

ARTICLE _____

REVISED 5/6/2020

On petition of the Middleton Planning Board to see if the Town will vote to amend the Middleton Zoning Bylaw and Map by amending Section 2.2 "Overlay Districts," adding a new Section 8.7 "Groundwater Protection Overlay District" and that non-substantive changes to the numbering of this bylaw be permitted in order that it be in compliance with the numbering format of the Code of Middleton:

- 1) Add the following to Section 2.2 "Overlay Districts":

Groundwater Protection Overlay District (GPOD)

- 2) Add the following Section 8.7 "Groundwater Protection Overlay District":

8.7. Groundwater Protection Overlay District

8.7.1. Purpose of District. The purpose of this Groundwater Protection District is to:

1. promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the community by ensuring an adequate quality and quantity of drinking water for the residents, institutions, and business of the Town of Middleton and adjacent towns;
2. preserve and protect existing and potential sources of drinking water;
3. conserve natural resources in the Town of Middleton; and
4. prevent temporary and permanent contamination of the environment.

8.7.2. Scope of authority. The Groundwater Protection District is an overlay district superimposed on the other zoning districts. This overlay district shall apply to all new construction, reconstruction, or expansion of existing buildings and new or expanded uses. Uses prohibited in the underlying zoning districts shall not be permitted in the Groundwater Protection District.

8.7.3. Definitions.

AQUIFER: A geologic formation composed of rock, sand or gravel that contains significant amounts of potentially recoverable water.

CMR: Code of Massachusetts Regulations.

COMMERCIAL FERTILIZER: Any substance containing one or more recognized plant nutrients which is used for its plant nutrient content and which is designed for use, or claimed to have value in promoting plant growth, except un-manipulated animal and vegetable manures, marl, lime, limestone, wood ashes, and gypsum, and other products exempted by state regulations.

DISCHARGE: The accidental or intentional disposal, deposit, injection, dumping, spilling, leaking, pouring, or placing of toxic or hazardous material or hazardous waste upon or into any land or water such that it may enter the surface or ground waters.

DRY WELL: A subsurface pit with open-jointed lining or holes through which storm-water drainage from roofs, basement floors, foundations or other areas seep into the surrounding soil.

GROUNDWATER PROTECTION DISTRICT: The land area consisting of aquifers and Zone II recharge areas as identified on a map and adopted pursuant to this bylaw.

HAZARDOUS MATERIAL: Any substance in any form which because of its quantity, concentration, or its chemical, corrosive, flammable, reactive, toxic, infectious or radioactive characteristics, either separately or in combination with one or more substances, constitutes a present or potential threat to human health, safety, welfare, or to the environment, when improperly stored, treated, transported, disposed of, used, or otherwise managed. Hazardous material includes, without limitation, synthetic organic chemicals, petroleum products, heavy metals, radioactive or infectious materials, and all substances defined as toxic or hazardous under MGL c. 21E. This term shall not include hazardous waste or oil.

HISTORICAL HIGH GROUNDWATER TABLE ELEVATION: A groundwater elevation determined from monitoring wells and historical water table fluctuation data compiled by the United States Geological Survey.

HAZARDOUS WASTE: A substance or combination of substances, which because of quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical or infectious characteristics may cause, or significantly contribute to an increase in mortality or an increase in serious irreversible, or incapacitating reversible illness or pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health, safety, or welfare or to the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, used or disposed of, or otherwise managed. This term shall include all substances identified as hazardous pursuant to the Hazardous Waste Regulations, 310 CMR 30.000.

IMPERVIOUS SURFACE: Material or structure on, above, or below the ground that does not allow precipitation or surface water runoff to penetrate into the soil.

LANDFILL: A facility established in accordance with a valid site assignment for the purposes of disposing solid waste into or on the land, pursuant to the Solid Waste Regulations, 310 CMR 19.006.

MassDEP: Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

MGL: Massachusetts General Law.

PETROLEUM PRODUCT: Includes, but not limited to, fuel oil; gasoline; diesel; kerosene; aviation jet fuel; aviation gasoline; lubricating oils; oily sludge; oil refuse; oil mixed with other wastes; crude oils; or other liquid hydrocarbons regardless of specific gravity. Petroleum product shall not include liquefied petroleum gas including, but not limited to, liquefied natural gas, propane or butane.

NON-SANITARY WASTEWATER: Wastewater discharges from industrial and commercial facilities containing wastes from any activity other than collection of sanitary sewage including, but not limited to, activities specified in 310 CMR 15.004(6).

OPEN DUMP: A facility operated or maintained in violation of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act 42 U.S.C. 4004(a)(b), or state regulations and criteria for solid waste disposal.

RECHARGE AREAS: Land areas, such as a Zone II, where precipitation and surface water infiltrates into the ground to replenish groundwater and aquifers used for public drinking water supplies.

SEPTAGE: The liquid, solid, and semi-solid contents of privies, chemical toilets, cesspools, holding tanks, or other sewage waste receptacles. This term shall not include any material that is a hazardous waste, as defined by 310 CMR 30.000.

SLUDGE: The solid, semi-solid, and liquid residue that results from a process of wastewater treatment or drinking water treatment including wastewater residuals. This term shall not include grit, screening, or grease and oil which are removed at the head-works of a facility

TREATMENT WORKS: Any and all devices, processes and properties, real or personal, used in the collection, pumping, transmission, storage, treatment, disposal, recycling, reclamation, or reuse of waterborne pollutants, but not including any works receiving a hazardous waste from off the site of the works for the purpose of treatment, storage, or disposal.

UTILITY WORKS: Regulated activities providing for public services, including roads, water, sewer, electricity, gas, telephone, transportation and their associated maintenance activities. This term shall include the installation of detention and retention basins for the purpose of controlling storm water.

VERY SMALL QUANTITY GENERATOR: Any public or private entity, other than residential, which produces less than 27 gallons (100 kilograms) a month of hazardous waste or waste oil, but not including any acutely hazardous waste as defined in 310 CMR 30.136.

WASTE OIL RETENTION FACILITY: A waste oil collection facility for automobile service stations, retail outlets, and marinas which is sheltered and has adequate protection to contain a spill, seepage, or discharge of petroleum waste products in accordance with MGL c.21. s.52A. .6

ZONE II: The delineated recharge area to a public drinking water well as approved by MassDEP and defined under the Massachusetts Drinking Water Regulations 310 CMR 22.00.7

8.7.4. Establishment and delineation of Groundwater Protection Overlay District. For the purposes of this bylaw, there is hereby established within the Town of Middleton, a certain groundwater protection area consisting of aquifers or recharge areas. This area is delineated on the Middleton Zoning Map and is based on the MassDEP Wellhead Protection Areas (Zone II) layer which is maintained in a MassDEP Enterprise Geodatabase as a polygon feature class named [ZONE2_POLY] and is hereby made part of the Groundwater Protection District Bylaw and is on file in the office of the Town Clerk.

8.7.5. Permitted uses. This overlay district shall apply to all new construction, reconstruction, or expansion of existing buildings and new or expanded uses. All uses permitted in the underlying zoning district and not specifically prohibited hereby are permitted within the Groundwater Protection District, provided that all necessary permits, orders, or approvals required by local, state, or federal law are also obtained.

8.7.6. Prohibited uses. The following land uses and activities are prohibited unless designed in accordance with the specified performance standards:

1. landfills and open dumps;
2. landfills receiving only wastewater residuals and/or septage, including those approved by MassDEP pursuant to MGL c. 21 s.26 through s.53, MGL c.111 s.17, and MGL c.83 s.6 and s.7; 10

3. automobile graveyards and junkyards as defined in M.G.L. c. 140B, § 1;
4. stockpiling and disposal of snow or ice removed from highways and streets located outside of Zone II that contains sodium chloride, chemically treated abrasives or other chemicals used for snow and ice removal;
5. petroleum, fuel oil, and heating oil bulk stations and terminals including, but not limited to, those listed under North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Codes 424710 and 454311, except for liquefied petroleum gas.
6. non-sanitary wastewater discharges from industrial and commercial facilities, except for:
 - a. replacement or repair of an existing system that will not result in a design capacity greater than the existing system;
 - b. treatment works approved by MassDEP designed for the treatment of contaminated ground or surface water and operating in compliance with 314 CMR 5.05(3) or 5.05(13); and
 - c. publicly owned treatment works.
7. facilities that generate, treat, store, or dispose of hazardous waste that are subject to MGL c.21C and 310 CMR 30.000, except for:
 - a. very small quantity generators as defined under 310 CMR 30.000;
 - b. household hazardous waste centers and events under 310 CMR 30.390;
 - c. waste oil retention facilities required by MGL c. 21, s.52A;
 - d. treatment works approved by MassDEP for the treatment of contaminated waters.
8. storage of sludge and septage, unless such storage is in compliance with 310 CMR32.30 and 310 CMR 32.31;
9. storage of sodium chloride, chemically treated abrasives or other chemicals used for the removal of ice and snow on roads, unless such storage is within a structure designed to prevent the generation and escape of contaminated runoff or leachate;
10. storage of commercial fertilizers unless such storage is within a structure designed to prevent the generation and escape of contaminated runoff or leachate;
11. storage of animal manure per (310 CMR 22.21(2)(b)(4)), unless such storage is within a structure designed to prevent the generation and escape of contaminated runoff or leachate;
12. storage of liquid hazardous materials and/or liquid petroleum products unless such storage is above ground level and on an impervious surface and either:
 - a. in container(s) or above ground tank(s) within a building; or
 - b. outdoors in covered container(s) or above ground tank(s) in an area that has a containment system designed and operated to hold either; 10% of the total possible storage capacity of all containers or 110% of the largest container's storage capacity, whichever is greater;

however, these storage requirements shall not apply to the replacement of existing tanks or systems for the keeping, dispensing or storing of gasoline provided the replacement is performed in a manner consistent with state and local requirements;
13. earth removal, consisting of the removal of soil, loam, sand, gravel, or any other mineral substances within 4 feet of historical high groundwater as determined from monitoring wells and historical water table fluctuation data compiled by the United States Geological Survey, unless the substances removed are redeposited within 45 days of removal on site to achieve a final grading greater than four feet above the historical high water mark and except for excavations for the construction of building foundations, roads, utility works or wetland restoration work conducted in accordance with a valid Order of Condition issued pursuant to MGL c. 131, s.40;15, and

14. land uses that result in rendering impervious any portion of any lot or parcel located within the GWPOD more than 15% or 2,500 square feet of such area located within such GWPOD, whichever is greater; unless in full compliance with the requirements of the Middleton Stormwater Management Bylaw, Chapter 204 (1) of the Town of Middleton General Bylaws.

8.7.7. Nonconforming uses and structures. The Groundwater Protection Overlay District Bylaw shall not apply to structures or uses lawfully in existence or lawfully begun. Such prior, lawfully existing nonconforming uses and structures may continue, provided that no modification of the use or structure shall be permitted unless authorized in accordance with Section 3.3 “Nonconforming Uses & Structures” of the Bylaw. .

8.7.8. Enforcement. Written notice of any violations of this bylaw shall be given by the Building Commissioner to the responsible person as soon as possible after detection of a violation or a continuing violation. Notice to the assessed owner of the property shall be deemed notice to the responsible person. Such notice shall specify the requirement or restriction violated and the nature of the violation, and may also identify the actions necessary to remove or remedy the violations and preventive measures required for avoiding future violations and a schedule of compliance. A copy of such notice shall be submitted to the Board of Appeals, Conservation Commission, Department of Public Works, Fire Department, and Board of Health. The cost of containment, clean-up, or other action of compliance shall be borne by the owner/operator of the premises.

8.7.9. Severability. If any provision of this bylaw is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the bylaw shall not be affected thereby. The invalidity of any section or sections or parts of any section or sections of this bylaw shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this bylaw.

3) Add a new Groundwater Protection Overlay District to the Middleton Zoning Bylaw Map: (See next page).

Or take any other action relative thereto.

Explanation: Massachusetts Drinking Water Regulations, 310 CMR 22.00, require public water systems (PWS) to protect Zone II recharge areas with municipal controls (bylaws and/or health regulations). Local controls must meet MassDEP Wellhead Protection Regulations 310 CMR 22.21(2), which forbid certain land uses from being sited within the Zone II public water supply well area. The above proposed overlay district bylaw is based on the MassDEP Model Groundwater Protection Overlay District Bylaw. If the Town does not adopt a bylaw that protects the Zone II Well area according to 310 CMR 22, it would make the town non-compliant, which could jeopardize the town’s Water Management Act permit renewal for withdrawal from the Ipswich River Basin. Part of the Zone II Wellhead area falls within the Town of Danvers. Danvers adopted a Groundwater Protection Overlay District to protect the wellhead area in 2001.

