

Subject line: Title 5 & Watershed Permit
Email: dep.talks@mass.gov

SAMPLE PUBLIC COMMENT

From CLF

To Commissioner Suuberg:

As a Massachusetts resident, I am very concerned about the growing toxic algae outbreaks on Cape Cod and would like to see the strongest possible regulatory plan implemented to clean up septic systems and protect the water of this iconic state treasure.

Nitrogen pollution from improperly treated wastewater is pushing Cape Cod's waters to the brink of ecological disaster. I would like to see regulations that govern septic systems on the Cape made as strong as possible, and towns on the Cape required to address the ongoing nitrogen pollution that is harming its waters. Specifically, as it relates to your draft regulations to address this ongoing harm, I would like to see a plan that:

- Closes loopholes that would allow cities and towns to avoid their obligations.
- Encourages dynamic, multifaceted solutions that tackle the problem from all angles, rather than relying on a single process to reduce the nitrogen load.
- Presses for timelines that ensure that water quality protection efforts don't come too late to be effective.
- Ensures that the regulation protects impaired and at-risk waters from the unhealthy effects of septic system runoff and under-treated sewage.

Thank you for all that you do to protect Massachusetts. I look forward to seeing a strong plan of action in the months to come.

Best,

[NAME]