

Recreational Water Quality Interventions



Clinicians and Community Health Workers

Clinicians and Community Health Workers

- Talk to patients about mental and physical health when bathing beaches are closed during summer months; discuss alternative recreational activities and cooling options that don't involve cooling off with water
- Explain the importance of avoiding contact with or swimming in contaminated water
- Ask patients about recreational water contact if experiencing gastrointestinal symptoms or rashes

Resource Links:

Climate-Enhanced
Community Profile

EPHT: Recreational Water
Page

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Resource Links: [Climate Enhanced Community Profile](#) | [MA EPHT Recreational Water Page](#)

Local Governments and Health Departments

Local Government and Health Departments

- Follow combined sewage overflow (CSO) and sanitary sewage overflow (SSO) notification regulations
- Establish dog bans at recreational water locations during peak use/summer and install pet waste dispensers near waterbodies
- Develop education materials for homeowners and businesses on proper use of fertilizers
- Install green stormwater infrastructure (permeable pavers, bioswales, rain gardens, pollinator gardens) to limit runoff
- Publicize cooling centers, community splash pads, and alternative water recreation locations

Resource Links:

[EPHT: Recreational Water Page](#)

[Beach Water Quality](#)

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Resource Links: [MA EPHT Recreational Water Page](#) | [Beach Water Quality](#)

Individuals

Individuals

- Pick up your pet's waste
- Adopt greener lawn care and landscaping methods; for example, use native and drought-tolerant plants
- Don't dump any chemicals or wash water with detergents down a storm drain

Resource Links:

Pet Waste and Bathing
Beaches

Beach Water Quality

2023 ResilientMass Plan

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Resource Links: [Pet Waste Bathing Beaches](#) | [Beach Water Quality](#) | [2023 ResilientMass Plan](#)

Community-Based Organizations

Community-Based Organizations

- Advocate for cooling centers and more green spaces to protect residents from extreme heat
- Advocate for solutions to combined sewage overflows (CSOs) and publicize local discharges
- Organize community wide beach clean-up days and stormwater education campaigns
- Provide educational campaigns on the importance of water (e.g., WetFest) for school age children

Resource Links:

Low Income Home Energy
Assistance Program

Climate-Enhanced
Community Profile

WETFest

MA Rivers Alliance Directory

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Resource Links: [Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program](#) | [Climate-Enhanced Community Profile](#) | [WETFest](#) |

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