computational method adopted.

Development and publication of this standardized method is intended to provide a consistent, fair, independent, and equitable approach for municipal conservation commissions and the regulated community to ensure that proprietary manufactured stormwater treatment devices are sized to treat the peak flow rate associated with the WQV.

The standardized method is located on the web at:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/regulations/water-resources-policies-and-guidance-documents.html#11>

The new method will be incorporated into MassDEP Stormwater Handbook and does not require amendments to the Massachusetts Wetland or 401 Water Quality Certification regulations.