

Commissioner's Call to Action: Partnering with Municipal Officials to Enhance Planning for Climate Effects in Massachusetts

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Background

Passage of landmark Global Warming Solutions Act 2008

- Most aggressive measures to reduce global warming emissions of any state in the country
- Addressed need to develop comprehensive climate adaptation strategies to address health impacts of climate change
- Massachusetts Climate Change Adaptation Report in 2011

Governor Patrick's Climate Preparedness Initiatives



Response to Climate Effects

Since 2010, Massachusetts has experienced:

- Five major storms
 - » Including Superstorm Sandy



Response to Climate Effects

Since 2010, Massachusetts has experienced:

- Increase In Vector-Borne Disease
 - » Eastern Equine Encephalitis



Response to Climate Effects

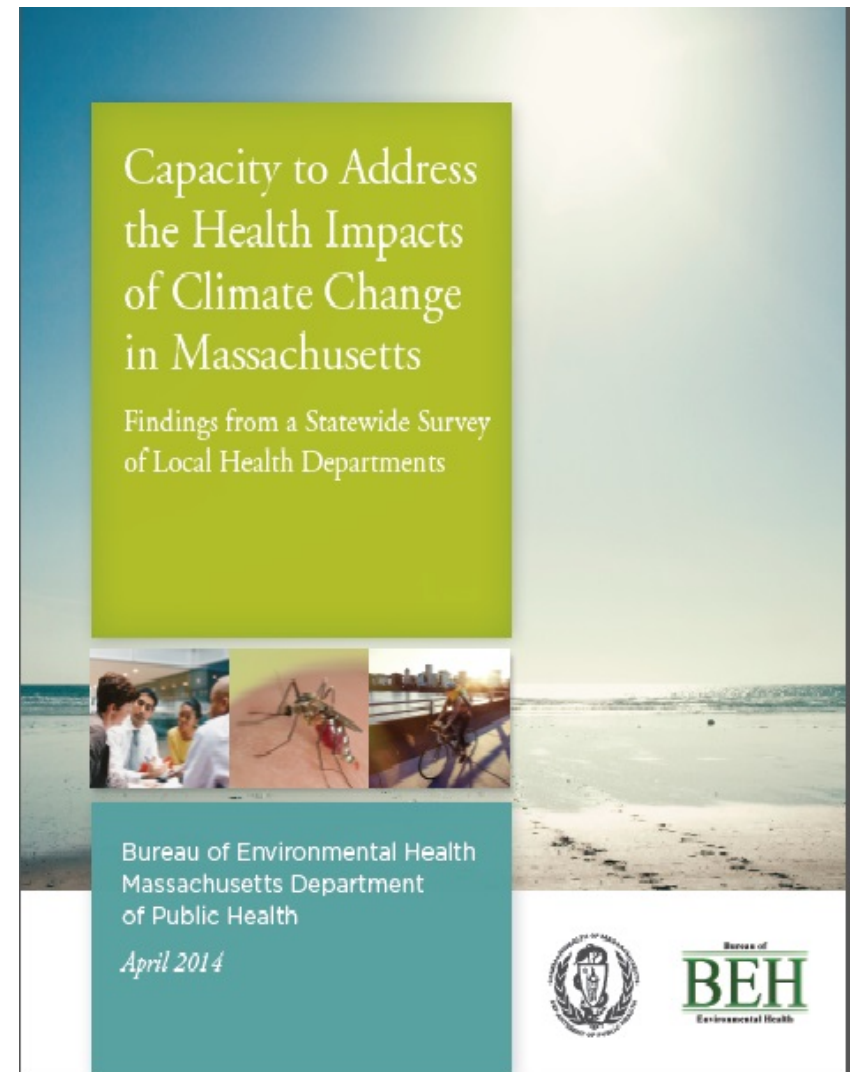
Since 2010, Massachusetts has experienced:

- Emergence of new shellfish pathogens
 - » *Vibrio parahaemolyticus*



Bolstering Local Public Health Capacity

- DPH has been partnering with CDC's *Climate Ready States and Cities Initiative* for the past four years
- Survey indicated that local health have not prioritized planning to address health effects from climate change and that most feel unprepared, under-resourced and that they lack expertise to address these issues
- Identified the need for data on vulnerable areas and populations, tools and training for local health departments



Coordination Across DPH

- Bureau of Community Health and Prevention
 - Healthy Community Design - Mass in Motion
- Bureau of Environmental Health
 - Environmental Public Health Tracking Portal
 - Provide tools, training, and technical assistance local health and municipal staff
- Office of Preparedness and Emergency Management
 - Municipal and Community-Based Emergency Management and Planning
- Office of Local and Regional Health
 - Established to coordinate with local health across regions

Mass in Motion: Eat Better, Move More

Multifaceted state initiative Call to Action report Regulatory/policy changes

- BMI reporting
- School Nutrition Standards
- Executive Order 509

State Agency Collaborations

- Healthy Transportation Compact
- MA Food Policy Council
- Planning Ahead for Growth

Public information campaigns Healthy Communities Initiatives

- MA Children at Play
- Working on Wellness
- Municipal Wellness and Leadership
- Healthy Community Design Initiative

www.mass.gov/massinmotion



Coordination Across DPH

