

Administrator's Report
Board of Health Meeting of September 26, 2019

Report covers from 09/12 – 09/25/19

Items requiring Board vote are noted with an asterisk ()*

A. Inspection Report Reviews

(1) 129 Apple Street, Farrington, MA 149, Lot 107*

I have reviewed the report for the official Title 5 inspection conducted at this property on August 29, 2019 by George Norris. The inspector has noted that the system is in excellent working condition and passes the official Title 5 inspection.

Recommendation: I recommend the Board of Health send a letter to the property owner stating we are in agreement with the determination of the inspector, George Norris that the system passes the official Title 5 inspection conducted on August 29, 2019.

(2) 234 John Wise Avenue, 234 John Wise LLC, Map 105, Lot 19*

I have reviewed the report for the official Title 5 inspection conducted at this property on August 17, 2019 by Jonathan Granz. The inspector has noted that the system is in excellent working condition and passes the official Title 5 inspection.

Recommendation: I recommend the Board of Health send a letter to the property owner stating we are in agreement with the determination of the inspector, Jon Granz that the system passes the official Title 5 inspection conducted on August 17, 2019. The next routine quarterly inspection at this property shall be conducted by November 17, 2019. The next routine grease trap pumping was due September 26, 2019; failure to pump the grease trap as required may result in further enforcement.

(3) 21 Lake View Road, Garinger, Map 145, Lot 5*

I have reviewed the report for the official Title 5 inspection conducted at this property on September 6, 2019 by John Duncan. The inspector has noted that the system is functioning as designed and passes the official Title 5 inspection.

Recommendation: I recommend the Board of Health send a letter to the property owner stating we are in agreement with the determination of the inspector, John Duncan that the system passes the official Title 5 inspection conducted on September 6, 2019.

B. Soil Evaluations / Waiver Explorations

(1) 19 Wood Drive, Gordon College, Map 154, Lot 45

I witnessed soil testing at this property as the first step in repairing the failed septic system.

(C) Septic System Design Plan Reviews

(1) 54 Island Road, Map 101, Lot 6, Auditore*

The previously issued approval letter for this septic plan had a final revision date of August 20, 2019. This is incorrect, and the designer has requested an updated approval letter.

Recommendation: I recommend the Board of Health send an edited approval letter to the property owner for the septic system designed to serve the proposed dwelling on this property. The letter should state that the Board of Health approves the septic system designed by John Morin and dated August 9, 2019, with a final revision date of September 7, 2019.

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D. Septic System Installations/Abandonments (informational only)

(1) 3 John Wise Lane, Lawrence, Map 113, Lot 13*

I inspected the bottom of the leaching area for the proposed septic system being installed at this property.

(2) 11 Conomo Lane, Hartley, Map 108, Lot 25

I observed the vacuum testing of the two tanks being installed at this property.

(3) 98 Western Avenue, Tetzloff, Map 142, Lot 1

I inspected the abandonment of the leach tank at this property, as it's already connected to municipal sewer.

E. Well Water Supply

None.

F. Building Permit Applications

None.

G. Complaints/Other

(1) Update on vaping illnesses

As of September 24, 2019 at 5pm, 805 cases of lung injury associated with the use of e-cigarette or vaping products have been reported to CDC from the following states and 1 U.S. territory: AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, ME, MD, MI, MN, MO, MT, MS, NC, ND, NE, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY, and USVI.

CDC has received complete sex and age data on 373 cases.

- a. Nearly three fourths (72%) of cases are male
- b. Two thirds (67%) of cases are 18 to 34 years old
- c. 16% of cases are under 18 years
- d. 38% of cases are in people 21 years or younger
- e. 17% are 35 years or older.

(2) Flu Clinics

We had the first flu clinic of the year, at the Senior Center on September 25th. We vaccinated 54 adults, ~10 more than last year on the same day. Our next flu clinic is scheduled for Saturday, October 26, during the Clam Fest.

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(3) Drug Take-Back Day

Once again, Essex is participating in the National Drug Take-Back Day, an event that is typically organized by the Drug Enforcement Agency twice per year, to keep unwanted or unneeded prescription and over-the-counter medications out of the environment and away from individuals who may abuse them. This year, the event will be held on the same day as the Clam Fest, October 26, from 10am to 1pm.

Recommendation: None – informational only

H. Meetings Attended (informational only)

(1) Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP)

Our regional PHEP coalition meets monthly to discuss both local and regional emergency planning activities, including any deliverables required by MA DPH as part of our PHEP grant. At this month's meeting, we discussed the vaping ban and the type of local control/enforcement that is available to us.

I visited the 3 retailers in town that have tobacco permits, and informed them of the statewide ban on vaping products. Schooners and Energy North had already removed all vaping products (e-liquid and devices) prior to my visit. The clerk at Chebacco Market stated she was not aware of the ban, but willingly removed the products from view while I was on-site. Currently, we are waiting for guidance from the State on whether these products may remain on the premises during the ban, and/or how and where they must be stored (i.e. in a secure box available for our inspection if necessary). There were other questions about whether the retailers are permitted to continue to advertise vaping products, as well as whether this ban applies to CBD oils.