



## Members

- Ashland
- Auburn
- Charlton
- Dudley
- Fitchburg
- Framingham
- Grafton
- Holden
- Hopkinton
- Leicester
- Lunenburg
- Marlborough
- Millbury
- Natick
- Northbridge
- Northborough
- Oxford
- Palmer
- Paxton
- Rutland
- Shrewsbury
- Southborough
- Southbridge
- Spencer
- Sterling
- Sturbridge
- Upton
- Uxbridge
- West Boylston
- Westborough

## Think Blue Massachusetts

The Statewide Municipal Stormwater Coalition was awarded a \$200,000 grant from MassDEP to assist municipalities efforts to meet MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) permit requirements.

This project will develop and implement a statewide Think Blue Massachusetts stormwater education and outreach campaign. It will provide a common way for communities across the Commonwealth to provide

information about critical issues related to stormwater and will provide all municipalities with associated stormwater education materials.

Massachusetts residents have a low knowledge of stormwater. The materials will be geared toward the audiences identified in the MS4 permit (residents, businesses, construction, and industry). Additional, to increase support for stew-

ardship of public infrastructure, materials will be geared towards local leadership, voters, and students.

Materials will be made available in July 2018.



## Did you know?



CMRSWC owns two EnviroScape® models that you can borrow and use at community events?

Contact the Public Education committee to request them at: [kr@framinghamma.gov](mailto:kr@framinghamma.gov).

Follow Us  
@MAStormH2O



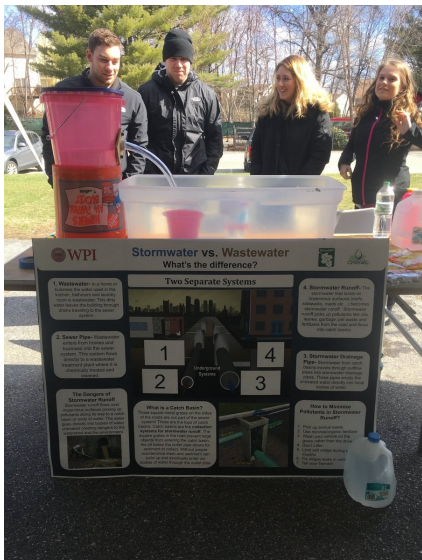
### Upcoming Events:

- MCWRS Annual Meeting: May 18, 2018
- NOI/SWMP Workshops: July 2018

## CMRSWC sponsors WPI projects

Worcester Polytechnic Institute's (WPI) Massachusetts Water Resource Outreach Center (WROC) is dedicated to assisting Central and Eastern Massachusetts municipalities and watershed associations with their water resource needs through student project collaboration. CMRSWC has been working with the WPI-WROC and MassDEP on Interactive Qualifying Projects (IQPs) since 2013.

The CMRSWC and MassDEP sponsored a 2017 WPI-WROC project called "Stormwater Management Educational Materials for Central Massachusetts Municipalities." Municipalities are required to distribute educational materials on



stormwater issues to comply with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4); "the ultimate objective being to increase knowledge and change behavior of the public so that pollutants in stormwater are reduced."

The project team used public surveys and questionnaires to assess the general public's understanding of stormwater and stormwater runoff. The results showed that **most people do not understand what stormwater is**, how it gets into our waterbodies and the impacts it has on water quality and public health. Focusing on increasing awareness of the importance of protecting our water, the WPI students developed a stormwater toolkit featuring an activity book and stickers for children. The activity book includes opportunities for parents to participate and ask questions.

The 2018 student team worked with stormwater experts at MassDEP, MA Department of Education representatives and school teachers from Shrewsbury and Holden to develop a 5<sup>th</sup> grade watershed curriculum that meets the new Massachusetts Next Generation science



standards. Components of the curriculum include the water cycle, watersheds, stormwater runoff and other environmental features that demonstrate to children how runoff and contaminants affect water quality.

The students recommended that the CMRSWC and the MassDEP organize teacher workshops to about stormwater runoff and the watershed and provide Tools, like the EnviroScape model, and instructions. If teachers are more confident about a subject, they will spend more time teaching it.

WPI continues to be a great partner for CMRSWC.

More information is available at: <http://wp.wpi.edu/wroc/>

## Contacts



Co-Chairs: Robin Craver (Charlton)  
robin.craver@townofcharlton.net  
John Woodsmall (Holden)  
jwoodsmall@holdenma.gov

Secretary: Phyllis Luck (Lunenburg)  
pluck@lunenburgonline.com

Treasurer (interim): Steve Tyler (Spencer)  
styler@spencerma.gov

Technical Subcommittee Chair: Brad Stone (Shrewsbury)  
bstone@shrewsburyma.gov

Education Subcommittee Chair: Kerry Reed (Framingham)  
kr@framinghamma.gov