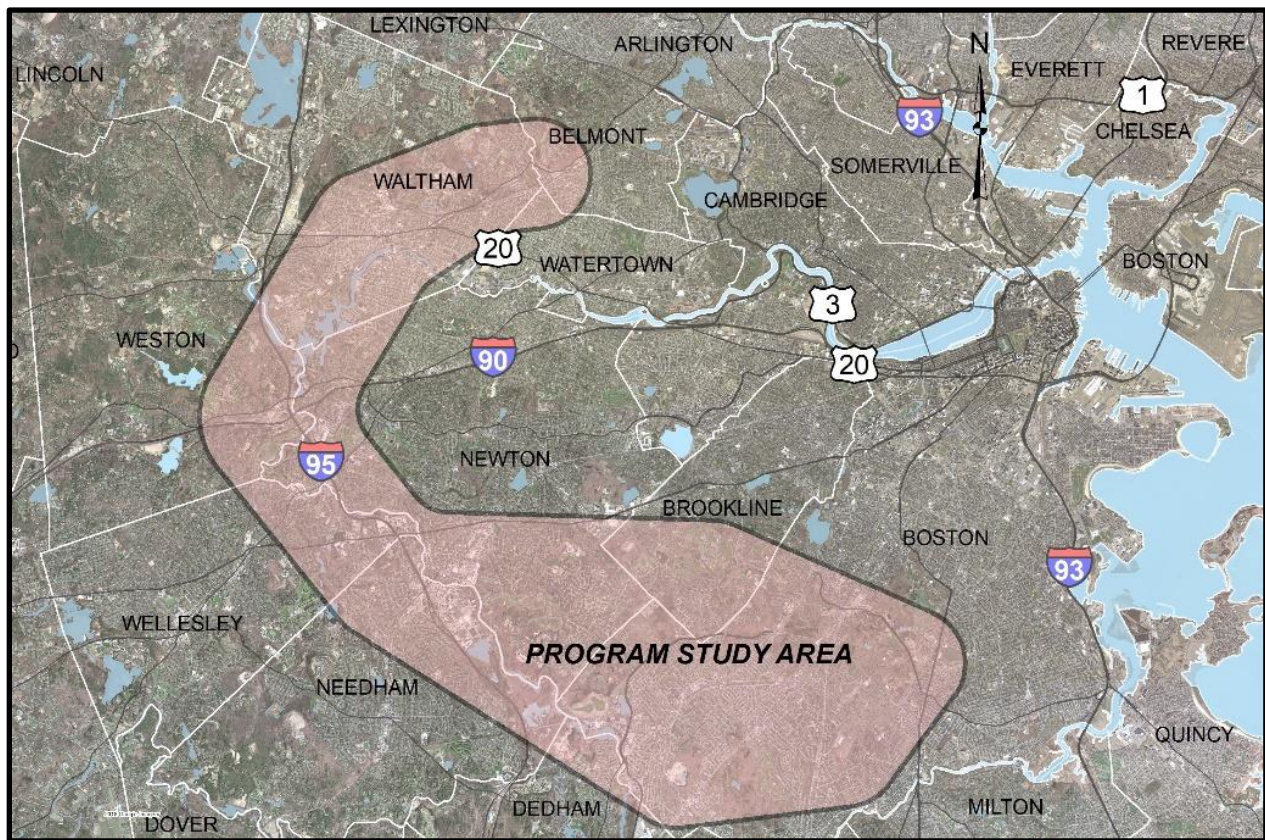




About MWRA's Metropolitan Water Tunnel Program Field Work

The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) will be conducting field work to support a major water supply tunnel Program in the Metropolitan Boston area. The two new water tunnels will improve the reliability of our water infrastructure and allow our aging, existing water tunnel system to be rehabilitated without interrupting service.

Over the next seven months, MWRA will be drilling test borings, conducting geophysical survey, conducting field survey, and performing wetland flagging in the Metropolitan Boston area. The MWRA will use the data from the field work to design and construct solutions that are best suited for the Tunnel Program. The geographical limits of the field work are shown in the shaded area below.



WHAT WILL I SEE?

For survey work you may see paint markings on the ground, two- to four-person crews with handheld- to stroller-sized equipment, colored plastic flags located in some areas, lines of wires and sensors temporarily placed on the ground connected to data collecting equipment, and support vehicles in the area of the work.

For test boring drilling, you may see drill rigs and support trucks, with three- to four-person teams at each location for two to five weeks. It is MWRA's intent to select test boring locations that will pose minimal disruptions to the community, but some locations may require temporary changes in pedestrian and vehicular traffic patterns. Upon completion of the field work, our crews will restore each work site to its original condition. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience and thank you for your cooperation as we work to improve our water system!

WHEN WILL IT HAPPEN?

Field work typically will be conducted between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

TEST BORINGS



WHAT ARE TEST BORINGS?

Test borings are small deep vertical holes drilled into the ground. They are about the diameter of a softball. Soil, rock and groundwater samples will be collected from the test borings to get a better understanding of the local geology and underground conditions. Select locations will be converted into monitoring wells upon completion.

GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY



WHAT IS A GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY?

Geophysical surveys use a series of nonintrusive, ground-based sensors to measure naturally occurring physical and electromagnetic properties and waveforms, and to estimate depths of different materials underground.

FIELD SURVEY



WHAT IS A FIELD SURVEY?

Field survey is a method of locating surface features and ground elevations within the Program Study Area through the use of an instrument called a total station (pictured above).

WETLANDS FLAGGING



WHAT IS WETLANDS FLAGGING?

Wetlands flagging is a method of defining limits of wetlands, which serve important functions for the environment such as filtering water, providing storage in large rain events, and providing a home for various wildlife and plant species.



For more information about the Metropolitan Water Tunnel Program please visit www.mwra.com/mwtp.html or contact our Communications Team at tunnels.info@mwra.com.

