

**BOARD OF HEALTH  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
MARCH 6, 2019**

**PRESENT:** Glenn M. Monterio, Member  
Catherine Phinney, Member  
Thomas L. Gleason, M.D., Associate Member  
Lawrence Perry, Associate Member  
Robert M. Ethier, Director  
Patrick MacDonald, Inspector

**EXCUSED:** Amy Wiegandt, M.D., Chairman  
Suzanne Burke, Recording Secretary

**In the absence of Dr. Amy Wiegandt, a motion was made by Glenn Monterio to move Catherine Phinney to Chair and move Thomas L. Gleason to a voting member. Seconded by Catherine Phinney. All in favor.**

Acting Chair Catherine Phinney called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. on the Third Floor, Wareham Town Hall, Rm 27.

**4:30 p.m. Buzzards Bay Coalition, Nitrogen Regulation Review- Maureen Thomas, Emily Michelle Olmsted, Korrin Petersen**

In 2013, The Wareham Board of Health passed new regulations to reduce new sources of nitrogen pollution to its coastal waters. The regulations target septic systems from new construction projects specifically near waterways where pollution is most likely to have an effect. The regulation was designed to limit the increase of nitrogen pollution to local waterways. Korrin Petersen, Esq., Senior Attorney and Maureen Thomas, Water Resource Specialist of the Buzzards Bay Coalition and Emilie Michelle Olmsted of Barnstable County Department of Health & Environment appeared before the Board to present a Five-Year Implementation Review. Korrin Petersen gave an introduction to the Board and Maureen Thomas presented a power point presentation tracking the Wareham Nitrogen-Reduction Regulation along with a 5-yr review and summary pointing out key findings from the first five years (2013 -2018). Emily Michelle Olmstead was present to answer any/all questions regarding the tracking/ recording in the Department of Health & Environment. See attached packet.

**4:50 p.m. 12 Shanley Way, G.A.F. Engineering- Title 5 Variance Request**

Brian Grady of G.A.F. Engineering appeared before the Board to request the following variances:



**310 CMR 15.211: Distances:**

Required: The septic tank shall be 10 feet from a cellar wall.

Provided: The septic tank is 2.5 feet from the cellar wall for dwelling #12B and 3 feet for dwelling #312.

Required: Soil absorption system shall be 20 feet from a cellar wall.

Provided: Soil absorption system is 6 feet from the cellar wall for dwelling #12 and 8 feet for dwelling #12.

Required: The soil absorption system shall be 10 feet from a water service.

Provided: Soil absorption system is 6 feet from the water service.

**310 CMR 15.221: General Construction Requirements For All System Components:**

Required: The top of all system components shall be no more than 36' below finished grade.

Provided: The top of the soil absorption system is 37' to 41' below finished grade.

**On a motion of Catherine Phinney and seconded by Dr. Thomas Gleason the variances were granted with the condition a revised plan is submitted increasing the volume/size of the tank. All in favor. 3-0-0**

**5:00 p.m. Josh Genatossio, Sinner & Saints- Application for Tattoo Practitioner**

Mr. Genatossio appeared before the Board requesting a permit to tattoo at the Sinner & Saints Tattoo Establishment located in Onset. He presented his portfolio and all paperwork required by the regulations promulgated under the authority granted to Board of Health under M.G.L. 111, Section 31.

**On a motion of Glenn Monterio and seconded by Dr. Thomas Gleason the Tattoo Practitioner permit was granted.**

**5:15 p.m. Shawn Woodward, Hotel Regulations- Waiver Discussion**

Mr. Shawn Woodward and Ms. Darlene Rockwood appeared before the Board to request a variance from the Board of Health to continue residency at the Atlantic Hotel until housing becomes available. According to Wareham Board of Health Regulations, no person is to extend his/her stay at said hotel beyond a five week period. The family has been residing at the hotel beyond the five week period.



The Wareham Court and Department of Children and Family Services are currently working with Mr. Shawn Woodward to assist in seeking housing. Mr. Woodward stated the Atlantic Motel will continue to allow his family to reside at the Atlantic Motel (until he finds suitable housing for his family) as long as a waiver/letter of assurance from the Board of Health is issued granting the variance for an extension to stay. Mr. Woodward is actively searching for housing. If housing is not available by April/May, Mr. Woodward will move his family into the Pinewood Campground. After discussion, the Board agreed to grant the variance until April 1<sup>st</sup> or until the Pinewood Campground opens. No consequences will fall on the Atlantic Motel owner. Mr. Ethier will write a letter of assurance granting the variance request for an extension to stay. The letter will be sent to the Atlantic Motel.

**On a motion of Glenn Monterio and seconded by Dr. Gleason the variance was granted. All in favor. 3-0-0.**

**HEALTH AGENTS REPORT-** Director Robert M. Ethier reported. See attached.

**OLD BUSINESS-**


**NEW BUSINESS-**


**On a motion of Glenn Monterio and seconded by Dr. Gleason the meeting was adjourned at 5:43 p.m. All in favor. 3-0-0**

Respectfully submitted: Suzanne Burke

Signed and dated: March 14, 2019

  
Catherine Phinney, Acting Chairman

  
Glenn M. Monterio, Member

  
Thomas L. Gleason, M.D., Acting Member



## HEALTH AGENT'S REPORT

March 6, 2019

Last Meeting, January 16, 2019

### BOARD OF HEALTH STATUS REPORT

#### TITLE 5 REVIEW AND VARIANCES

- (9) Conventional Title 5 upgrades
- (4) Alternative Systems

#### PERCOLATION TESTS

- (9)

#### EMERGENCY RESPONSE

None.

#### INSPECTIONS

Restaurant inspections to begin for 2019.

#### BEACH WATER SAMPLING PROGRAM

Beach Water sampling to begin May/June.

#### COURT CASES

- (Proposed 20 housing cases)
- 1 Building Department Issue

#### PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

Blood pressure clinic weekly.  
Notes provided for meeting.

#### DISEASE REPORTING

Reporting is ongoing.





**PLYMOUTH COUNTY EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COALITION**

Waiting for State to vote on iPad for Wareham.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Gateway Plaza (Will send check).

Rental Housing Program – Registration for 2019 begins.

Flock Registration/pending

**NEW BUSINESS**

Robert M. Ethier, Director of Public Health  
Wareham Board of Health

RME

RECEIVED

APR 17 2019

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

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# Public Health Nurse Report

Town of Wareham

Submitted by Julie A. Silva, R.N., B.S.N.

March 5, 2019

## December 2018/January & February 2019

- Provide weekly Wellness Clinics at Council on Aging on Tuesdays 9:30AM-11:30AM includes Blood Pressure and Blood Pressure Checks, Pulse, Skin Assessments, Medication Review, Medical Appointment Review, Psychosocial Needs, Support Services/Referrals to Outreach, Client Teaching Blood Sugar Monitoring, Winter Safety, Fall Prevention, Infection/Illness Prevention including Handwashing, Anticoagulant Therapy Education, etc.
- Started in January, 10 PHN hours now 5 hours per week @ COA & 5 hours BOH
- Provide services, education, wellness checks, support to clients and staff at COA on Thursday mornings
- Participated in webinar "Norovirus, You Don't Want It" presented by MAVEN MA DPH in December
- Provided Educational Presentation "Norovirus, You Don't Want It" on Thursday, February 7, 2019 for COA's
- Provided Educational Presentation "Fall Prevention" on Thursday, February 21, 2019 for COA
- Continue to work on MAVEN (MA Virtual Epidemiological Network) via MA DPH Virtual Gateway for Reportable Diseases for Town of Wareham; phone calls to local Infection Control Preventionists, MD/Urgent Care offices, and town residents to complete MAVEN Reports
- Daily MAVEN checks and e-mail via MA DPH Virtual Gateway for any reportable disease updated
- Met with Deanna Semple, teacher from Decas School on Thursday, February 21, 2019 to discuss Opiate Abuse Prevention & Education for Wareham school students and parents. Planning for possible related events (i.e., Speaker presentation, Mock teenager room for parent awareness of possible "hides", Ropes Course Outing, Kids Day with Wareham Gatemen, Summer Service Learning Program/Red Ribbon Event); to start with events first; then if enough interest, reestablishing of Wareham Substance Abuse Coalition
- Working with COA to develop TB screening program for COA employees and volunteers to meet new state regulation for COA



- To provide upcoming Educational Presentation "Alzheimer's Disease" @ COA on Thursday, March 14, 2019
- Follow-up with reportable disease with Norovirus for 2 town long term care facilities in February.

MAVEN (MA Virtual Epidemiological Network) Reports completed/working on this Quarter (Jan/Feb.) thus far for Wareham residents:

1	Cryptosporidiosis
1	Pertussis (& other Bordetella Species)
1	Q Fever
1	Babesiosis
1	Legionellosis

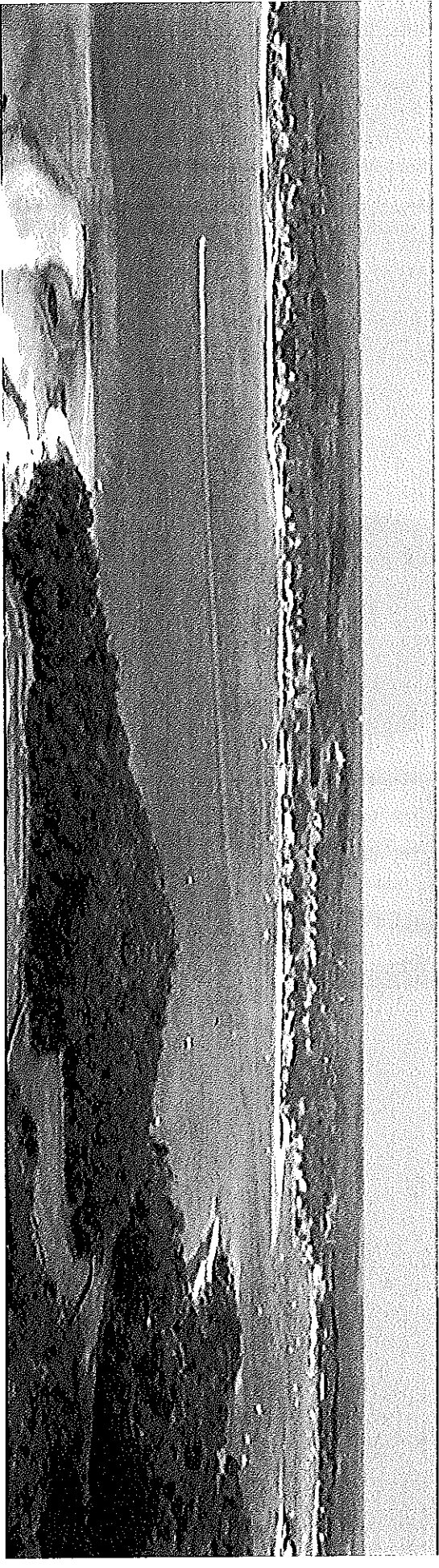
Reported cases of Influenza for town to date in 2019 =	65
Reported cases of Influenza for town same time period in 2018 =	100
Total Influenza cases reported in all of 2018	= 147

Other reported diseases to date 2019:

10	Hepatitis C
1	Group B Streptococcus
6	Lyme Disease



# Wareham Nitrogen-Reduction Regulation

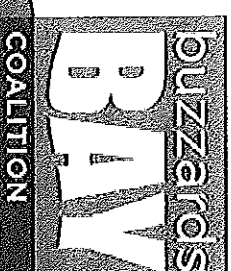


## Five-Year Implementation Review

1/1/2013 – 1/1/2018

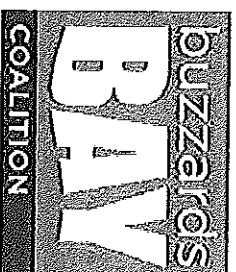
Wareham Board of Health

March 6, 2019



# Nitrogen Pollution

- Greatest long term threat to water quality in Buzzards Bay
- Septic systems = 70% of nitrogen pollution problem in Bay
- 54 miles of coastline in Wareham
- Agawam, Wareham, & Weweantic rivers are degraded by excess N
- In 2009, 87% of Wareham households served by septic systems & Baywatchers data showed Wareham rivers among most impaired in Buzzards Bay watershed
- BBC-supported 2010 Wareham Nitrogen Consensus with goal of all new growth, including single-family homes, meeting Nitrogen-Zero
- BCDHE only tracking database available – agreed to accept Wareham's nitrogen-reducing septic systems

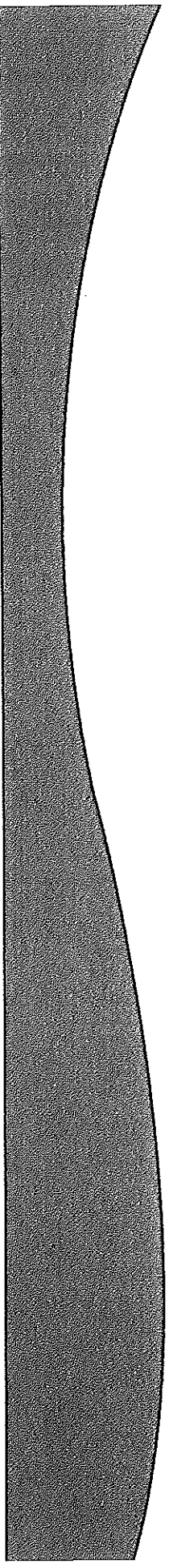




# 2013 Wareham Board of Health Nitrogen-Reduction Regulation

Established Water Quality Protection Zone within 500 feet of any surface water

- New Construction – septic systems must meet 500' setback to surface waters or required to be nitrogen-reducing with Total Nitrogen (TN) annual average of  $\leq 19$  mg/L & all new leachfields must meet at least 150' setback
- Expanded Systems – increase in flow within 500' requires N-reducing system with TN annual average of  $\leq 19$  mg/L
- Existing Systems – upgrade of failed systems, including cesspools, within 150' setback required to be N-reducing with TN annual average of  $\leq 19$  mg/L



Since adoption of the regulation in 2013,  
60 Nitrogen-reducing septic systems  
have been installed in Wareham

Location by Watershed

- 22 Weweantic River
- 3 Wareham River
- 18 Agawam River
- 1 White Island Pond
- 14 Onset Bay
- 2 Buzzards Bay

I/A Septic Systems Installed in Wareham Between 1/1/2013 and 1/1/2018

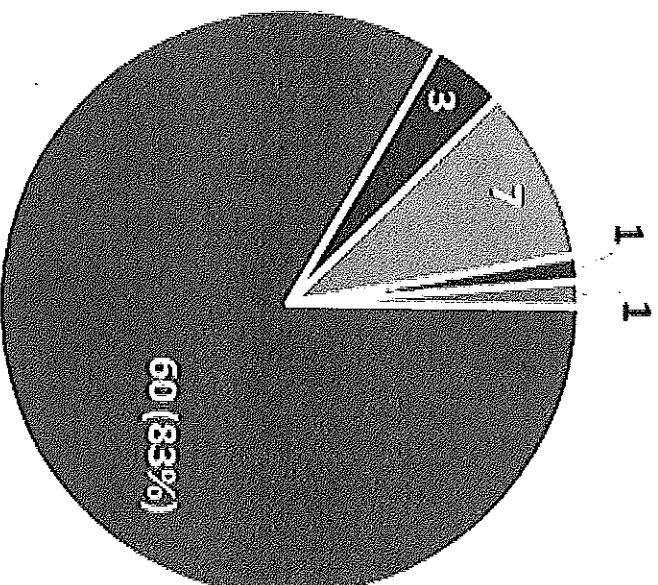




# Nitrogen-Reducing Systems Installed in Wareham - 1/1/2013 and 1/1/2018



83% of Total N-reducing systems were installed to comply with BOH WQ Regulation

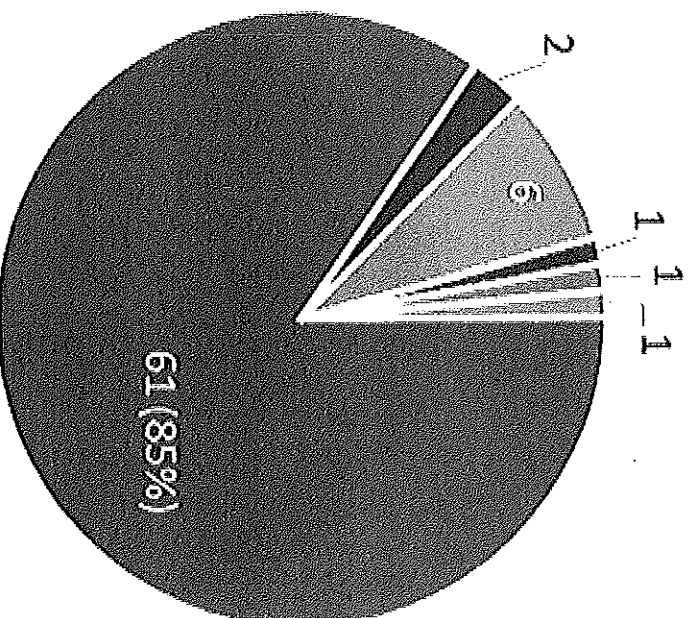


■ WQ Reg. ■ Zone II ■ Planning req. ■ Leachfield regeneration ■ Depth of cover

5-yr Review Findings



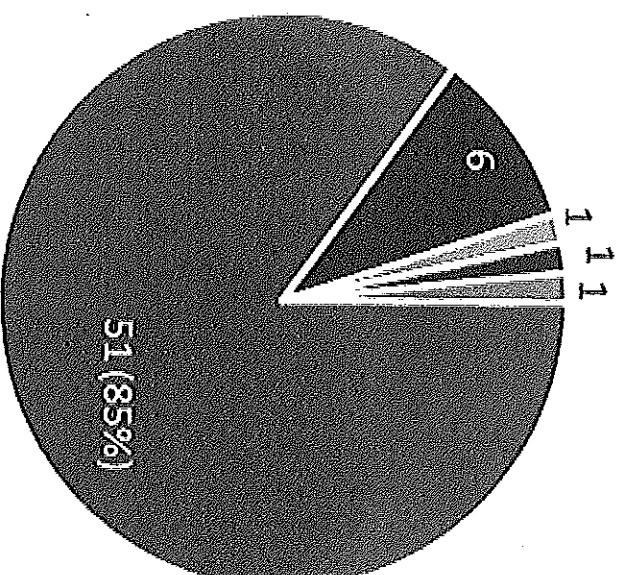
85% of all systems installed were MicroFAST



■ MicroFAST   ■ Presby   ■ Singularair   ■ Orenco   ■ Jet   ■ Soilair

5-yr Review Findings

85% of systems installed to comply with  
BOH Regulation were MicroFAST

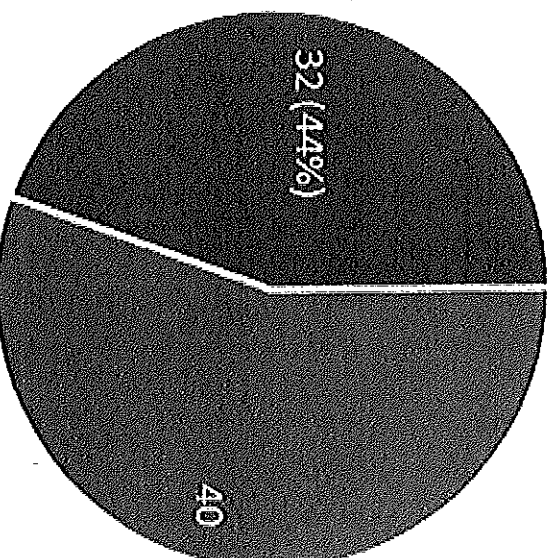


■ MicroFAST ■ Singulair ■ Presby ■ Orenco ■ Jet

5-yr Review Findings



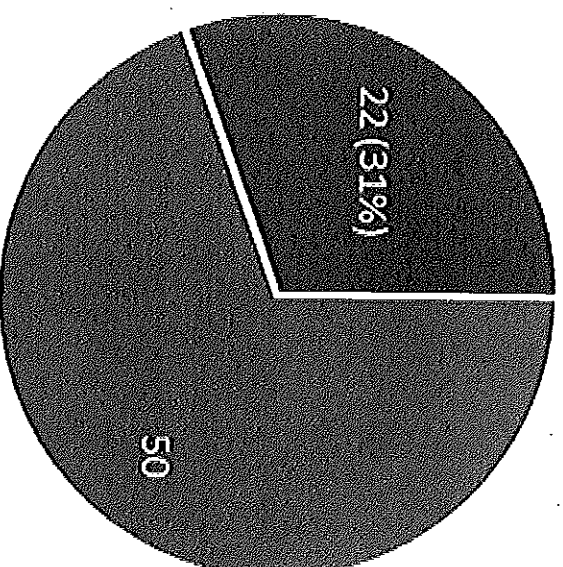
Nearly half (44%) of installed N-reducing systems did not make it into the performance tracking database



■ Systems in BCDHE      ■ Systems Not in BCDHE

5-yr Review Findings

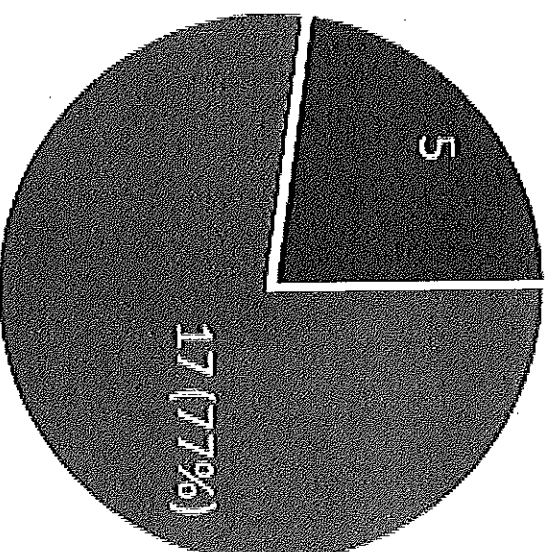
With BCDHE upload tool completed, 31% of systems missing from tracking database



- Systems in BCDHE
- Systems Not in BCDHE

5-yr Review Findings

# O & M Firms of Systems not in BCDHE Database

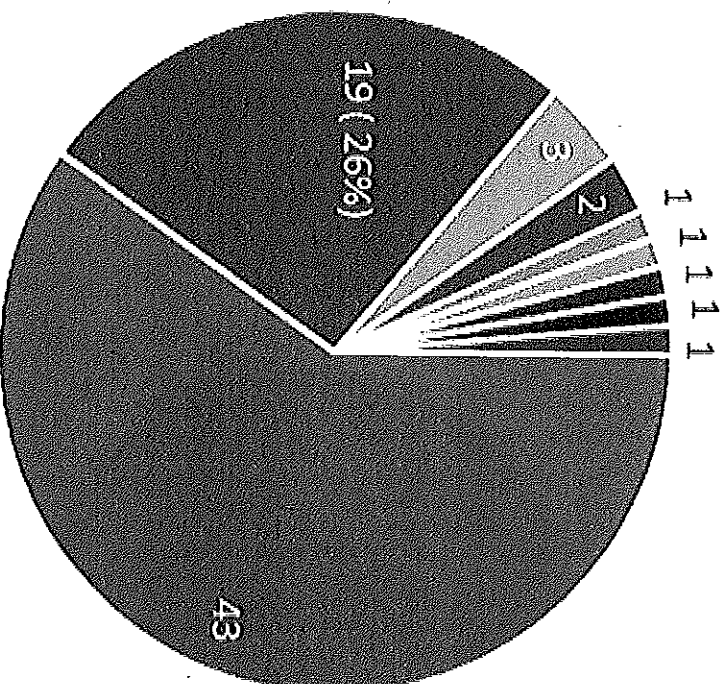


- Unknown
- Wastewater Treatment Services

5-yr Review Findings

# 26% of installed N-reducing systems do not have a known Operation & Maintenance Contract as required

## O & M Firms

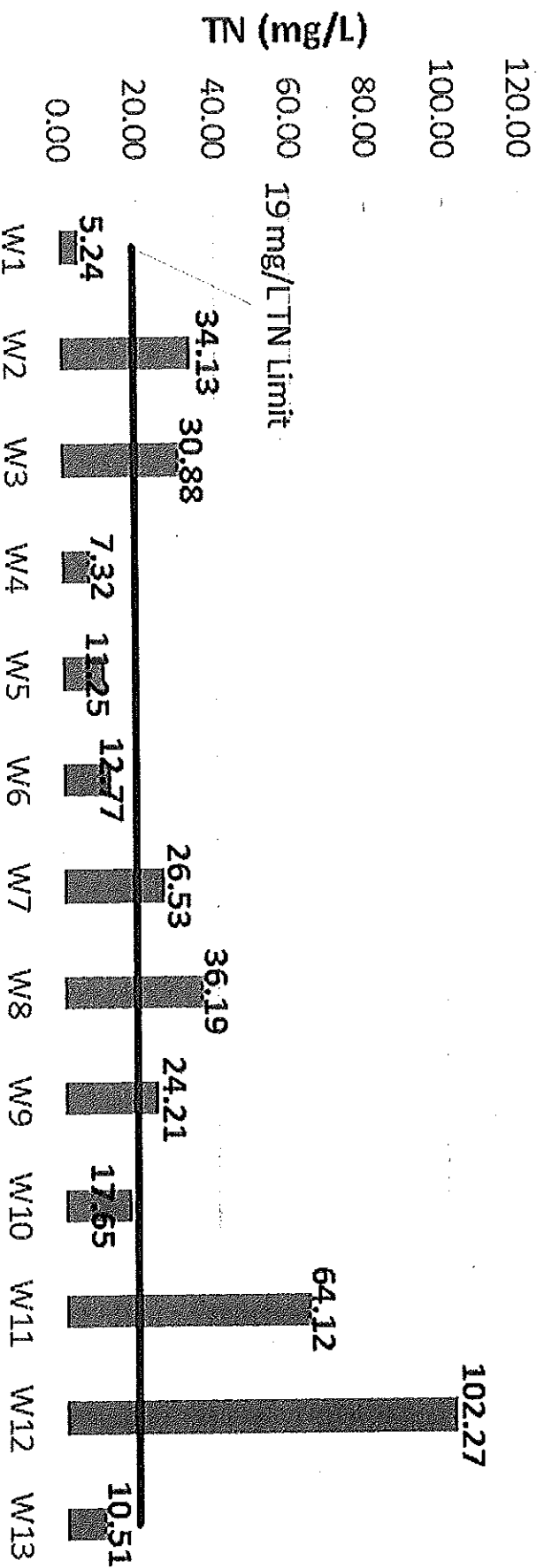


- Wastewater Treatment Services
- Unknown
- Septic Preservation Services
- Cape Clear Water
- All Cape Environmental
- Cape Septic Inspections
- Cleanwater Recovery
- Holmes & McGrath
- Siegmund Environmental Services

5-yr Review Findings

Of the 13 systems with data in BCDHE database, all have very limited data reported & half do not meet the 19 mg/L TN required\*

### Average TN - Systems Installed Post-2013 WQ Reg.

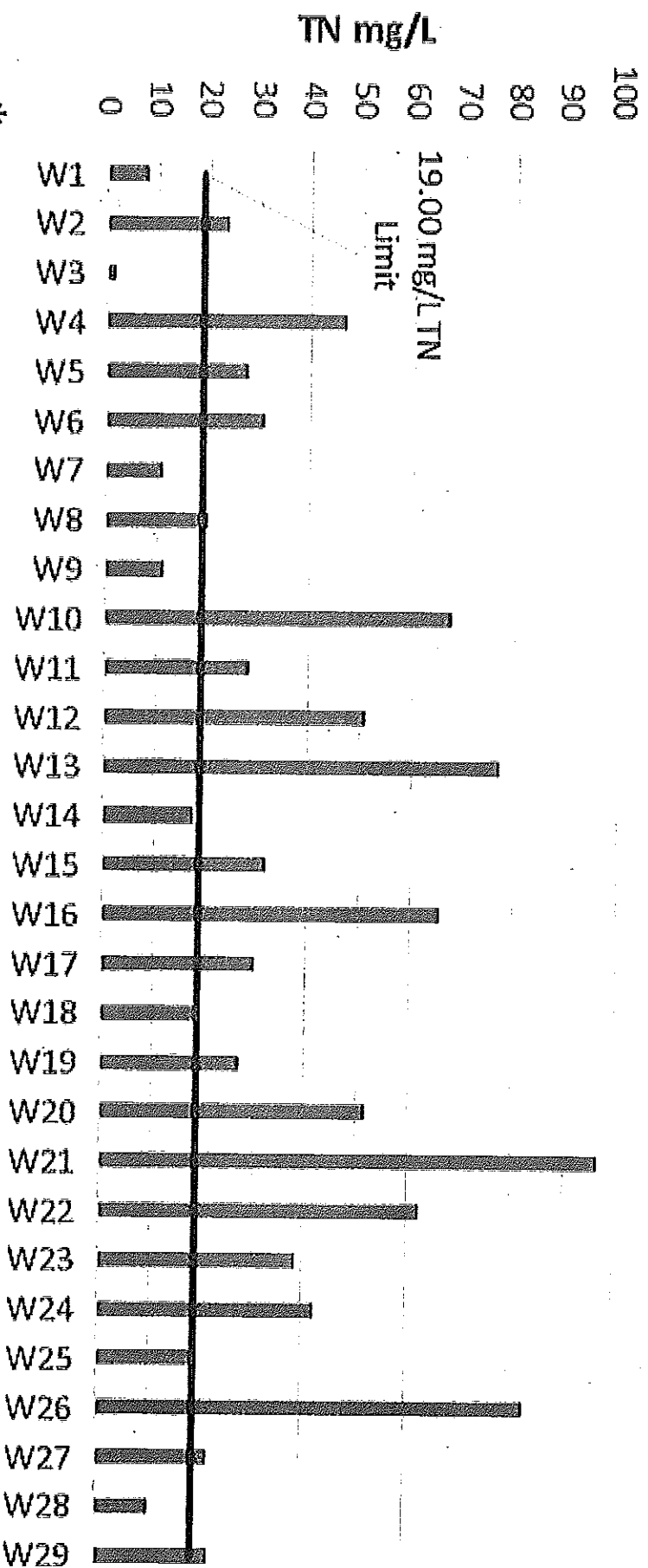


*\*Due to limited available data, graph may not represent overall system performance*

## 5-yr Review Findings

Of 29 systems with data in BCDHE database, >1/2 have very limited data reported & >72% do not meet the 19 mg/L TN standard\*

Average TN - Systems Installed Post-2013 N-Reg.



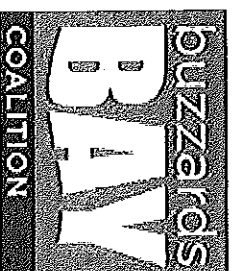
\*Due to limited available data, graph may not represent overall system performance

## 5-yr Review Findings



# Summary of Key Findings from the 1<sup>st</sup> 5 years (2013-2018)

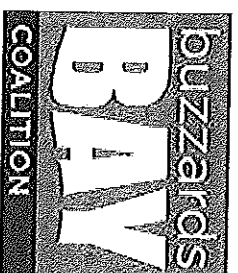
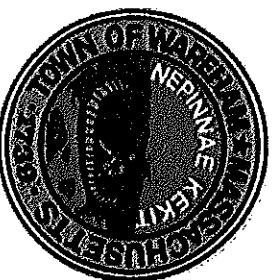
- Implementation is working at BOH level - systems being installed as required
- MicroFAST is dominant technology – approved for general use by DEP, least expensive, can meet minimum standard
- Systems difficult to track after approval & installation
- Operator failure in reporting data to BCDHE
- Difficult to ensure compliance without data



## ~~Next Steps~~ → *Completed Steps*

### Improved Tracking of Nitrogen-Reducing Systems in Wareham

- BCDHE upload tool
- BCDHE nitrogen-reducing septic system permit summary sheet
- New Health Department N-reducing system form





# Next Steps

Improve O & M contracting and performance

- Reduce # of unknown operators by requiring O & M contracts to be submitted with as-built plans prior to issuing Certificates of Compliance
- Check O & M contracts for required sampling
- Regularly confirm system compliance with 19 mg/L

Complete alignment of Wareham data with BCDHE data

Continue the GREAT work!

- 60 systems installed in first 5-years

