Devens Enterprise Commission
Military Permitting Policy

In accordance with Chapter 498 of the Acts of 1993, the Devens Enterprise Commission (DEC) is charged with implementing and enforcing the Devens Re-Use Plan, Devens By-Laws, and Rules and Regulations for the Devens Regional Enterprise Zone (DREZ). The DREZ encompasses approximately 4,400 acres north of Route 2 (Main Post and North Post). This does not include the ~4,000 acres on the South Post (south of route 2).

As Devens still includes a number of active federal and state military installations, this policy was developed to clarify jurisdictional authority for the former Fort Devens federal and state properties.

Federal installations (United Stated Department of Defense) within Devens:

The DEC does not have jurisdiction over federal properties, therefore the DEC does not issue permits or conduct any inspections on Federal properties within the DREZ or South Post. However, as per Chapter 498, Section 28 of the Acts of 1993, upon request, the DEC may coordinate with and provide information to the United States Department of Defense and any official or employee thereof, regarding any matter related to condition, closure, conversion, redevelopment or future use or operation of “Fort Devens”. Should the United States Department of Defense require permitting/inspection assistance within any federal enclaves within the Devens Regional Enterprise Zone or the South Post, upon written request from the Department of Defense or duly authorized agent, the DEC may provide permitting and inspectional assistance through its regular permitting process.

State installations (Army National Guard) within Devens:

The State installations of the Army National Guard on Barnum Road are within the Devens Regional Enterprise Zone. Building and Sheet Metal permits required for these facilities are obtained through the Massachusetts Board of Building Regulations and Standards State Building Inspector. Plumbing, gas, and electrical permits are obtained through the normal DEC permitting process. Any exterior site modifications are also reviewed by the DEC and subject to the Devens Reuse Plan, By-Laws, and Rules and Regulations, and including, but not limited to, the Water Resource Protection Report Requirements.

Adopted: February., 2025

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