

Environmental Justice Overview

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) Presentation

December 5, 2024



MassDEP Overview

MassDEP's mission is to protect and enhance the Commonwealth's natural resources - air, water, and land - to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of all people, and to ensure a clean and safe environment for future generations.

**Bureau of Waste
Site Cleanup**

**Bureau of
Water
Resources**

**Bureau of
Air and Waste**

**Bureau of
Administrative
Services**

MassDEP Regional Environmental Justice Coordinators

Kayla Clarke

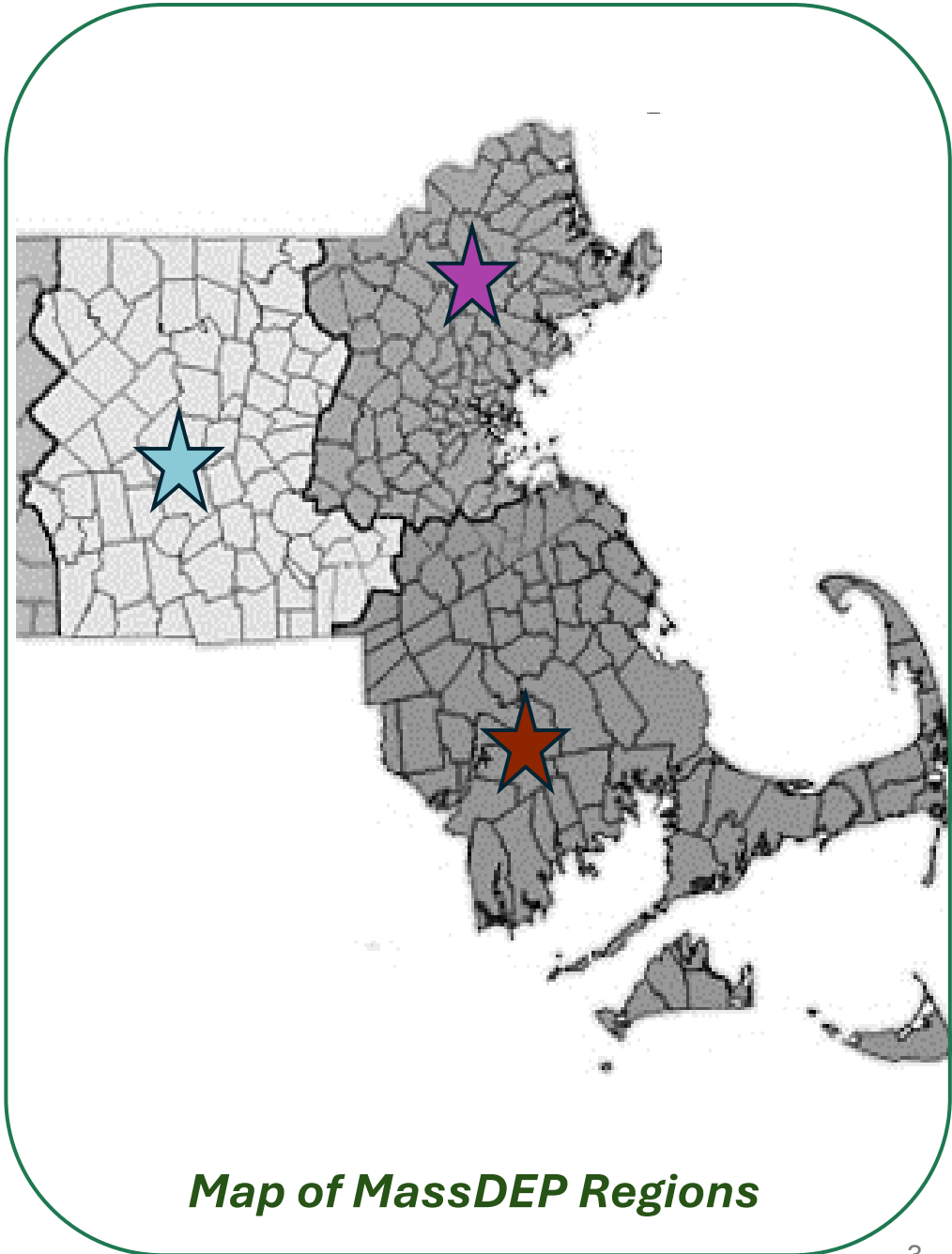
Northeast Regional Office

Amy Sullivan

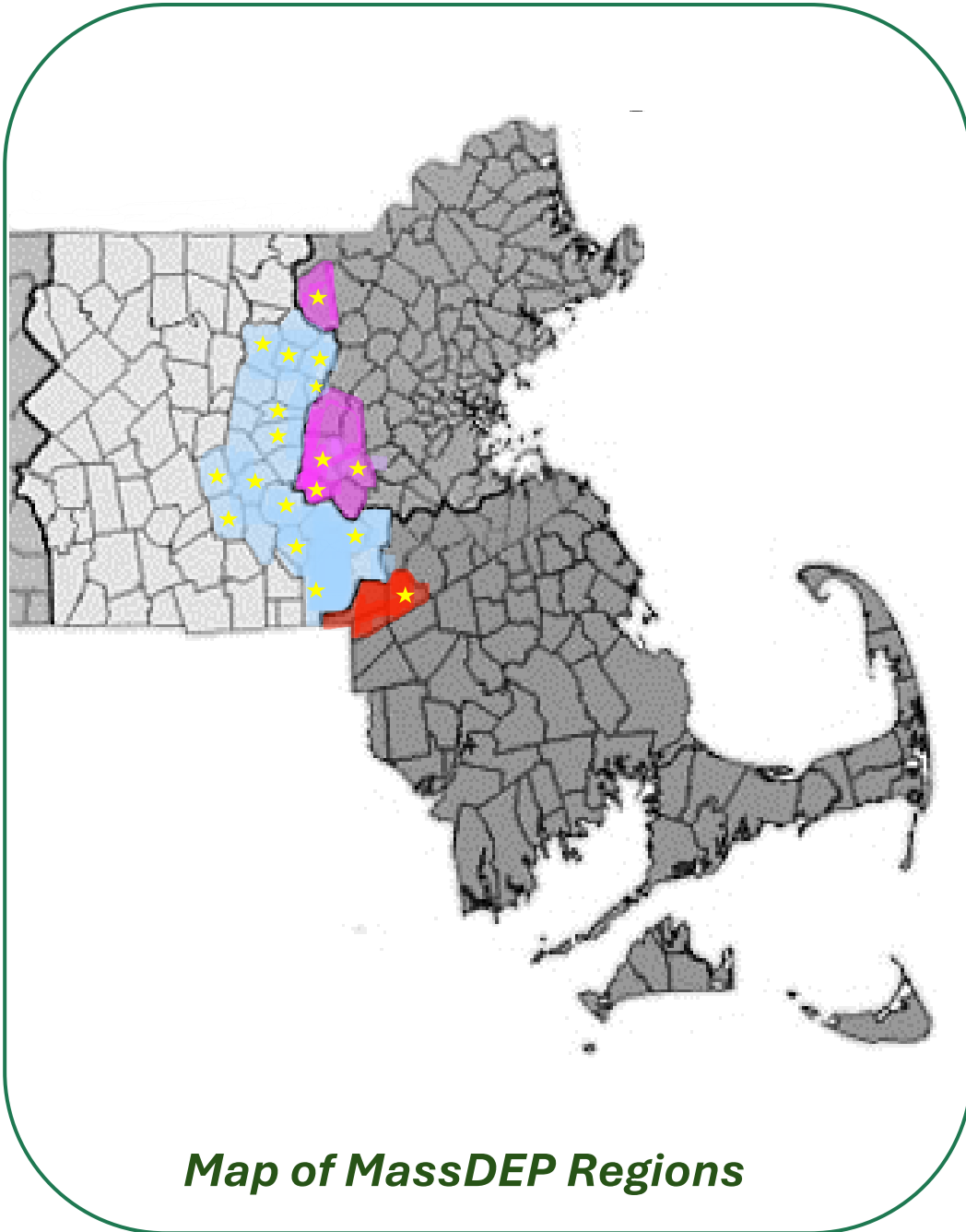
Central Regional Office

Debbie Marshall-Hewlitt

Southeast Regional Office



MassDEP Regions – 495/MetroWest Partnership Associated Towns



Map of MassDEP Regions

Northeast Regional Office:

Ashland • Sherborn • Natick • Framingham •
Wayland • Westford • Sudbury

Central Regional Office:

Acton • Bellingham • Berlin • Bolton •
Boxborough • Franklin • Grafton • Harvard •
Holliston • Hopedale • Hopkinton • Hudson •
Littleton • Marlborough • Maynard • Medfield •
Medway • Milford • Millis • Norfolk • Northborough •
Shrewsbury • Southborough •
Stow • Upton • Westborough

Southeast Regional Office:

Wrentham • Plainville • Foxborough

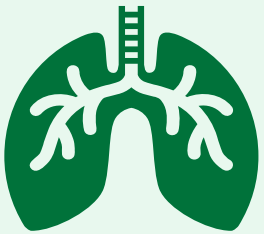
★ = Environmental Justice Communities

What is Environmental Justice (EJ)?

This term means that all people should have the ability to live in and enjoy a clean and healthy environment regardless of race, color, income, class, handicap, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, ethnicity or ancestry, religious belief or English language proficiency.



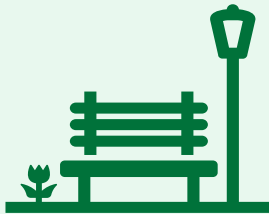
The goal of environmental justice is for all people to have the right and equal access to these environmental fundamentals, which include but are not limited to:



**Clean
Air**



**Clean Water
Resources**



**Open
Space**



**Access to
Outdoor
Recreational
Facilities**



**Clean
Renewable
Energy**

What is an Environmental Justice Community?

In Massachusetts, an environmental justice population is a neighborhood where **one or more of the following criteria is true:**



40% of the population comprise of minorities



Community median household income is no more than 65% of statewide annual median household income



25% of the population lack English proficiency



25% of the population comprise of minorities and the household income of the municipality is no more than 150% of the statewide annual median household income


MassDEP EJ Mission Statement

MassDEP is committed to addressing and advancing environmental justice and equity for all people of the Commonwealth, to provide meaningful, inclusive opportunities for people to participate in agency decisions that affect their lives...





MassDEP EJ Coordinators Roles



**Meaningful
Public
Involvement**



**Community
Engagement
& Outreach**



**Translation
Services**



MassDEP Environmental Justice Resources

Massachusetts Environmental Justice resources and information can be found at the following links:

Environmental Justice Population Maps:

<http://mass-eoeea.maps.arcgis.com/>

Office of Environmental Justice & Equity Webpage:

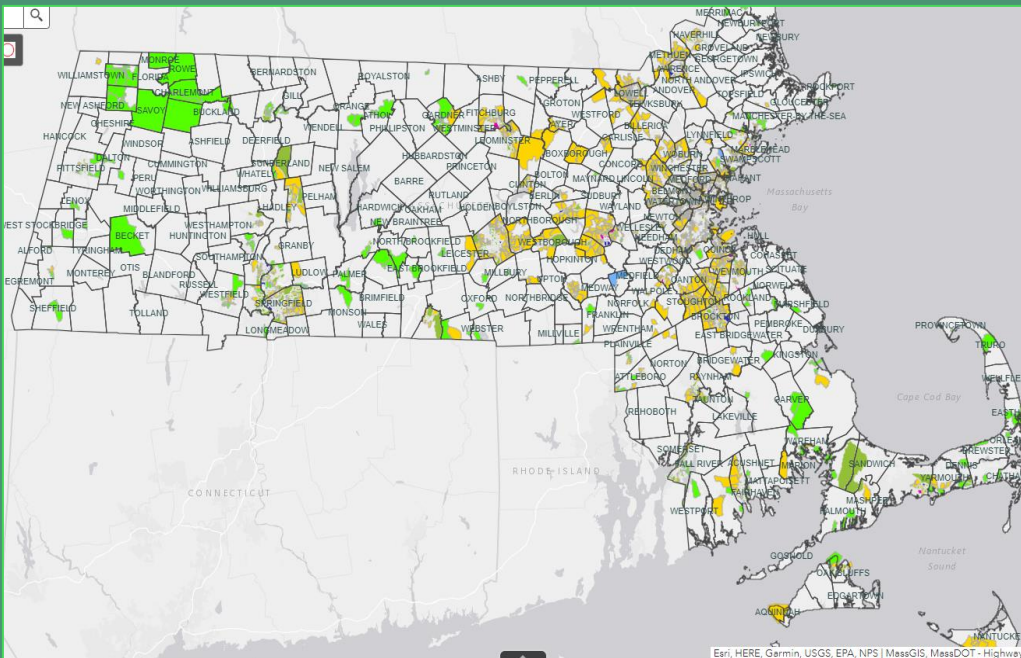
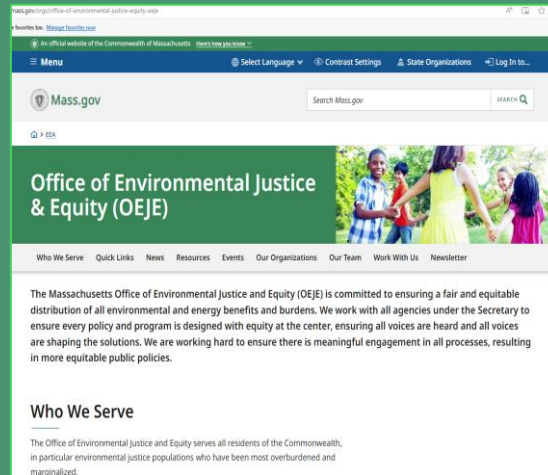
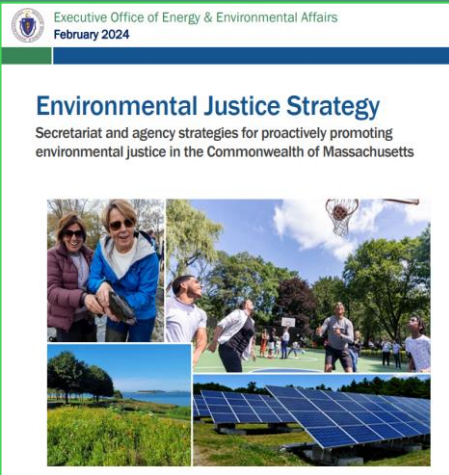
<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/service/justice/>

Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs – Environmental Justice Policy:

<http://www.mass.gov/doc/february-2024-environmental-justice-strategy-english/download>

MassMapper Mapping Interactive Tool:

<http://maps.massgis.digital.mass.gov/MassMapper/MassMapper.html>



Thank you!
Questions?

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