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# GREEN BUDGET FY2014

ENVIRONMENTAL LEAGUE OF MASSACHUSETTS



## **ORGANIZATIONS THAT ENDORSE THE GREEN BUDGET**

Appalachian Mountain Club  
Association to Preserve Cape Cod  
Berkshire Natural Resources Council  
Boston Harbor Island Alliance  
Buzzards Bay Coalition  
Charles River Conservancy  
Charles River Watershed Association  
Conservation Law Foundation  
Emerald Necklace Conservancy  
Environmental League of Massachusetts  
Essex County Greenbelt Association  
Franklin Land Trust  
Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts  
Hilltown Anti-Herbicide Coalition  
Lowell Parks and Conservation Trust  
Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions  
Mass Audubon  
Massachusetts Climate Action Network  
Massachusetts Energy Consumers Alliance  
Massachusetts Horticultural Society  
Massachusetts Organization of State Engineers and Scientists (MOSES)  
Massachusetts Rivers Alliance  
The Nature Conservancy in Massachusetts  
Nashua River Watershed Association  
Neponset River Watershed Association  
New England Wildflower Society  
North and South Rivers Watershed Association  
OARS: For the Assabet, Sudbury and Concord Rivers  
Sierra Club Massachusetts Chapter  
Sudbury Valley Trustees  
The Trustees of Reservations



# **Green Budget Fiscal Year 2014**

Nancy Goodman

Sarah Moser



**The Environmental League of Massachusetts  
February 2013**

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The Environmental League of Massachusetts is dedicated to protecting the health of our environment and citizenry by safeguarding the land, water and air of our Commonwealth. ELM is focused on environmental advocacy and strengthening the voice and effectiveness of the environmental community. ELM advocates for strong environmental laws and regulations on the broad range of environmental issues, voices the concerns of citizens, ensures that laws are properly implemented and enforced and educates the public.

The Environmental League is a nonprofit educational and advocacy organization. Our work is supported by a combination of individual and foundation philanthropy, dues from citizens and organizational members, and the proceeds from special events.

### **For more information about the *Green Budget FY2014* contact:**

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February 2013

Dear Legislators and Colleagues:

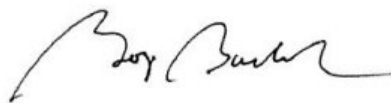
Now more than ever, the environmental community must be staunch advocates during this year's budget debate. The Governor and the Legislature are poised to consider revenue proposals to fund critical infrastructure and other priorities – this presents an opportunity to restore vital funding for the environmental agencies as well.

Over the past several years we have cut the size of government, consolidated agencies, reformed hiring and pension systems and saved money. But our transit system is still on the verge of bankruptcy, our roads and bridges are crumbling and unsafe, and our environmental agencies are still underfunded, despite increased funding the legislature provided last year.

If the Legislature and the Governor can agree on a reasonable revenue proposal that also boosts environmental spending, not only transportation will advance in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, but our natural resources will be better protected. We may still not meet our goal of 1% of the state budget, but we will better protect our parks, rivers, forests and public health. We will improve regulatory control over hazardous waste sites and timely permitting for appropriate projects. We will support our working landscapes and fisheries.

ELM is assembling our corporate and labor allies to make the case that our environment and our economy are inextricably linked. We need to redevelop brownfields to revitalize our cities. We need to retrofit and weatherize older buildings, providing jobs for the building trades. We need to modernize and expand our transit system to relieve road congestion and get all of us to our jobs. Our environmental advocacy, and this budget, will help grow our economy. Let's support a revenue package that will invest in a healthy economy and a healthy environment.

Sincerely,



George Bachrach  
President



Nancy Goodman  
Vice President for Policy

## Top Impacts of Environmental Budget Cuts



No water quality monitoring in many locations



Recycling grants to communities cut



Pools closed



Enforcement of environmental laws seriously compromised



"Buy Local" program eliminated



Discovery of new contaminated sites eliminated

## GREEN BUDGET FY2014 INTRODUCTION

Last year, the legislature increased funding for the environmental agencies by \$21.6 million. This was a significant step forward. Unfortunately, when FY2013 revenues were not meeting projections, the Governor instituted cuts across agencies and the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs was not spared – they bore \$3.4 million in cuts so the total increase for FY 2013 was actually \$18.2 million.

### Breakdown of Funding Cuts by Agency

	<b>FY2008</b>	<b>FY2012</b>	<b>FY2013<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>% Change FY2008 to FY2013</b>
EOEEA	23.3	21.5	25.4	9%
DEP	60.0	45.5	51.3	-14%
DFG	19.2	18.7	20.7	8%
DCR	96.8	75.8	76.5	-21%
DAR	17.7	15.8	17.6	-1%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$217.1</b>	<b>\$173.2</b>	<b>\$191.5</b>	<b>-12%</b>
<b>Numbers in millions</b>				

In FY2012, the environmental agencies were down 20% from FY2008 so we see some progress as shown in the above chart.

This Green Budget details some of what was achieved with this increase in funding and what we can expect if our Green Budget recommendations are adopted.

### FY2013 Agency Highlights

#### Dept. of Environmental Protection

- Provided emergency response in Woburn when 7,500 gallons of gasoline spilled from a tanker and flowed into the Aberjona River.
- Worked with the city of Malden on a new waste disposal program, resulting in a 74% increase in recycling and savings to the town of \$800,000.
- Worked with 56 companies resulting in major savings of water and electricity and reduced use of toxic substances.
- Oversaw the closure and decontamination of the General Chemical Corporation site in Framingham.

#### Dept. of Conservation and Recreation

- Updated the Massachusetts Drought Management Plan to ensure there is enough water to meet public health and safety needs.
- Responded to flooding along the Muddy River corridor from the Jamaica way through the Riverway.
- Working on similar flooding issues on Mt. Wachusett Roadway, Mystic Valley Parkway, Morrissey Blvd, and Quinobequin Road.
- Completed repairs to Otis Reservoir, Hemlock Gorge and Benedict Pond dams.

<sup>1</sup>Figures in this chart reflect the \$3.4 million in 9C cuts.

- Hosted the 48th annual Head of the Charles Regatta and the 40th Anniversary of Boston's July 4th Spectacular.

#### Dept. of Fish and Game

- Supported the purchase of Brushy Mountain in Franklin County – the largest Conservation Restriction ever purchased by the Commonwealth.
- Removed nine dams to restore river ecology.
- Leveraged \$30 million in non-state funds for river restoration projects.
- Worked with the town of Salisbury on a major salt marsh restoration that will reduce flooding of the main business district that saw heavy damage from two recent coastal storms.
- Created a Revolving Loan Fund to provide small, short-term loans to commercial fishermen.

#### Dept. of Agricultural Resources

- Won 2012 *Bright Ideas* award from JFK School of Government for *MassGrown & Fresher* program.
- Permanently protected 1,375 acres of farmland.
- Placed 1,865 acres under 5 or 10 year agricultural covenants through the Farm Viability Enhancement Program.

This is just a sampling of the breadth of work our environmental agencies undertake every day and why we must meet our goal of 1% of the entire state budget dedicated to the environment. This is where we stand today.

#### Environmental Spending as % of the Entire State Budget<sup>2</sup>

	FY2003 GAA	FY2004 GAA	FY2005 GAA	FY2006 GAA	FY2007 GAA	FY2008 GAA	FY2009 GAA	FY2010 GAA	FY2011 GAA	FY2012 GAA	FY2013 GAA
<b>Total Environmental Budget</b>	\$185.1 Million	\$169.9 Million	\$170 Million	\$187.1 Million	\$207.6 Million	\$217.1 Million	\$231.2 Million	\$196.6 Million	\$174.1 Million	\$173.2 Million	\$194.8 Million
<b>Total State Budget</b>	\$24.7 Billion	\$23.1 Billion	\$24.1 Billion	\$25.1 Billion	\$26.2 Billion	\$28.3 Billion	\$27.6 Billion	\$26.9 Billion	\$29.8 Billion	\$30.6 Billion	\$32.5 Billion
<b>% of State Budget that Supports Environmental Programs</b>	0.75%	0.73%	0.71%	0.74%	0.79%	0.77%	0.84%	0.73%	0.58%	0.57%	0.60%

**1%** for the **ENVIRONMENT.**

<sup>2</sup> GAA stands for General Appropriations Act. This chart does not include supplemental budget figures or 9C cuts. To make accurate comparisons between years, we do not include the budgets for the Department of Public Utilities and Division of Energy Resources that were combined with the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs five years ago. These agencies are largely funded through assessments, so have not been subject to cuts at the same levels as the other environmental agencies.



# ENVIRONMENTAL LEAGUE OF MASSACHUSETTS

## FUNDING PRIORITIES FOR FY2014

### SUMMARY RECOMMENDATIONS

		<b>FY2012</b>	<b>FY2013 with 9C cuts<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>FY2014 Recommended<sup>4</sup></b>
<b>DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION</b>				
2200-0100	DEP Administration	\$24,682,305	\$25,624,684	\$33,696,524
2200-0107	Recycling and Solid Waste Management	\$275,000	\$375,000	\$1,459,987 <sup>5</sup>
2210-0105	Office of Technical Assistance	\$644,096	\$644,096 <sup>6</sup>	\$1,055,245
2210-0105	Toxics Use Reduction Institute	\$1,629,860	\$1,657,449	\$1,667,454
2260-8870	Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup	\$11,973,797	\$13,459,639	\$16,525,923
2260-8881	Board of Registration of Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup Professionals	\$345,475	\$385,030	\$414,879
<b>DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION</b>				
2800-0101	Watershed Management	\$1,002,565	\$1,010,223	\$1,455,310
2800-0401	Stormwater Management	\$391,237	\$397,738	\$896,643
2800-0700	Office of Dam Safety	\$290,151	\$354,153	\$435,428
2810-0100	State and Urban Parks	\$42,173,702	\$39,929,387	\$53,748,330
<b>DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME</b>				
2300-0100	Office of the Commissioner	\$658,880	\$708,559	\$732,986
2300-0101	Division of Ecological Restoration	\$416,974	\$416,770	\$566,805
2310-0300	Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$250,000
2330-0100	Division of Marine Fisheries	\$4,355,647	\$4,682,837	\$5,077,068
<b>DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES</b>				
2511-0100	DAR Administration	\$4,300,108	\$4,522,150	\$4,976,426
<b>EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE</b>				
1790-0150	Geographic and Environmental Information (MassGIS) <sup>7</sup>	\$820,000	\$800,000	\$940,000

<sup>3</sup> Overall, the environmental budget was reduced by \$3.36 million through 9C cuts the Governor made in December 2012. Of that amount, \$2.48 million of cuts came from the priority line-items included in the Green Budget; the remainder came from other line-items not included here.

<sup>4</sup> In most cases, these figures would restore funding to FY2009 levels or the levels in the Governor's proposed FY2014 budget (H. 1) — whichever figure is higher.

<sup>5</sup> The Governor's FY2014 budget calls for \$4.375 million, however that is predicated on \$4 million in new revenues from an expanded bottle bill.

<sup>6</sup> Funding for this line-item is through retained revenues from fees and penalties on industry. The funds support OTA (formerly line item 2020-0100), TURI (formerly line-item 7100-0300), and DEP toxic use reduction work. The line-item is \$3,109,324 total with \$644,096 allocated to OTA and \$1,657,449 that will be passed through to TURI at UMass Lowell.

<sup>7</sup> Formerly line-item 2000-9900 within the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs.

## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

	FY2012	FY2013 with 9C cuts	FY2014 Recommended
<b>2200-0100 DEP Administration</b>	\$24,682,305	\$25,624,684	\$33,696,542

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is responsible for implementing the Commonwealth's environmental laws and protecting our air, water, land, and health from environmental threats. Through the department's essential programs, DEP:

- Makes our air cleaner and healthier by reducing levels and toxicity of air emissions
- Ensures safe drinking water for all Commonwealth residents
- Monitors water quality and quantity in our rivers, lakes and streams
- Protects wetlands and waterways by administering and enforcing the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act
- Ensures emergency response when hazardous waste spills threaten public health and safety
- Supports recycling by Massachusetts residents and businesses thereby reducing the need for landfills and trash incineration

**DEP has lost roughly 400 staff over the past ten years to layoffs and attrition and current staffing is approximately 25% below the 2003 level.** DEP is down approximately 150 staff from just five years ago.

One critical, but not well-known DEP responsibility is Emergency Response. DEP staff is on call 24/7 to respond to releases of oil and hazardous material from roadway incidents, industrial processes, chemical fires, underground storage tanks, utility lines, waterways, environmentally sensitive areas, and even some private homes. There are about 900 spills and other potential emergency situations reported to DEP each year. During an average week, emergency response teams will respond to 15-20 incidents.

In November 2012, DEP responded to a potentially explosive situation when a gasoline tanker truck overturned on Route 128 in Woburn. About 7,500 gallons of gasoline spilled from the tanker, running into the drainage system and flowing out into the nearby Aberjona River. A few days earlier DEP responded to an explosion in the South End of Boston – an underground steam pipe blew up, blasting holes in the sidewalk along Harrison Avenue and spewing dangerous asbestos fibers over everything within a one block area. In both cases, DEP was one of the first agencies to respond and worked overnight to target and clean the contaminated areas.

Successful emergency response and all of DEP's programs depend on an adequate workforce. Current funding does not sufficiently support optimal staff levels. Other impacts from budget cuts include:

- Delays in permitting
- Inability to fulfill compliance and enforcement responsibilities
- Dramatically reduced recycling programs
- Lack of comprehensive water quality monitoring
- Reduced oversight of hazardous waste site clean-ups
- Delays in attaining federal air quality standards
- Loss of many years of accumulated experience and expertise

There also is concern about DEP's increasing inability to fulfill its federal commitments. The agency receives over \$20 million annually in federal funds to support implementation of several large grant programs, including the Clean Air Act, Non-Hazardous Municipal and Solid Waste, Underground Storage Tank compliance, Safe Drinking Water Act, water quality monitoring and assessment, wetlands monitoring, Leaking Underground Storage Tank program, and Superfund oversight, among others. Failure to fulfill federal mandates or commitments could potentially affect millions of dollars in federal funds.

For example, DEP's mandate under the federal Clean Water Act requires regular water body monitoring, water quality pollution assessments, and, development of detailed plans to address pollution in each compromised water body. However, since 2005, the Watershed Planning Program, which carries out this mandate, has lost 14 FTE's – about 33% of the program staff – through retirements, layoffs, and attrition; these positions have not been filled due to budget cuts.

	FY2012	FY2013 with 9C cuts	FY2014 Recommended
<b>2200-0107 Recycling and Solid Waste Management</b>	\$275,000	\$375,000	\$1,459,987 <sup>8</sup>

Through the Recycling and Solid Waste Management program, DEP provides technical and financial assistance to businesses and communities so they can reduce waste and establish cost effective recycling programs. In addition, DEP enforces the state's disposal bans which are designed to keep toxic materials out of the waste stream, prevent the disposal of valuable recyclable materials and preserve capacity at landfills. DEP also ensures that disposal facilities operate under the strictest environmental standards to prevent potential public health and environmental threats. This involves oversight of over 250 facilities that manage solid waste materials.

**In FY2008, the budget for recycling and solid waste management was more than \$2 million. By FY2013 the budget was cut to a mere \$375,000.** The recycling program is now forced to depend entirely on federal grants, a precarious situation, as these grants are not guaranteed from year to year. Staff levels have been reduced from 15 to 7 full-time staff between FY2009 and FY2012.

**These cuts are shortsighted as increased recycling can be a money saver and a job creator.** For example, the city of Malden, with a grant from DEP, instituted a volume-based waste disposal program that resulted in a 74% increase in recycling and a savings to the town of \$800,000 annually. Massachusetts residents and businesses spend over \$300 million annually to dispose of solid waste – most of which could be recycled. In December 2012, DEP released its final Solid Waste Master Plan which includes a target of reducing waste in the Commonwealth by two million tons per year by 2020. By meeting this target, the Commonwealth will reduce the equivalent of 3.5 million metric tons of carbon dioxide and save enough energy to power 1.4 million homes annually.

By converting raw materials into products, recycling creates jobs, builds more competitive manufacturing industries and adds significantly to the Massachusetts economy. **Massachusetts has 2,018 recycling business establishments that support over 1,400 recycling jobs, maintain a payroll of nearly \$500 million per year, and produce \$3.2 billion in receipts.**<sup>9</sup> Recycling businesses also provide important indirect benefits by purchasing goods and services that support other businesses and generate an estimated \$95 million in state tax revenues. Materials recovery facilities create 10 times more jobs than landfills and municipal waste combustors, while recycling-based manufacturers create 25 times more jobs than disposal

<sup>8</sup> The Governor's FY2014 budget calls for \$4.375 million, however that is predicated on \$4 million in new revenues from an expanded bottle bill.

<sup>9</sup> *U.S. Recycling Information Study*, prepared for the Northeast Recycling Council, February 2009.

facilities for the same amount of material. Materials reuse operations create even more jobs, between 28 and nearly 300 times the number of jobs as disposal facilities.<sup>10</sup> **With a relatively small increased investment in recycling, we would certainly see growth in recycling based businesses and jobs.**

In 2010 alone, Massachusetts prevented the disposal of more than five million tons of waste through recycling, composting and other diversion. This eliminated the need for the equivalent of 12 landfills. In addition to saving landfill space, waste reduction conserves natural resources, saves energy, prevents pollution, and reduces greenhouse gas emissions. Massachusetts is estimated to have reduced greenhouse gas emissions by nearly 1.9 million tons of carbon equivalent per year and saved 80 trillion BTUs of energy – equivalent to the annual energy consumption of more than 14 million barrels of oil.<sup>11</sup>

	FY2012	FY2013 with 9C cuts	FY2014 Recommended
<b>2210-0105 Office of Technical Assistance</b>	\$644,096 <sup>12</sup>	\$644,096	\$1,055,245

The Office of Technical Assistance (OTA) helps businesses reduce the use of toxic chemicals in the manufacturing of their products. OTA staff provide one-on-one direct and confidential assistance to manufacturers to transition to more environmentally benign methods of production. More recently, OTA also has been working with business and municipalities on energy and water conservation.

**Since its creation in 1990, OTA has worked with over 1,550 facilities. OTA’s work makes Massachusetts’ industries safer, more cost-effective, and globally competitive.**

Just in FY2013, OTA’s visits to 56 companies brought many into compliance with environmental, health and safety requirements, and resulted in company-reported savings of more than a million gallons of water, hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of waste reduction, hundreds of thousands of kilowatt hours of electricity, and more than 358 million BTU of fuel.

OTA also recently released a report to raise awareness of toxics exposure and the link to asthma. Many common chemicals are related to asthma, but the report focuses on three that are widely used: chlorine, formaldehyde, and isocyanates (used in spray foam insulation, for example). By reducing the use of these chemicals, fewer individuals will become asthmatic and many will have less severe symptoms.

**Unfortunately, OTA’s budget was slashed by almost 39% from FY2009 to FY2013, resulting in 10 staff lay-offs – more than half of OTA’s staff – seriously handicapping the program.** These cuts have severely curtailed outreach to business, transfer of information on new best management practices and cost saving approaches, and support for development of innovative technologies.

<sup>10</sup> *The Massachusetts Recycling Economy: The Economic Benefits of Recycling*. Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

<sup>11</sup> *Environmental Benefits Calculator*, Northeast Recycling Council, April 2009.

<sup>12</sup> Funding for this line-item is through retained revenues from fees and penalties on industry. The funds support OTA (formerly line item 2020-0100), TURI (formerly line-item 7100-0300), and DEP toxic use reduction work. The line-item is \$3,080,216 total with \$644,096 allocated to OTA and \$1,657,449 that will be passed through to TURI at UMass Lowell.

With increased funding and staff capacity OTA could:

- Incorporate preventive strategies around toxics use into a company's emergency preparedness, reducing the chances of a chemical explosion like the 2006 Danvers explosion that destroyed a neighborhood.
- Help companies understand safety issues around the use of nano-materials.
- Connect dry cleaners to safer alternatives information and resources such as the TURI Cleaning Lab, demonstrations events, and grants, and develop a dry cleaner education program to promote informed choices as cleaners upgrade their equipment.

	FY2012	FY2013 with 9C cuts	FY2014 Recommended
<b>2210-0105 Toxics Use Reduction Institute</b>	\$1,629,860	\$1,657,449	\$1,667,454

In 1989, Massachusetts proudly passed the Toxics Use Reduction Act, the first of its kind in the nation. The Toxics Use Reduction Institute (TURI), located at the University of Massachusetts in Lowell, was established to help implement the Act. TURI provides professional training, research, and grants assistance to businesses and communities.

Implementation of the Toxics Use Reduction Act has resulted in a steady decline in the use of dangerous chemicals. Between 2000 to 2009, companies reported a 21% decline in the use of dangerous chemicals, a 38% reduction in toxic byproducts, and a reduction in on-site releases of toxics to the environment by 56%. **TURI recently compiled data from companies it works with and reported a collective savings of \$4.86 million annually** – much of this from avoided safety costs. When companies reduce their use of toxic chemicals, they also reduce their likelihood of having an accidental release of toxics into surrounding communities.

TURI provides grants to community groups, and small and large businesses; current grantees include:

- Dry cleaners in Westwood, North Andover, Westborough, Medford, Milford and Bellingham switching to wet cleaning which completely eliminates the use of perchloroethylene, a chemical known to cause cancer. The momentum for adoption of dedicated wet cleaning is building. Additional grant funding for this program would capitalize on this momentum, propelling adoption of wet cleaning as a proven, low risk option for dry cleaners.
- Medical device and plastics manufacturers and aerospace and defense companies switching from using hexavalent chromium surface finishes because of adverse health effects from worker exposure. TURI recently initiated a research project with aerospace and defense companies in Massachusetts to research alternatives to hexavalent chromium in sealants, primers, and coatings. Having these proven alternatives will allow manufacturers to provide safer products to the many domestic and international markets where the use of hexavalent chromium is restricted.
- Community groups implementing safer cleaning processes in daycare facilities, Head Start, and other programs for children.

	FY2012	FY2013 with 9C cuts	FY2014 Recommended
<b>2260-8870 Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup</b>	\$11,973,797	\$13,459,639	\$16,525,923

DEP is responsible for administering the federal hazardous waste program and also manages a robust hazardous waste recycling program. More than 40,000 hazardous waste sites and spills located throughout the Commonwealth have been reported to the Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup Bureau since 1993. Some of these sites are large industrial facilities or military bases while others are relatively small such as gas stations or dry cleaners. **These sites can pose serious risks to anyone living or working nearby, including risks from contaminated private drinking water wells and vapor intrusion into nearby homes.** About 35,000 sites have been remediated since 1993. About 6,000 sites are “open” at any one time – i.e., in the process of being cleaned up. In 2012, 1,353 new sites were reported, and clean up of 1,384 sites was completed.

Over the last several years, DEP’s hazardous waste program has suffered very significant losses of both staff and program expertise due to staff attrition. Although the program received a 12% increase from FY2012 to FY2013, **the program is still operating at 18% below FY2009 levels and is down from 13 staff in FY 2008 to just 4 today.** As a result, the program is unable to fully meet key responsibilities such as keeping current with regulatory changes, maintaining oversight of compliance and enforcement programs, and licensing hazardous waste facilities in a timely manner.

The recent closure of the General Chemical Corporation (GCC) facility in Framingham highlights why the program is so important. GCC recently completed the closure and decontamination of its industrial facility in Framingham. This two-acre site operated as GCC’s hazardous waste transfer station since the company's inception in 1960. The GCC site, consisting of three buildings and 20 above-ground storage tanks and associated piping, was systematically and methodically closed over the summer in a well-designed and -executed closure plan that was reviewed, modified and overseen by DEP. Careful oversight was especially important because the facility abuts an elementary school and a residential neighborhood. DEP closely monitored and reported daily progress on its web site to provide greater transparency and keep local officials and the neighborhood well-informed throughout the process.

Staff also help promote economic development through the Brownfields Support Team (BST) that provides focused technical, legal, and funding assistance for complex sites that have important redevelopment potential. Since its creation in 2008, the BST has provided assistance for eleven redevelopment projects in Worcester, Fall River, Haverhill, Springfield, Grafton, Chelmsford, Somerville, Brockton, Attleboro, Gardner, and Chicopee. The project in Somerville, for example, will revitalize the historic Union Square neighborhood for mixed-use, transit-oriented development adjacent to a planned Green Line Station. The current site is contaminated with heavy metals, PCBs and petroleum. This project and all BST projects encourage commercial development that will bring needed tax revenue and jobs to these communities.

	FY2012	FY2013 with 9C cuts	FY2014 Recommended
<b>2260-8881 Board of Registration of Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup Professionals</b>	\$345,475	\$385,030	\$412,879

In 1993, Massachusetts became the first state in the nation to privatize its hazardous waste site cleanup program in an effort to expedite the cleanups. Individuals and companies that are financially responsible under Massachusetts law for assessing and cleaning up hazardous waste sites must retain a Licensed Site Professional (LSP) to oversee the work. The Board of Registration of Hazardous Waste Site Professionals (also known as the LSP Board) was established to license and regulate LSPs and ensure high standards of practice so that public health, welfare, and the environment are protected. **The primary goal of the LSP board is to provide DEP and the public with confidence that waste site cleanups are being carried out by qualified professionals and meeting state standards.**

**In FY 2011, the LSP Board was cut in half. This severely impacts the program's ability to fulfill its most important role as regulator and enforcer.** Deep budget cuts have DEP exploring the privatizing of other agency responsibilities. Knowing that oversight and auditing of the hazardous waste site cleanup program has been dramatically reduced raises a red flag and calls into question the validity of this approach. Currently, there is a hiring freeze that prevents DEP from filling existing vacancies at the LSP Board.

## DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

	FY2012	FY2013 with 9C cuts	FY2014 Recommended
<b>2800-0101 Office of Watershed Management</b>	\$1,002,565	\$1,010,223	\$1,455,310

**The Office of Watershed Management (OWM) manages and protects the drinking water supply watersheds for 2.2 million residents of Massachusetts. Since FY2008, the program's funding has been slashed by 65%.** OWM currently has only 13 staff, down from 16 staff in 2007. Additionally, more than half of OWM's funding is earmarked for the Town of Clinton's reservoir, which is part of the MWRA, leaving an operational budget of just over \$400,000 for all of OWM's programs.

Additional funding would enable OWM to respond to the many requests it receives each year to address a variety of watershed and water quality issues. For instance, OWM has received dozens of requests to help address aquatic invasive species such as the zebra mussel that is causing destruction to businesses and private property.

OWM's data collection, analyses, and reports are critical to good water management in our state and are widely used by regulatory and policy staff in other agencies. This year, OWM is updating the Massachusetts Drought Management Plan which was originally developed in 2001. The Plan is intended to ensure that there is enough water to meet public health and safety needs during times of drought. The plan helps state and federal agencies and other entities affected by drought to better respond through improved data and analysis, greater coordination, and by designating emergency powers available to government agencies.

	FY2012	FY2013 with 9C cuts	FY2014 Recommended
<b>2800-0401 Stormwater Management</b>	\$391,237	\$397,738	\$896,643

**Stormwater runoff poses a serious pollution threat to all water bodies in the Commonwealth.** The Stormwater Management Program maintains over 400 miles of DCR parkways and 700 DCR facilities to ensure that roads drain quickly and with minimal erosion to adjacent parklands and properties. These efforts include street sweeping, trail maintenance, removal of abandoned or dumped materials, responding to hazardous materials spills or releases, and well and waste water services to ensure that state parks are in compliance with environmental regulations including the Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act.

**From FY2009 to FY2013, the stormwater management operating budget was cut by 58% which means that DCR continues to struggle to comply with the federal Clean Water Act** with regards to stormwater runoff from its properties and roads.

Between April 2011 and March 2012, DCR inspected and cleaned 3,341 catch basins and associated piping and repaired approximately 330 catch basins and manholes. It's not glamorous work, but it is essential to prevent flooding and meet our federal obligations.

Recently the department responded to flooding along the Muddy River corridor from the Jamaica way through the Riverway caused by excessive leaf litter that obstructed catch basin inlets. The flooding affected traffic and parking areas and caused extensive erosion in the adjacent parkland and sediment impacts to Spring Pond, part of the Emerald Necklace. The department is currently preparing a restoration plan for Spring Pond and conducting drainage investigations to identify any illicit storm drain connections in the area. The department is addressing similar problems with flooding on Mount Wachusett roadway, Quinobequin Road, Mystic Valley Parkway, Morrissey Boulevard and Furnace Brook.



With increased funding, the program also could undertake pilot projects demonstrating the benefits of using permeable pavements on parking lots. For instance, the program is interested in installing permeable pavement in a parking lot on Soldiers Field Road. By removing the present surface and installing permeable pavement, polluted stormwater discharge to the river would be eliminated, groundwater would be replenished, and DCR would save money on catch basin cleaning and maintenance.

	FY2012	FY2013 with 9C cuts	FY2014 Recommended
<b>2800-0700 Office of Dam Safety</b>	\$290,151	\$354,153	\$435,428

The Office of Dam Safety (ODS) is responsible for ensuring that dams are inspected and kept in a state of good repair. Since FY2008, **ODS's budget has been cut from \$1.4 million to \$354,153 – a 75% cut.** These cuts mean ODS cannot fulfill critical oversight, safety and enforcement functions.

According to a recent study by the State Auditor, **76% of the 631 regulated dams owned by cities and towns and 64% of the 244 regulated dams owned by the state are classified in the High or Significant Hazard category – having the potential to cause harm.** Staff cuts have left the department unable to effectively monitor unsafe dams in the Commonwealth. Given staff shortages, each engineer is currently responsible for 527 dams – an impossible workload that is more than one and a half times greater than the national average.

In FY2013, the Office of Dam Safety completed repairs to the Otis Reservoir Dam, the Hemlock Gorge Dam, and Benedict Pond Dam and will complete permitting for Aldrich Lake Dam and Lost Wilderness North and South Dams in FY2014.

While dam safety and repairs are essential, additional funding would allow ODS to identify dams that should be removed. Many dams no longer serve any purpose as they are remnants of industry that no longer exist. When we remove an obsolete dam, it's a win-win – we restore rivers to a more natural state and remove the liability of a deteriorating dam.

	FY2012	FY2013 with 9C cuts	FY2014 Recommended
<b>2810-0100 State and Urban Parks</b>	\$42,173,702	\$39,879,387	\$53,748,330

The Department of Conservation and Recreation manages over 450,000 acres of public land. From the Boston Harbor Islands to Mount Greylock, DCR provides a variety of recreational and cultural experiences for Massachusetts residents. The agency's campgrounds, rail trails, summits, historic areas, skating rinks, swimming pools, playgrounds, ball fields, and beaches are "close to home" resources that provide places for quiet enjoyment or active recreation, and an important connection to the natural world. In addition, DCR is responsible for critical public infrastructure across the state including dams, seawalls, flood control structures, and bikeways. DCR also manages the drinking water source for 2.5 million people in the metropolitan Boston area.

**DCR's overall operating budget has been cut by more than 30% since FY2009. The agency has lost approximately 250 staff positions, reducing the overall workforce by more than 25%.** These staff reductions translate into on-the-ground impacts on service delivery – park supervision, forest fire control, visitor services, natural resource protection and park safety and cleanliness.

In addition to its routine responsibilities, DCR hosts many special and large operational events. This year, DCR hosted the 48<sup>th</sup> annual Head of the Charles Rowing Regatta which welcomed the world's best crew teams to the banks of the Charles River and attracted over 9,000 athletes and 300,000 spectators. DCR also

hosted the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Boston's Fourth of July Spectacular that is attended by over half a million people and is telecast worldwide.

In winter months, DCR is responsible for clearing its extensive network of parkways throughout the state and all DCR owned sidewalks in the metropolitan Boston area. Massachusetts residents rely on DCR for a safe commute and a safe walk to school after a snowfall.

Many communities also rely on the agency to help with recovery from natural disasters. Last year it was the tornado and Hurricane Irene. This year, DCR assisted communities recover from the damaging effects of Hurricane Sandy – focusing primarily on tree removal and debris cleanup – and helped MEMA and local authorities as needed. With predictions for continued extreme weather events, adequate funding for DCR is essential.

**Unfortunately, when adjusted for inflation, DCR's operating budget for FY2012 was \$16 million below the lowest budget appropriated to the agency in the last 25 years and \$168 million below the agency's 25-year inflation adjusted budget high water mark.** The enormity of these cumulative reductions in funding severely limits the agency's effectiveness.

In 2009, DCR curtailed the camping season by opening later and closing earlier and has not returned to the original Patriot's Day weekend opening at some of the most popular campgrounds.

The following facilities were closed last season and will be closed again this season:

- Chester-Blandford State Forest
- Windsor State Forest
- Berry Pond in Harold Parker State Forest
- Dean Pond in Brimfield State Forest
- Fearings Pond in Myles Standish State Forest in Plymouth
- Massasoit State Park

In addition, three additional properties will be closed in 2013 due to budget cuts:

- Lake Lorraine in Springfield
- Harold Parker State Forest in North Andover
- Gardner Heritage State Park

Without additional funding, the shortened season will continue in FY2014, and additional closures of campgrounds, parks, waterfronts and visitor facilities are expected.

## DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

		<b>FY2012</b>	<b>FY2013 with 9C cuts</b>	<b>FY2014 Recommended</b>
<b>2300-0100</b>	<b>Office of the Commissioner</b>	\$658,880	\$708,559	\$732,986

The Department of Fish and Game (DFG) is responsible for stewardship of the Commonwealth's marine and freshwater fisheries, wildlife species, plants and natural communities. Cuts to its budget have meant that essential positions in the Commissioner's Office that coordinate the functions of the four divisions cannot be filled.

The Commissioner's Office also includes the Land Acquisition and Habitat Protection Program. In FY2012, through DFG's efforts, a total of 5,629 acres of critical fish and wildlife habitat in 32 towns was protected, bringing the total number of acres under DFG's care to just over 196,000. These areas provide important habitat for a wide variety of common and rare species such as moose, black bears, bobcats, bald eagles, Blanding's turtles, and timber rattlesnakes. For example, the Commissioner's Office supported the purchase of Brushy Mountain in Franklin County, the largest Conservation Restriction ever purchased in the Commonwealth. Restricting property for conservation ensures that ecologically valuable land is not developed and will always be available for future generations to enjoy.

		<b>FY2012</b>	<b>FY2013 with 9C cuts</b>	<b>FY2014 Recommended</b>
<b>2300-0101</b>	<b>Division of Ecological Restoration<sup>13</sup></b>	\$416,974	\$416,946	\$566,805

The mission of the Division of Ecological Restoration (DER) is to restore and protect the Commonwealth's rivers, wetlands, and watersheds for the benefit of people and the environment. DER staff coordinates nearly 80 restoration projects that improve stream flow, protect drinking water, reduce flooding, restore habitat, and provide fish passage. DER also provides timely technical assistance to communities on a range of aquatic habitat issues.

**Since FY2009, DER's budget has been cut by 36%. The combined staff of the two programs that merged to form DER is down from 18.5 full-time employees in FY2009 to 14 full-time employees in FY2013, a 25% reduction in workforce.** Operational funds are below maintenance levels resulting in a growing gap in service.

**Since 2007, DER has leveraged approximately \$30 million in non-state funds and is poised to secure millions of dollars of additional funds. DER partner-based projects produce an average employment demand of 12.5 jobs and \$1.75 million in total economic output from each \$1 million spent, contributing to a growing "restoration economy" in Massachusetts.** Many DER projects are considered "climate smart" and advance strategies outlined in the Commonwealth's climate change adaptation report. Securing federal and other funds is dependent upon staff capacity to properly manage the funds and implement the projects.

DER receives an overwhelming demand for help with construction projects including culvert replacements and dam removals. DER assists with all phases of construction, from helping to prepare bid packages, construction oversight, permit preparation and compliance, and works with municipalities to identify funding

<sup>13</sup> In 2009, DER combined the Department of Fish and Game's Riverways Program with the Wetlands Restoration Program, formerly part of MA Coastal Zone Management.

sources and design schemes and helps with grant writing and public outreach. A modest increase in funding would allow the Division to meet this pressing need and expand work in underserved communities.

In 2012, DER removed nine dams to restore river ecology. Two of these dams were owned by the town of Athol, one was owned by the town of Cheshire – all three were public safety hazards. Neither community had the resources to do this work on their own. For the Cheshire project (dam removal and culvert replacement) the project total was \$245,000; the town contributed \$43,000 and DER spent \$75,000 which leveraged other grants. In Athol (2 dam removals), the project total was \$205,000; DER contributed \$57,000 and the town contributed \$113,000 that leveraged the remaining grant funds needed.

DER is also assisting the town of Salisbury with a major salt marsh restoration project that will reduce flooding of the main business district which experienced heavy damage during two recent coastal storms. The town applied for and received FEMA funding to repair an undersized tide gate but needed state match to advance the project. DER provided that match and ensured that the project not only helped protect the town but improved ecological conditions as well.

	FY2012	FY2013 with 9C cuts	FY2014 Recommended
<b>2310-0300 Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program</b>	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$250,000

The Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) is responsible for the conservation and protection of more than 430 species of plants and animals listed as Endangered, Threatened, or of Special Concern in Massachusetts. In FY2013, NHESP was able to provide maps of the most ecologically sensitive resources in the Commonwealth to all 351 cities and towns for use in conservation planning at the municipal level.

In FY2004, the line-item for NHESP was eliminated from the budget and the program was forced to rely solely on federal grants, fees charged for environmental review services, and the small amount of funding generated by the check-off on the state income tax. In FY2012, the NHESP line-item was restored at \$150,000 and maintained in FY2013, an important step in re-establishing a sound fiscal foundation for the program. Before the line-item was eliminated, funding for NHESP was more than half a million dollars. Additional funding would enable the program to expand science, mapping, management, and restoration efforts.

	FY2012	FY2013 with 9C cuts	FY2014 Recommended
<b>2330-0100 Division of Marine Fisheries</b>	\$4,355,647	\$4,682,837	\$5,077,068

The Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) has a broad suite of responsibilities including managing the fishery with the largest landing value in the nation in the City of New Bedford. **The marine economy for the Commonwealth generates approximately \$5 billion in revenue each year.** Although the agency has endured difficult budget cycles the past several years – experiencing reductions of nearly 25% between FY2009 and FY2012 – between FY2012 and FY2013 the DMF budget increased by 7%.

With this increase, DMF has initiated the creation of a Revolving Loan Fund that provides micro-loans through local banks to commercial fishermen. This program fills a need for short-term loans to lease short-term vessels that are not available through conventional banks.

DMF has become more prominent in the past decade by expanding its influence in the areas of protected marine species, habitat protection and restoration, and ocean planning. In 2012, the Division continued to develop its science for stock assessments and is among national leaders in utilizing science to determine how

to sustain or enhance the level of various fish stocks in the ocean. With modest funding increases, DMF could continue to use sound science to better understand the complexities of healthy and sustainable fish populations.

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

	FY2012	FY2013 with 9C cuts	FY2014 Recommended
<b>2511-0100 DAR Administration</b>	\$4,300,108	\$ 4,522,150	\$4,976,426

Agriculture is an important contributor to the Commonwealth's economy. **Farming generates \$490 million in revenues to the state's economy annually and \$2.6 billion statewide in direct and indirect sales.** Although the FY2013 budget is 5% higher than FY2012, the program is still operating at over 40% below the FY2009 peak.

Besides agriculture's important role as an economic driver, the beautiful working landscapes also provide for a better quality of life to our residents and visitors, and contribute towards a more robust food security system. DAR works with the agricultural community to protect farmland, increase farm viability and profits, and reduce the use of toxic pesticides. DAR's more than 30 programs and services help ensure that Massachusetts residents have greater access to fresh, locally grown food and food products. The Department ensures that Massachusetts' agricultural practices are environmentally-friendly and energy-efficient. Additionally, **local agriculture employs more than 14,000 people throughout the state.**

One of the department's most popular initiatives, "MassGrown & Fresher" promotes the state's diverse agricultural community and was a 2012 *Bright Ideas* winner of the Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University.

The Agricultural Preservation Restriction program (APR), is one of the singularly most impactful programs of the agency. To date, the APR program has permanently protected over 68,000 acres of prime working landscapes. This year, more than 1,375 acres of farmland were permanently conserved and 1,865 acres were placed under five- or 10-year agricultural covenants through the Farm Viability Enhancement Program. The Farm Viability Enhancement Program has helped farmers to access resources to expand or improve their businesses. Even in the recent economic downturn, 99% of the 344 farms enrolled in the program remain in business today. Additionally, many of the Department's energy efficiency and renewable energy programs further ensure that the state meets target goals to reduce energy costs and environmental pollution.

With sufficient additional resources DAR would:

- Expand the Massachusetts Farm Energy Program that enables farmers to improve energy efficiency.
- Expand the APR Improvement Program (AIP) that provides technical assistance and business planning for those farms in the APR program (no state funding is currently allocated).
- Maintain the Matching Enterprise Grants for Agriculture Program (MEGA) that provides specialized technical and business planning to support beginning farmers (no state funding is currently allocated).
- Jumpstart a number of initiatives important to the long-term sustainability of Massachusetts agriculture:

Urban Agriculture – a critical component of an overall strategy to increase access to locally grown food for as many residents as possible in rural, suburban, and urban areas.

Aquaculture – a unique and growing economic sector of Massachusetts agriculture, DAR provides a variety of services aimed at the promotion and expansion of aquaculture – a sector which has doubled its annual revenue generation in less than a decade to nearly \$20 million. Ag Fairs Program – State agricultural fairs provide entertainment to millions of fairgoers each year and an educational experience to young and old – highlighting the importance of agriculture in our state. The Ag Fairs Program helps fairs improve management practices, diversify activities, implement energy efficiency initiatives, and strengthen marketing and promotion.

The agency received a 9C cut of \$335,000 and will have to eliminate the very popular “Buy Local” program, mosquito spraying in Bristol and Plymouth Counties, and delay the backfilling of the agency’s Assistant Commissioner position.

## EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

	FY2012	FY2013 with 9C cuts	FY2014 Recommended
<b>1790-0150 Geographic and Environmental Information (MassGIS)</b>	\$820,000	\$820,000	\$940,000

MassGIS is responsible for collecting, mapping and translating a wide array of data that has major applications in economic development, transportation, public safety, health and human services, and environmental protection. **Dozens of state agencies, all the regional planning agencies, environmental and land trust organizations, universities, and most cities and towns rely on MassGIS information.**

MassGIS has mapped everything from where aquifers are located to wind power potential to shellfish sampling stations to location of public water supply to crime statistics by municipality. This information informs hundreds of important decisions about where best to develop, how best to protect the public and how we can better connect people and services.

Only about \$140,000 of MassGIS’s total budget was spent on environmental data collection and mapping last year. That spending supported work to map endangered species (BioMap), ocean resources, and property ownership that can be used for land protection efforts.

MassGIS has already mapped all structures in the state. With the additional funding recommended here, MassGIS could help prepare the state for a Hurricane Sandy type event by mapping elevation throughout the state, identifying and mapping infrastructure at risk, and helping set priorities for which infrastructure to try to secure from risk, e.g., sewage treatment plants, hospitals, and fire stations.

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# GREEN BUDGET FY2014



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