

Groton Board of Health
Chapter 332 Wood Waste, Disposal of
Amended on August 17, 2026

Section 332-1 Purpose:

Burial of stumps, other wood waste, and construction debris is prohibited in the Town of Groton.

Burial of wood waste creates a serious threat to public health and safety because decomposition of such wood waste may create sink holes and may contaminate groundwater, wells, and storm drain systems.

Stumps, wood waste, and construction debris are not to be buried within the Town of Groton and shall be disposed of offsite, in accordance with the following:

Stumps and wood waste shall be disposed of at a Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) approved Wood-waste Disposal Sites or other approved Wood-waste Reclamation Facilities as defined in 310 CMR 16.0 and DEP Guidance# BWP-98-006.

Burning brush (with a permit) is allowed in accordance with the "Groton Fire Department, Open Burning Season, Regulation (see attached).

Section 332-2 Authority:

This regulation is promulgated pursuant to the authority granted to the Groton Board of Health by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 111, Section 31 which states "Boards of Health may make reasonable health regulations".

Section 332-3 Definitions:

As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

Board of Health

The Town of Groton's Board of Health and Health Agent

Wood Waste

Discarded material consisting of trees, stumps and brush, including but not limited to sawdust, chips, shavings and bark.

Section 332-4 Violations:

1. Whoever violates any provision of this regulation may be penalized by the non-criminal method of disposition as provided in Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 21D where the specific fine for the violation is not more than \$300, by a Health Order if the fine is for more than \$300, or by filing a criminal complaint at the appropriate venue. Each day any violation exists shall be deemed to be a separate offense.

2. The Board of Health shall not act on permits associated with any property which has an open violation of these regulations.
3. The Groton Building Department shall be notified of any property with an open violation of these regulations.

Section 332-5 Enforcement:

Enforcement of these regulations shall be by the Board of Health or its designated agent(s). The Board of Health or its designated agent(s) shall have the authority, upon becoming aware of a violation, to order the immediate suspension of operations pending final disposition of the matter.

Notwithstanding any other terms or provisions of these regulations to the contrary, violations of the Board of Health Regulations may be enforced by all available means consistent with applicable provisions of law, including, without limitation thereof, resort to injunctive relief, assessment of damages and the imposition of fines and penalties.

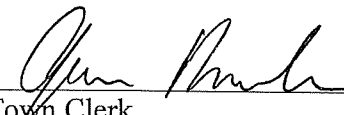
Section 332-6 Severability:

If any provision of this regulation is declared invalid or unenforceable, the other provisions shall not be affected thereby but shall continue in full force and effect.

Section 332-7 Effective Date:

These regulations shall take effect on August 17, 2026

Filed with the Town Clerk:



Town Clerk

AUGUST 18 2026
Date