

+ Better negotiations.
Better decision making.
Better results.



Reflecting on the Watershed Working Groups Stakeholder Engagement



Phase 1: 11 Watershed Working Groups

Diverse participants from all included Towns and constituencies participated in 3 Meetings, in order to:

- Review and improve Baseline Condition information
- Overview and discuss a full range of Technology Options
- Explore a set of Approaches to building Watershed Scenarios that meet water quality goals



Outcomes from the Watershed Working Groups: Scenario Planning Findings and Principles



- There are **a range of ways** to meet TMDLs and water quality goals, which will draw on **a mix of different technologies**, both conventional and alternative, with different **scales** (from site to cape-wide), different **targets** (wastewater, stormwater), and different **impacts** (prevention, reduction, remediation).
- Selections among these options should be **locally-determined**, drawing from **broadly-shared information** about the technologies (the technology matrix, pilot information) as well as detailed information about local sites for implementation, and should **respect local progress** to date and **local priorities** regarding cost-sharing, risk tolerance, and willingness to pay.
- In general, solutions should be **incremental**, using **adaptive management** to integrate new information, while continuing **forward momentum** towards reaching water quality outcomes.



CRITERIA TO WEIGH TECHNOLOGY OPTIONS WITHIN AND ACROSS WATERSHEDS

- Prioritize Low-Hanging Fruit
- Minimize financial expenditure
- Maximize Effectiveness
- Maximize co-benefits
- Minimize secondary costs
- Maximize economies of scale
- Include benefits to Ponds
- Seek Adaptability
- Manage Risk
- Maximize Robustness
- Consider Ease of implementation
- Consider Timing of implementation



Outcomes from the Watershed Working Groups: Regulatory, Legal, and Institutional Findings and Principles

- Towns and the region should move forward to incentivize and implement cost-effective stormwater and fertilizer management options.
- Solutions should draw on other regulatory mechanisms, such as land use regulations, codes, growth and build-out goals, and comprehensive planning, and make sure that these are aligned with wastewater planning.
- Towns and the region should seek and maximize opportunities to work with or through state or federal partners to fund and implement shared priorities that support water quality goals (e.g. MassDOT, USDA, US Army Corps of Engineers, NOAA, etc.)
- There are significant potential benefits to scoping solutions at the watershed level rather than town-by-town.
- The regulatory process for giving credit for new technologies needs to be more agile to respond to changing technology, while still ensuring effectiveness.



Outcomes from the Watershed Working Groups: Implementation Findings and Principles

- Broad-based effective public information/education will need to accompany any next steps to finalize and implement watershed planning.
- While solutions should not rely on voluntary homeowner-level behavior or technology changes, especially for on-going maintenance, incentives should be used to help promote homeowner actions.
- Monitoring protocols to establish the effectiveness of different solutions will need to be developed and implemented. Each solution should come with a defined feedback loop that includes the type of results we expect, clear monitoring, and a clear timeframe of expected information.
- Financing should be equitable. Costs should be spread fairly across direct users, homeowners, towns, and watersheds. Creative methods should be available to allow collaboration across towns for maximized solutions. Consider variations in ability to pay across residents.



Questions for Discussions at Tables

- Is there anything we missed?
- Are there any of these principles that you strongly disagree with?

