WHAT WORK IS REQUIRED PRIOR TO CONDUCTING AN INSPECTION

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Western Mass Public Health Association
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TOWN REQUIREMENTS
Site Re-con, Office review

- Witnessing
- Installation of effluent filter
- Installation of steel covers
- Locking Cover to grade
- Pumping
If witnessing is required, how do you request a date?
Is the inspection valid if the home is vacant?

Special conditions?
Are any title 5 buffer zones present?

GIS PWS Maps
- Surface water
- Bordering vegetative wetlands
- Surface water supply
- Tributary to a surface water supply
- Zone I public water supply
- Zone II public water supply

https://www.mass.gov/orgs/massgis-bureau-of-geographic-information
Is there a well and does it need to be tested?

Who will conduct the testing if needed? Remember to check for adjacent wells!!!!
ARE THERE WELLS ON ABUTTING PROPERTIES

Do these wells need to be tested?

Do you have permission to enter the abutting property?

Who will test these wells?
Does the town require a town license for Title 5 Inspectors?

Is there a filing fee?
Do leach pits have to be opened?

Does the town have a failure criteria for leach pits?
ARE CESSPOOLS AN AUTOMATIC FAILURE?

Answer: It depends.
Collect information from the BoH

Design plan (GW elevation)

As Built

Pumping records

Previous inspection report etc.
Will information from an abutting property help you?

Design plan with water table
When using adjacent plans for GW review, remember…

Adjacent Groundwater elevations cannot be simply transposed…

Remember the sage advice of Peter Fletcher…get your head out of the hole?

Soils & topography affect Groundwater!
COLLECT WATER RECORDS FROM THE WATER DEPT

Units of measure
How to convert the units?
Your best Resource?

The owner*!
(*but sometimes, not!)

Open & honest communication is best

Remember, we are the professionals, and it may take many conversations to educate the owners.

It is our role to provide information so that the environment and public health is protected by properly functioning systems
QUESTIONS
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