



Massachusetts Municipal Environmental Stewardship & EMS in Public Schools Grant Programs



Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

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Our Purpose

To train municipal participants and mentors in systematic environmental management techniques (EMSs) to facilitate the development of Environmental Stewards who would then apply EMS principles within the various sectors in the municipality. Their roles and responsibilities being to work with the municipal sectors to identify problems and address, measure and sustain performance improvement over time.

Our Goal

To create sustainable environmental management practices within the municipality resulting in regulatory compliance with limited oversight by the State.




Selected EMS Projects

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| ■ Berkshire Regional Planning Commission | Stormwater Regulation Compliance |
| ■ Franklin Regional Council of Governments | EMS - 4 Municipal Town Garages |
| ■ New Bedford | EMS - Central Public Works Facility |
| ■ Newton | EMS - Public Works Facility |
| ■ Walpole | EMS - Public Works Facility |
| ■ Lowell | EMS - Indoor Air Quality at Public Schools |
| ■ Barre | EMS - Reducing Hazardous Materials |
| ■ Natick | EMS - Water Treatment Plant |
| ■ Westford | EMS - IPM at Stony Brook Complex |
| ■ Amherst | EMS - Toxics Use Reduction, Public Schools |
| ■ Lenox (with Lee & Monterey) | EMS - Toxics Use Reduction, Public Schools |



EMS Elements Presented at Workshops

- Environmental Policy
- Environmental Strategy
- Fenceline
- Core Team
- Baseline Assessment
- Aspects and Impacts
- Objectives and Targets
- Measures



Municipal Environmental Stewardship and EMS in Public School Grant Participants are Currently Assessing and Defining the Following EMS Elements

- **Baseline Assessment**
 - a) School projects to use both the Baseline Assessment developed for the Municipal Environmental Stewardship Grant Program and the Healthy Schools Council "Checklist" found at www.state.ma.us/dph/behav/iag/schools/schools.htm
- **Aspects and Impacts**
 - a) Ranking of Significance
- **Objectives and Targets**





Municipal Environmental Stewardship Grant Case Studies

- **Natick**
Springvale Water Treatment Facilities
- **Westford**
Integrated Pest Management at the Stony Brook Center Fields






Natick

Springvale Water Treatment Facilities



The Springvale Water Treatment Facilities EMS implementation project began in February, 2002. Early key (Phase I) actions included:

- Appointment of a project manager to lead the effort
- Confirmation of top management support/buy-in
- Selection of an EMS Implementation Team
- Selection of an EMS Core Team
- Selection of the EMS Fenceline
- Development of an Environmental Management Policy for the EMS

The Springvale Water Treatment Facilities EMS Fenceline Incorporates

- The Springvale Water Treatment Plant
- Three satellite water supply wells
- Two water storage tanks
- Thirty-six sewer stations
- One water booster pump station
- All mechanical parts for the water distribution system

Phase II EMS implementation and planning activities over the last six months included:

- Identification of Environmental Aspects/Impacts
- Development of criteria to evaluate Environmental Aspects/Impacts
- Selection of Significant Environmental Aspects/Impacts
- Identification of legal and other requirements
- Development of a written standard for EMS definitions
- Development of a standard for the Environmental Policy
- Development of a written standard to identify/evaluate Aspects and Impacts and selection of Significant Aspects/Impacts
- Development of a written standard to identify legal and other requirements
- Development of a standard for Objectives and Targets
- Development of a written standard for the Environmental Management Program
- Development of a written standard for Structure and Responsibility




Springvale Water Treatment Facilities EMS Next Steps

- Complete Objectives and Targets
- Complete EMS Implementation and Operation Controls
- Draft and complete EMS standards that will meet the ISO 14001 Standards for EMS




Westford

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) at the Stony Brook Center Fields



The IPM the Stony Brook Center Fields EMS implementation project began in September, 2002. Early key actions included:

- Completion of a project Kick-off Meeting
- Selection of an EMS Core Team
- Assignment of roles and responsibilities
- Selection of the EMS Fenceline
- Development of an EMS Policy Statement



The EMS Fenceline for the Stony Brook Center Fields IPM Project Incorporates

- Two baseball fields
- Two soccer fields
- One football field

Ultimately, the Fenceline will be expanded at the Center to include the new middle School and affordable housing complex at the Stony Brook Center.



Implementation and planning activities over the last six months included:

- Identification of Environmental Aspects/Impacts
- Discussion of Objectives and Targets
- Discussion of various measures and the need for establishing baseline conditions
- Hiring of a Contractor to assist in the development of the IPM for the Stony Brook Center
- Identification of 12 other sites for the Contractor to evaluate for expansion of the IPM developed for the Stony Brook Center



IPM EMS for the Stony Brook Center Fields Next Steps

- Prioritize significance of Environmental Aspects and Impacts
- Select Significant Environmental Aspects/Impacts
- Identify legal and other requirements
- Conduct Baseline Assessment – Workshop Form
- Develop Measures
- Continue to generate interest and enthusiasm among the various members of the Core Team



List of Valuable Lessons Learned (so far)

- Expect some projects to proceed faster than schedule and some to fall behind schedule.
- Keep projects focused.
- Expect that some communities will hire a consultant to help develop their EMS.
- This type of grant project needs buy-in from senior municipal officials.
- This type of grant is administratively intensive to manage relative to the amount of grant awarded (“seed money”).
- EMS projects with multiple municipalities/facilities are more difficult to manage.
- Track both grantee and mentor participation in the EMS Workshops.



List of Valuable Lessons Learned, Cont.

- Discussion of deliverable should take place in the morning before lunch so that grantees do not leave the Workshop without getting instructions.
- Have a “bull pen” of mentors that the grantees can contact with questions.
- Communication is Critical (CIC).
- Give Status Reports to Grant participants to promote interaction between Grant participants.
- Grant funding must be used to develop an EMS or equivalent. Funding should not be used to purchase monitoring equipment or storage sheds, etc.
- Logistics are important when considering training location. EMS in Public Schools participants are located 2+ hours driving time from Workshops in Natick.



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