

WAIC, Springfield, Massachusetts

Issues/Programs List

October 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.

This report lists representative examples of reporting on local issues that aired in program segments reserved for local feature-length news reports, interviews and commentaries within *Morning Edition*, *All Things Considered* and *Weekend Edition*. It is not a comprehensive list but rather is illustrative of the total programming broadcast.

In addition to the feature-length reports listed here, local newscasts were broadcast immediately following national newscasts during *Morning Edition*, *All Things Considered*, and *Weekend Edition*.

Finally, many reports and discussions on the same and related subjects were also included in the broadcasts of such national news and information programs as *Morning Edition*, *All Things Considered*, *Marketplace*, *Fresh Air*, *Weekend Edition* and *Living On Earth*.

Issues

Arts & Culture
Community Voices
Economic Development
Education
Energy & Environment
Justice, Law & Public Safety
Politics & Public Policy
Public Health
Science

Reports on Morning Edition, All Things Considered, and Weekend Edition

Topic	Airdate	Newscast	Duration	State	Summary
Arts & Culture	10/15/2022	8:35am	4:16	MA	Mount Holyoke College sociology professor Patricia Banks is out with a new book, "Black Culture Inc." Through her research Banks explores how black culture has been leveraged by corporate America. She spoke with NEPM's Mike Lyle about major corporations giving millions to diverse historic institutions---and whether those donations woke up other companies to do likewise.
Arts & Culture	10/18/2022	6:45am 8:45am	6:46	MA	The United States Marine Band is touring New England, with recent stops in Springfield and Worcester and an upcoming free concert at the UMass Fine Arts Center. The band is billed as the country's oldest continuously active professional music organization. The UMass concert will be a homecoming of sorts for the band's conductor, Col. Jason Fettig--- a UMass alumnus.
Arts & Culture	10/31/2022	6:22am 8:22am	5:56	MA	Many people set up little graveyards on the lawn to celebrate the fall season and Halloween. John Hanson, author of "Reading The Gravestones Of Old New England," says this contrasts starkly with the early American tradition observed in the old Hadley, Massachusetts cemetery...where he spoke with NEPM's Carrie Healy.

Topic	Airdate	Newscast	Duration	State	Summary
Arts & Culture	11/11/2022	6:45am 8:45am	3:21	MA	Alyssa Gaines, the 2022 National Youth Poet Laureate, visited western Massachusetts this week, invited to read for an audience largely made up of students who study at the Care Center in Holyoke. Poetry is part of the curriculum for young mothers and low-income women as they work towards a high-school or college degree. Gaines often writes about the connection between culture, location, and identity.
Arts & Culture	11/25/2022	6:34am 8:34am	6:49	MA	A photo exhibit about Native Americans living in western Massachusetts is open at the Springfield Science Museum. It's a rare contemporary installation in the museum's Native American Hall, near a stale exhibit depicting indigenous life from centuries ago. This new exhibit has sparked some backlash.
Arts & Culture	11/28/2022	6:22am 8:22am	6:42	MA	A great word of the year will capture a moment in time...like Merriam-Webster's 2021 word of the year, 'vaccine.' The Springfield-based dictionary announced their pick for the 2022 word of the year today. Senior editor Emily Brewster explained what goes on behind the scenes in the process of picking a word of the year.

Topic	Airdate	Newscast	Duration	State	Summary
Community Voices	10/4/2022	6:45am 8:45am	6:02	MA	Three years ago, the Massachusetts Department of Transportation gave residents the choice to use an "x" in place of male or female on a driver's license. This came after a recommendation by the state's LGBTQ+ Youth Commission. But as anti-transgender laws pass in other parts of the country, some trans and nonbinary people in Massachusetts say they don't feel safe choosing the "x".
Community Voices	11/2/2022	5:44 pm	3:50	MA	Members of church and synagogue congregations in Pittsfield wrote thank-you notes for each employee in the city's public schools. NEPM's Nancy Cohen reports that the idea is to thank staff for their work during and after the pandemic.
Community Voices	11/3/2022	8:45am	3:50	MA	Members of church and synagogue congregations in Pittsfield wrote thank-you notes for each employee in the city's public schools. NEPM's Nancy Cohen reports that the idea is to thank staff for their work during and after the pandemic.
Community Voices	11/7/2022	5:45am 7:45am	4:45	MA	Moccasins, pipes and other items believed to have been taken from the bodies of slaughtered native people are on their way home from Massachusetts to South Dakota. This follows years of negotiations between a tiny museum in Barre and descendants of survivors of the Wounded Knee massacre.

Topic	Airdate	Newscast	Duration	State	Summary
Community Voices	11/11/2022	6:45am 8:45am	2:54	CT	A Connecticut judge has ordered conspiracy theorist Alex Jones to pay \$500-million to relatives of Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting victims. Commentator Jenny Hubbard lost her 6-year-old daughter Catherine in the tragedy and says those parents who sued Jones have her unwavering support---but she chose not to join them in the lawsuit.
Community Voices	11/15/2022	6:34am 8:34am	2:41	MA	Though the election is over, the work of election officials is not, with the certification deadline approaching. Commentator Grace Bannasch is the town clerk in Shutesbury, a town of 1700. She has been busy non-stop for months handling, among other things, misdirected mail-in ballots.
Community Voices	11/23/2022	6:34am 8:34am	2:57	MA	Conflicts over gender and sexuality in American society are once again making headlines. Commentator Christopher Carlisle, an Episcopal priest, says some of our differences might be resolved by reconsidering how a seminal Biblical passage about God's image is usually interpreted.
Community Voices	12/14/2022	7:34am	2:42	MA	Robert Clary, the last surviving star from the 60's sitcom "Hogan's Heroes," died recently at the age of 96. Commentator Robert Chipkin has been reflecting on the irony that he now realizes was woven into his favorite childhood show.

Topic	Airdate	Newscast	Duration	State	Summary
Community Voices	12/27/2022	6:45am 8:45am	4:09	MA	Rowing is a sport often associated with wealth and privilege. But some rowing clubs in western Massachusetts are trying to change that by offering free youth programs. Springfield's Pioneer Valley Riverfront Club invites students from a nearby middle school to train in rowing, fitness, and nutrition.
Community Voices	12/29/2022	6:45am 8:39am	4:39	MA	As people on the Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota this week prepare for the annual remembrance of the Wounded Knee massacre, they're reflecting also on items that were returned last month by a museum in Barre, Massachusetts. NEPM's Nancy Cohen reports that the moccasins, pipes and other items are believed to have been taken off the bodies of those killed at Wounded Knee.
Community Voices	12/30/2022	6:45am 8:38am 4:45pm	4:34	MA	Every year during this week, native people gather at the mass grave site in Wounded Knee, South Dakota, to pray for those slaughtered by the US Cavalry in 1890. But as NEPM's Nancy Cohen reports, this year's remembrance included boxes of items that a Massachusetts museum recently returned to the Oglala Lakota nation.
Economic Development	12/2/2022	6:34am 8:34am	2:42	MA	The Parlor Room, a western Massachusetts music venue, is changing its economic model to accommodate the times.

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Education	11/1/2022	6:22am 8:22am	6:47	MA	Governors have considerable sway over public schools, and the state's next governor will likely appoint a new education secretary and members of the board of education. That board decides when to take over chronically underperforming school districts, and when to return control to local officials. NEPM's Jill Kaufman reports on what a new governor could mean for three districts currently in receivership, including Holyoke.
Education	12/13/2022	6:45am 8:45am	5:06	MA	Following October's oral arguments at the US Supreme Court, universities are bracing for a decision on the use of race in admissions. Many expect the court's conservative majority to strike down the practice, which schools like Harvard have used to build racial diversity. Some worry that progress on the elite campus and others across New England will be stunted.
Energy & Environment	11/15/2022	6:34am 8:34am	5:49	MA	Massachusetts' 45-thousand acres of salt marsh provides habitat for birds, filters water, and protects homes and roads from storm surges. But the state has lost about 40 percent of its salt marsh since colonial times, and much of the rest is under threat from sea-level rise, development, and pollution. Now a Mass Audubon project is studying whether a small creature known as the ribbed mussel could help the situation.

Topic	Airdate	Newscast	Duration	State	Summary
Energy & Environment	12/6/2022	6:34am 8:34am	7:51	MA	Guests from agencies that enroll western Massachusetts residents in LIHEAP, the federal program that helps low-income households pay for heating, discuss enrollment requirements amid increased demand and challenges this year.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	10/5/2022	5:45pm	3:15	MA	Federal regulators have fined Florida-based cannabis cultivator Truelieve more than \$35-thousand for safety violations at its indoor growing operation in Holyoke, Massachusetts. OSHA says the violations are connected to the January death of a worker from inhalation of ground marijuana dust.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	10/6/2022	7:45am	3:15	MA	Federal regulators have fined Florida-based cannabis cultivator Truelieve more than \$35-thousand for safety violations at its indoor growing operation in Holyoke, Massachusetts. OSHA says the violations are connected to the January death of a worker from inhalation of ground marijuana dust.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	10/20/2022	6:45am 8:45am	5:24	MA	Republicans across the country have raised concerns about vote fraud over the past two years, including here in Massachusetts. But election officials insist that the system is secure.

Topic	Airdate	Newscast	Duration	State	Summary
Justice, Law & Public Safety	10/26/2022	6:34am 8:34am	4:01	MA	Holyoke's city council recently voted to use federal grant funds to implement Shot Spotter, a technology to identify and locate gunshots, in the city's downtown. Some are skeptical of its efficacy, but Mayor Joshua Garcia says it's worth a try.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	11/21/2022	5:45am 7:45am	5:16	MA	A 2017 federal investigation into drug and gun crimes in Springfield is at the center of an issue that could go before the US Supreme Court. NEPM's Carrie Healy spoke with reporter Shira Schoenberg, who wrote about the issue for Commonwealth Magazine.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	11/22/2022	7:21am	6:38	MA	If a police officer is dismissed for something such as drunk driving or sexual assault, it might seem to mark the end of a law-enforcement career. But many officers who were fired or quit over misconduct simply moved on to new departments. WBUR's Walter Wuthmann has the story of a police officer with a troubled past now working in the western part of the state.
Politics & Public Policy	10/3/2022	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	Beacon Hill In 5: an update on pending state income-tax refunds; a wide gap in advertising spending between the two candidates for governor, with Democrat Maura Healey running plenty of tv commercials; state officials are not pleased with an expected 18-month delay in deliveries of new Boston subway cars from Springfield manufacturer CRRC.

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Politics & Public Policy	10/10/2022	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	Beacon Hill In 5: a check on state regulators' progress in getting sports betting up and running before the Super Bowl; an independent review suggests that the state might be refunding over a billion dollars too much to taxpayers under the tax-cap law; and a Massachusetts law mandating humane conditions for pigs remains on hold pending judicial review of a similar law in California.
Politics & Public Policy	10/13/2022	6:45am 8:45am	4:41	MA	Question 4 on the Massachusetts ballot asks voters if they want to keep a new state law that allows undocumented immigrants to obtain driver's licenses. Massachusetts became the 17th state to adopt such a law back in June and it will take effect next year, unless repealed. Reporter Walter Wuthmann spoke with a woman who has a deep personal stake in the issue.
Politics & Public Policy	10/17/2022	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	Beacon Hill In 5: the campaign surrounding Question 3 on the November ballot, dealing with liquor licenses and associated issues, is no longer a one-sided affair; started out as a rather one-sided affair; the state auditor reports a \$1.2-billion gap in state aid for school transportation, education, veterans' benefits and other services---has there been any comment from the two candidates looking to succeed the incumbent auditor?

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Politics & Public Policy	10/24/2022	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	Beacon Hill In 5: a check of new polls covering candidates and ballot measures as the election approaches; GE and other companies plan to downsize their Boston offices due to job cuts and a reluctance among some employees to return to in-person work.
Politics & Public Policy	10/26/2022	6:34am 8:34am	2:52	MA	Two non-incumbents are seeking the 7th Hampden seat in the state house of representatives. A recent debate was civil, though the candidates did press each other on several issues.
Politics & Public Policy	10/27/2022	7:45am	4:27	MA	Question 3 on this year's Massachusetts ballot asks voters whether changes should be made to alcohol policy. If approved, the measure would provide for more beer and wine licenses, but fewer to sell all alcoholic beverages. It would also ban the use of self-checkout machines for purchases, and allow buyers to use out-of-state IDs.
Politics & Public Policy	10/31/2022	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	Beacon Hill In 5: a check of the latest polls on candidates and ballot questions as the election approaches; some legislators want to revive a languishing economic development bill.
Politics & Public Policy	11/2/2022	7:45am 4:48pm	12:56	MA	Question 1 is a proposed constitutional amendment on the Massachusetts ballot that would establish an additional 4-percent tax on annual taxable income over 1 million dollars. Revenue would be dedicated for public education and transportation, subject to the legislature's appropriation.

Topic	Airdate	Newscast	Duration	State	Summary
Politics & Public Policy	11/3/2022	7:22am 4:48pm	12;27	MA	Question 4 on the Massachusetts ballot seeks repeal of a law passed by the legislature earlier this year, allowing undocumented residents to obtain a driver's license if they meet certain requirements.
Politics & Public Policy	11/4/2022	6:34am 8:34am	2:50	MA	There's a contested race for the newly reconfigured state house seat for the Second Franklin district, which includes parts of Greenfield and nine other communities. Three candidates are on the ballot but only two actually remain in the race, as NEPM's Carrie Saldo reports.
Politics & Public Policy	11/4/2022	6:34am 8:34am	4:55	MA	Both of the incumbent Congressmen from western Massachusetts are up for re-election next week. Richie Neal and Jim McGovern have GOP challengers, but it's been a quiet race, as NEPM's Adam Frenier reports.
Politics & Public Policy	11/7/2022	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	Beacon Hill In 5: Governor Baker has raised some eyebrows by deflecting questions about what he considers his biggest health-care accomplishment; a nearly \$4-billion economic development bill has passed the legislature, minus a one-time tax rebate and a permanent set of tax breaks for renters, seniors, and others; polls show Maura Healey with a comfortable lead over Geoff Diehl in the governor's race.

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Politics & Public Policy	11/14/2022	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	Beacon Hill In 5: in the wake of the election, are state GOP leaders concerned with their weak showing? Governor Baker signed the \$3.7-billion economic development bill after some tax breaks and estate-tax reforms were stripped out by legislators, and he made some changes of his own.
Politics & Public Policy	11/21/2022	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	Beacon Hill In 5: Gov.-elect Healey has formed policy committees as part of her transition; outgoing Governor Baker has dismissed speculation about a run for the White House; companies seeking participation in sport betting action in the state will pay a filing fee of \$200-thousand with their applications---what does that fee cover?
Politics & Public Policy	11/22/2022	6:34am 8:34am	9:15	MA	With temperatures dropping it is a perilous time of year for the homeless, especially those who don't go to shelters. In recent years the official count of those in western Massachusetts who don't have a home and don't stay in a shelter has fluctuated between 80 and 205.
Politics & Public Policy	11/22/2022	5:45pm	4:09	MA	The change of control in the US House means a change for Springfield democrat Richie Neal. He now leads the powerful Ways & Means Committee but will soon lose the chairmanship. Neal says he will keep pushing to extend the child credit during the House's lame-duck session.

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Politics & Public Policy	11/23/2022	6:34am 8:34am	5:27	MA	Massachusetts is the only state in the country that guarantees a "right to shelter" for homeless families. The first step is getting through to the state system, whose shelter hotline doesn't always work. Critics says the phone line needs revamping.
Politics & Public Policy	11/28/2022	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	Beacon Hill In 5: an informal session at the State House is dealing with minor local bills, while major legislation will need to be addressed in January; the Registry of Motor Vehicles holds a public hearing on implementing the new law allowing unauthorized immigrants to obtain a driver's license; the limit on contributions to the inaugural-events fund for incoming Governor Maura Healey has been set at \$25-thousand.
Politics & Public Policy	12/5/2022	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	Beacon Hill In 5: an overview of the two recent budget bills filed by Governor Baker, one being a supplemental request to fund emergency shelters for immigrants and refugees; a public hearing is scheduled for those wanting to weigh in on in-person sports betting at casinos; the final agreed-upon raise in the state's minimum wage takes effect in January.
Politics & Public Policy	12/12/2022	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	Beacon Hill In 5: A look at cabinet secretary appointments and other matters connected to the transition between Gov. Baker and the incoming Healey administration.

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Politics & Public Policy	12/14/2022	7:34am	5:56	MA	Berkshire District Attorney Andrea Harrington promised to make criminal justice more equitable when she was elected in 2018. Some hope that her successor Timothy Shugrue will continue her approach when he takes office in January; others are hoping for a different path towards reform.
Politics & Public Policy	12/21/2022	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	Beacon Hill In 5: a look at outgoing Gov. Charlie Baker's new job as head of the NCAA; Patrick Tutwiler will be the new Secretary of Education; the new administration will have a cabinet-level climate policy chief; and Governor-elect Healey says her office will not claim exemption from the state's public records law.
Public Health	10/12/2022	4:45pm	4:12	MA	Pediatric emergency rooms across New England report an unprecedented spike in respiratory illnesses, filling hospital and emergency beds to capacity. Dr. Charlotte Boney, pediatrician-in-chief at Baystate Children's Hospital in Springfield, urges parents to get their children a flu vaccine and, if eligible, a covid booster.
Public Health	10/13/2022	7:45am	4:12	MA	Pediatric emergency rooms across New England report an unprecedented spike in respiratory illnesses, filling hospital and emergency beds to capacity. Dr. Charlotte Boney, pediatrician-in-chief at Baystate Children's Hospital in Springfield, urges parents to get their children a flu vaccine and, if eligible, a covid booster.

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Public Health	12/2/2022	6:34am 8:34am	5:33	MA	Respiratory syncytial virus, or RSV, did not circulate much in the past two years, likely due to covid masking. Hospitals in Massachusetts are scrambling to respond to a wave of young RSV patients, while also bracing for an expected flu surge.
Public Health	12/20/2022	6:45am 8:45am	4:42	MA	The science of 'precision medicine' has made huge leaps in the past few decades. It helps doctors use genetics and other data to treat patients, especially for diseases like cancer and cystic fibrosis. But there's been one glaring exception---mental illness. Some Boston-based researchers hope to change that.