

# Westford's East Boston Camps Water Resources Fact Sheet

Some would justifiably say, “its all about the water.” All eight of Westford’s water supply wells draw on the aquifer under the East Boston Camps site. Three of the town’s wells are within 1/2 mile of the site. The soils are “excessively drained,” meaning that they don’t do a very good job of filtering out contaminants. The town’s decision to purchase the site not only provides a opportunity to utilize the land as open space, but it also helps protect the future of the town’s water supply.

## Surface Water

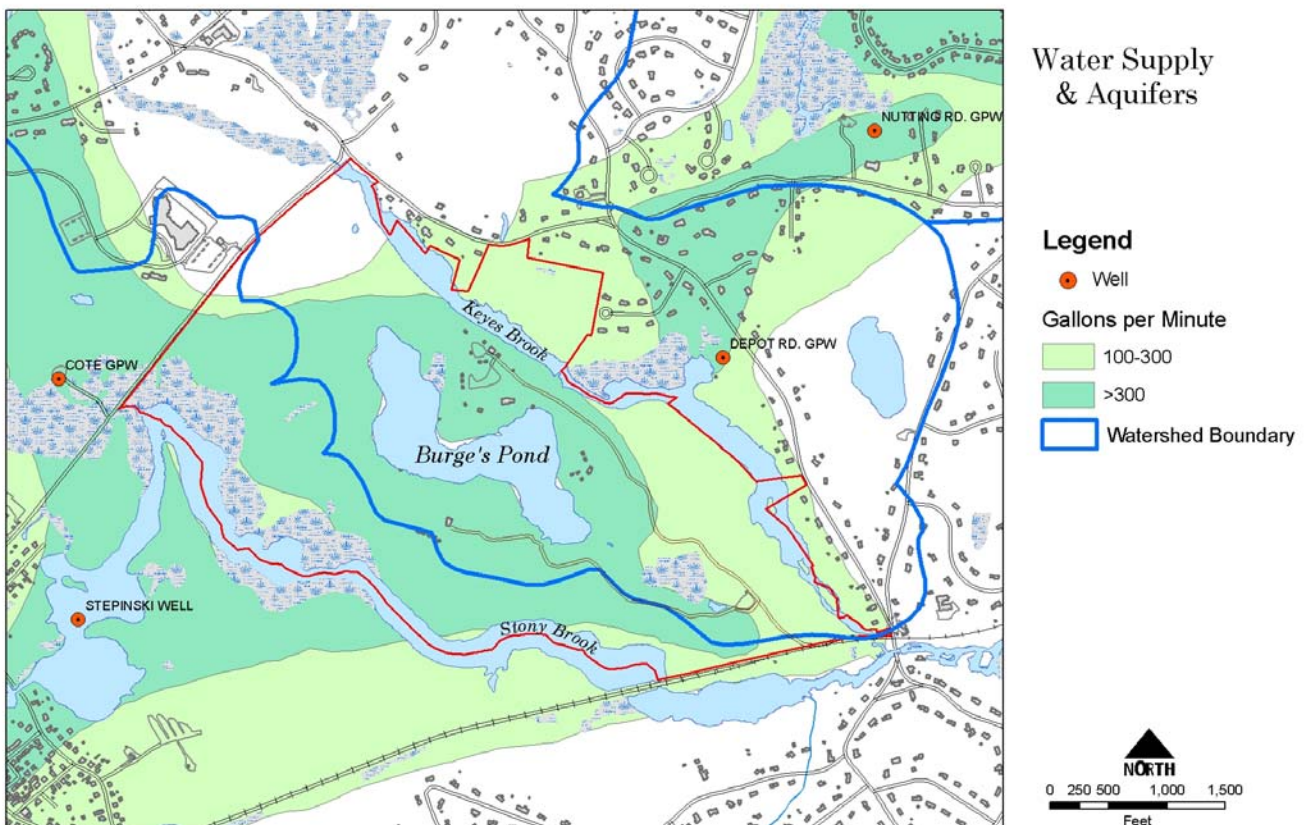
Burge’s Pond, Keyes Brook, and Stony Brook

are the most obvious surface water features. Burge’s Pond has been described as pristine. It was so pure that it was used as an important source of ice from the 1850s to the 1930s—Westford exported 85,000 tons of ice in 1881.

East Boston Camps sits at the confluence of the two sub-watersheds—Keyes Brook and Stony Brook—both eventually drain downstream into the Merrimack River.

Wetlands are the other surface water features. The site has a diverse set of wetlands that contribute to its natural diversity. The wetlands include:

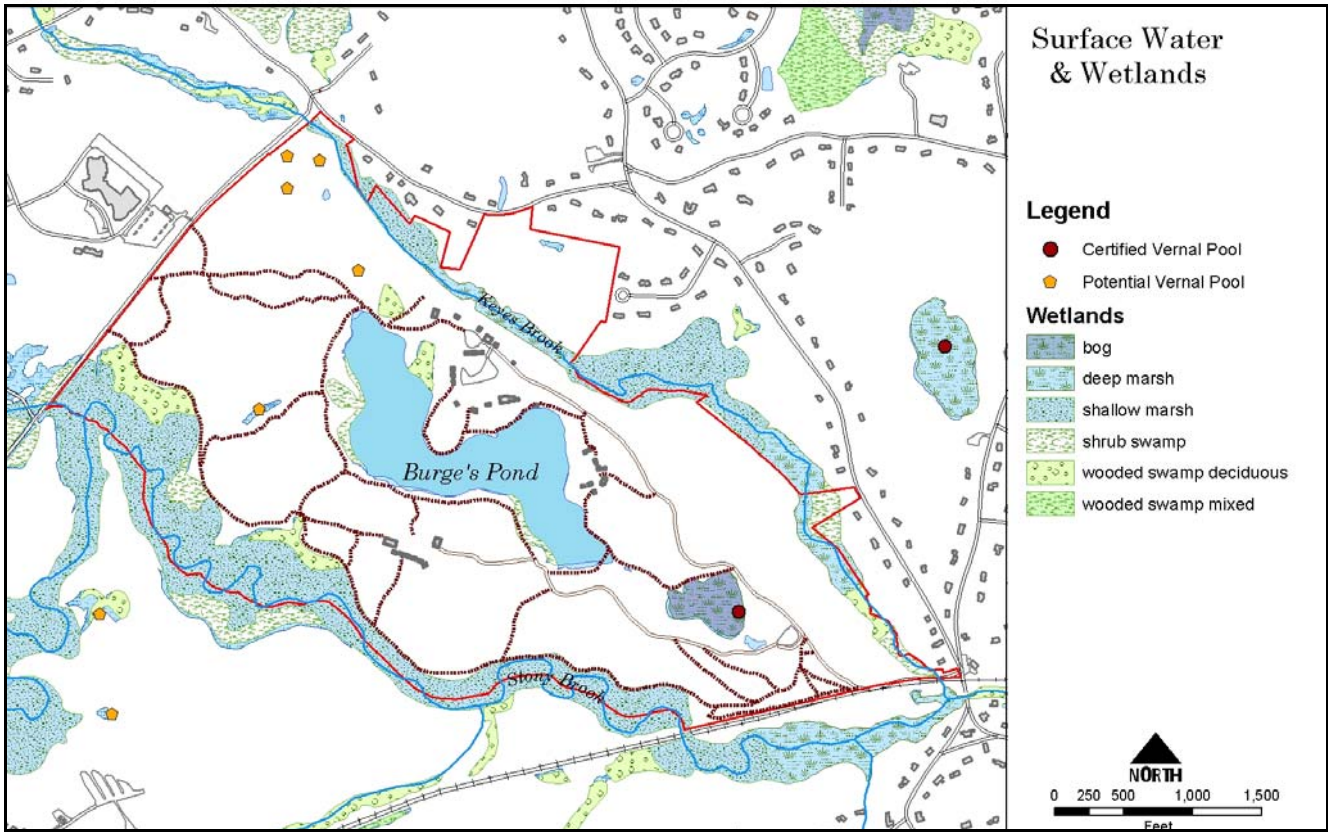
- Woodland Vernal Pools



- Kettle-hole bog—3.9 acres
- Deep marsh—17.4 acres
- Shrub swamp—10 acres
- Red maple swamp—8.5 acres

See the Natural Resource Fact Sheet for more information on the wetlands and their wildlife significance.

The nearest well is on Depot Road. The water treatment plant is on nearby Nutting Road. Westford's Water Department is charged, by the town, with providing safe, high quality, uninterrupted water at a reasonable pressure, to meet the health and fire protection needs of that portion of the town served by the public water system.



### Ground Water

The map on the front of the fact sheet shows the aquifer and its high-yield areas. Much of the area is rated to yield more than 300 gallons of water per minute or 18,000 gallons per hour—enough to supply the daily needs of 275 residents.

tem. The Department provides this service while meeting various state and federal requirements. Protecting the ground water resource is the first priority.



*Nutting Road water treatment plant*



For Additional Information:

- ◇ Contact the Town Manager's Office at 978 692-5501
- ◇ Visit the Westford East Boston Camps Master Plan Website ( [www.ebcwestford.net/](http://www.ebcwestford.net/) ).