

**WHY DOES  
MASSACHUSETTS  
NEED A  
NEW AREA CODE  
ANYWAY?**



We're the one for you New England.



**New England Telephone**

A **NYNEX** Company

TCI Library: [www.telephonecollectors.info](http://www.telephonecollectors.info)

**B**ecause Massachusetts is growing so fast we're running out of phone numbers. The same thing has happened in other parts of the country as well.

## **WHEN WILL THE NEW AREA CODE START?**

Area Code 508 will go into effect July 16, 1988. We're giving you a year to get ready for the change.

## **WILL THERE BE ANY CHANGES IN MY PHONE SERVICE?**

Only this. You will have to get used to dialing "1" plus the Area Code when

calling across the new Area Code line. Otherwise, the telephone service for today's Massachusetts customers will remain exactly the same. New England Telephone is making every effort to introduce the new Area Code in a way that minimizes inconveniences as much as possible.

## **WHAT WILL THE NEW CODE MEAN TO ME?**

The only purpose of the change is to create more telephone numbers; therefore, there will be no change in most Massachusetts customers' phone bills. Calls to and between Massachusetts exchanges will be billed just as they are

today and New England Telephone will continue to handle these calls just as we do today.

## **WHAT WILL I HAVE TO DO?**

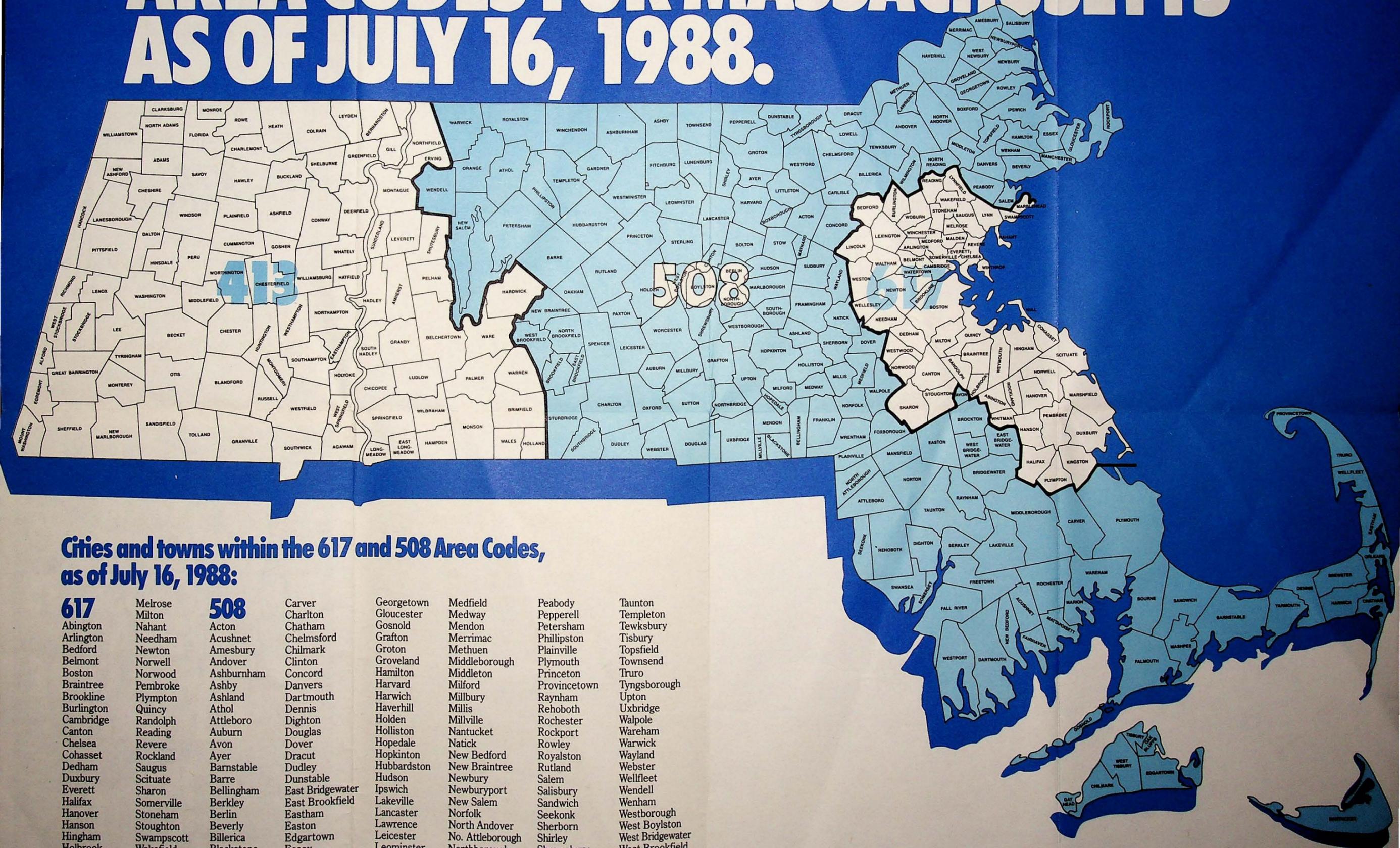
If you live in a community that will be in the new 508 area, you should inform friends, family and anyone else who may call you from outside the area of the impending change. Also, most businesses will need to alter their stationery, business cards and advertising. Even if you're not within the new Area Code you may wish to keep the map inside this folder as a handy reference.

## **OK THEN, WHO'S GOING TO GET THE NEW AREA CODE, AND WHO ISN'T?**

The new Area Code boundary runs in an approximate semicircle from Kingston on the South Shore, around Boston to Marblehead on the North Shore. A lot of planning went into establishing this boundary line so that it gives everyone quick and easy access to local communities, including police and fire officials.

If you need further information, please call 1 800 555-5000, weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

# NEW ENGLAND TELEPHONE AREA CODES FOR MASSACHUSETTS AS OF JULY 16, 1988.



## Cities and towns within the 617 and 508 Area Codes, as of July 16, 1988:

### 617

Abington  
Arlington  
Bedford  
Belmont  
Boston  
Braintree  
Brookline  
Burlington  
Cambridge  
Canton  
Chelsea  
Cohasset  
Dedham  
Duxbury  
Everett  
Halifax  
Hanover  
Hanson  
Hingham  
Holbrook  
Hull  
Kingston  
Lexington  
Lincoln  
Lynn  
Lynnfield  
Malden  
Marblehead  
Marshfield  
Medford

Melrose  
Milton  
Nahant  
Needham  
Newton  
Norwell  
Norwood  
Pembroke  
Plympton  
Quincy  
Randolph  
Reading  
Revere  
Rockland  
Saugus  
Scituate  
Sharon  
Somerville  
Berkley  
Berlin  
Stoneham  
Stoughton  
Beverly  
Swampscott  
Wakefield  
Waltham  
Watertown  
Wellesley  
Weston  
Westwood  
Weymouth  
Whitman  
Winchester  
Winthrop  
Woburn

### 508

Acton  
Acushnet  
Amesbury  
Andover  
Ashburnham  
Ashby  
Ashland  
Athol  
Attleboro  
Auburn  
Avon  
Ayer  
Barnstable  
Barre  
Bellingham  
Berkley  
Berlin  
Beverly  
BillERICA  
Blackstone  
Bolton  
Bourne  
Boxborough  
Boxford  
Boylston  
Brewster  
Bridgewater  
Brockton  
Brookfield  
Carlisle

Carver  
Charlton  
Nahant  
Needham  
Newton  
Norwell  
Norwood  
Pembroke  
Plympton  
Quincy  
Randolph  
Reading  
Revere  
Rockland  
Saugus  
Scituate  
Sharon  
Somerville  
Berkley  
Berlin  
Stoneham  
Stoughton  
Beverly  
Swampscott  
Wakefield  
Waltham  
Watertown  
Wellesley  
Weston  
Westwood  
Weymouth  
Whitman  
Winchester  
Winthrop  
Woburn

Georgetown  
Gloucester  
Gosnold  
Grafton  
Groton  
Groveland  
Hamilton  
Harvard  
Harwich  
Haverhill  
Holden  
Holliston  
Hopedale  
Hopkinton  
Hubbardston  
Hudson  
Ipswich  
Lakeville  
Lancaster  
Lawrence  
Leicester  
Leominster  
Littleton  
Lowell  
Lunenburg  
Manchester  
Mansfield  
Marion  
Marlborough  
Mashpee  
Mattapoisett  
Maynard

Medfield  
Medway  
Mendon  
Merrimac  
Methuen  
Middleborough  
Middleton  
Milford  
Millbury  
Millis  
Millville  
Nantucket  
Natick  
New Bedford  
New Braintree  
Newbury  
Newburyport  
New Salem  
Norfolk  
North Andover  
No. Attleborough  
Northborough  
Northbridge  
No. Brookfield  
North Reading  
Norton  
Oak Bluffs  
Oakham  
Orange  
Orleans  
Oxford  
Paxton

Peabody  
Pepperell  
Petersham  
Phillipston  
Plainville  
Plymouth  
Princeton  
Provincetown  
Raynham  
Rehoboth  
Rochester  
Rockport  
Rowley  
Royalston  
Rutland  
Salem  
Salisbury  
Sandwich  
Seekonk  
Sherborn  
Shirley  
Shrewsbury  
Southborough  
Southbridge  
Somerset  
Spencer  
Sterling  
Stow  
Sturbridge  
Sudbury  
Sutton  
Swansea

Taunton  
Templeton  
Tewksbury  
Tisbury  
Topsfield  
Townsend  
Truro  
Tyngsborough  
Upton  
Uxbridge  
Walpole  
Wareham  
Warwick  
Wayland  
Webster  
Wellfleet  
Wendell  
Wenham  
Westborough  
West Boylston  
West Bridgewater  
West Brookfield  
Westminster  
West Newbury  
Westport  
West Tisbury  
Wilmington  
Winchendon  
Worcester  
Wrentham  
Yarmouth

We're the one for you New England.



# Extra!

AUGUST 1997

NYNEX®

(Continued from page 1)

Twelve communities surrounding and including Boston will retain the existing 617 area code. And the remaining communities in the 617 area will change to a new 781 code.

Starting in May 1998, new exchanges and telephone numbers will be activated in all four Eastern Massachusetts area codes.

The new area codes will help us keep pace with consumer demand for voice lines, fax machines, computers, pagers, and cellular phones, as well as new companies offering local telephone service.

## How will this change affect you?

Starting September 1, 1997, all Massachusetts customers should use the following dialing patterns to complete calls:

TYPE OF CALL	DIAL
Local calls within the same area code	7-digit telephone number
Local calls to a different area code	area code + 7-digit telephone number*
Calls to anywhere outside your local calling area	1 + area code + 7-digit telephone number

\* New dialing patterns effective across Massachusetts.

Beginning September 1, 1997, there will be two new area codes in Eastern Massachusetts.

## No, the area codes aren't changing just to annoy you.



Because demand for communication services in Massachusetts is growing so fast, we need more telephone exchanges. So, under an order issued by the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities, beginning September 1, 1997, there will be two new area codes in Eastern Massachusetts. The northern portion of the existing 508 area code will have a new 978 area code.

(Continued)

# 978

## Will rates and services change?

Even though dialing may change, the new area codes do not affect rates or local calling areas. A local call is still a local call, a toll call is still a toll call. And all of our Optional Calling Plans, such as *Bay State or the Eastern Massachusetts Unlimited Calling Plan* will remain unchanged.

## Which towns will be affected?

For your convenience, we've listed Massachusetts cities and towns by area code effective September 1, 1997. Cities and towns in the 413 area remain unchanged. Please keep the map inside this newsletter as a handy reference.

## What should you do?

If your area code is changing, notify friends and business associates that your area code will change as of September 1, 1997. After December 1, 1997, calls can not be completed without the correct area code. (Callers will hear announcements instructing them to redial).

Starting in May 1998, new exchanges and telephone numbers will be activated in all four Eastern Massachusetts area codes.

## Checklist for Area Code changes in Massachusetts

We've compiled this checklist to help you make a smooth transition to the new area codes and associated dialing changes. Here are some of the action items you may need to keep track of:

*Check with your suppliers to make sure your equipment can handle the two new area codes:*

- Medical alert systems
- Fire/Security alarm companies
- PBX systems

# 617

*Reprogram your telecommunications services and equipment to include the new area codes:*

- Computer modems
- Call Forward/Callability
- Voice Dialing
- All speed dialing lists, including those on office phones, cellular or mobile phones, and fax machines
- Automatic Call Distributors
- Pager Notification on Voice Mail

*NYNEX will automatically reprogram or modify:*

- Centrex Systems
- Foreign Exchange Service
- NYNEX White Pages listings (beginning September 1997)
- Remote Line
- Call Answering/Voice Messaging (Remember to use the new dialing patterns and area codes to access your mailbox when you're away from home or office.)
- Call Forwarding II (Busy/Don't answer)
- Selective Blocking Service (550, 554, 900, 920, 940, 976)

978 508

**Any questions?**

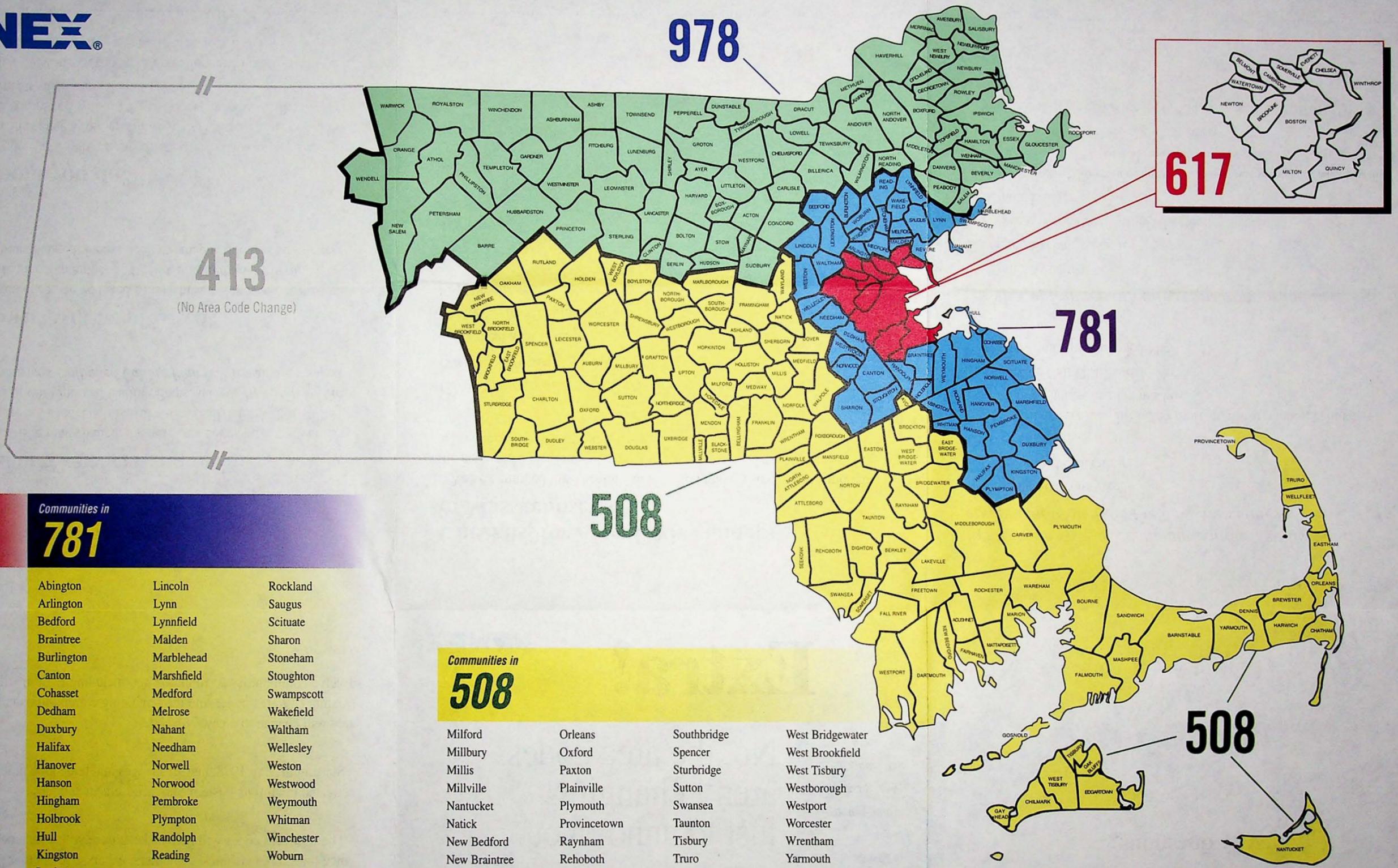
For further information, please call NYNEX at  
**1 800 203-7967.**

Thank you for helping us make these necessary changes as smooth as possible.

? ? ?  
781 617

**NYNEX.**  
New England Telephone

NYNEX Extra!  
© 1997 NYNEX  
MA 8/97 Res



**Communities in 617**

- Belmont
- Boston
- Brookline
- Cambridge
- Chelsea
- Everett
- Milton
- Newton
- Quincy
- Somerville
- Watertown
- Winthrop

**Communities in 781**

- Abington
- Arlington
- Bedford
- Braintree
- Burlington
- Canton
- Cohasset
- Dedham
- Duxbury
- Halifax
- Hanover
- Hanson
- Hingham
- Holbrook
- Hull
- Kingston
- Lexington
- Lincoln
- Lynn
- Lynnfield
- Malden
- Marblehead
- Marshfield
- Medford
- Melrose
- Nahant
- Needham
- Norwell
- Norwood
- Pembroke
- Plympton
- Randolph
- Reading
- Revere
- Rockland
- Saugus
- Scituate
- Sharon
- Stoneham
- Stoughton
- Swampscott
- Wakefield
- Waltham
- Wellesley
- Weston
- Westwood
- Weymouth
- Whitman
- Winchester
- Woburn

**Communities in 508**

- Milford
- Millbury
- Millis
- Millville
- Nantucket
- Natick
- New Bedford
- New Braintree
- Norfolk
- North Attleboro
- North Brookfield
- Northborough
- Northbridge
- Norton
- Oak Bluffs
- Oakham
- Orleans
- Oxford
- Paxton
- Plainville
- Plymouth
- Provincetown
- Raynham
- Rehoboth
- Rochester
- Rutland
- Sandwich
- Seekonk
- Sherborn
- Shrewsbury
- Somerset
- Southborough
- Southbridge
- Spencer
- Sturbridge
- Sutton
- Swansea
- Taunton
- Tisbury
- Truro
- West Bridgewater
- West Brookfield
- West Tisbury
- Westborough
- Westport
- Worcester
- Wrentham
- Yarmouth

**Communities in 978**

- Acton
- Amesbury
- Andover
- Ashburnham
- Ashby
- Athol
- Ayer
- Barre
- Berlin
- Beverly
- Billerica
- Bolton
- Boxborough
- Boxford
- Carlisle
- Chelmsford
- Clinton
- Concord
- Danvers
- Dracut
- Dunstable
- Essex
- Fitchburg
- Gardner
- Georgetown
- Gloucester
- Groton
- Groveland
- Hamilton
- Harvard
- Haverhill
- Hubbardston

**Communities in 508**

- Acushnet
- Ashland
- Attleboro
- Auburn
- Avon
- Barnstable
- Bellingham
- Berkley
- Blackstone
- Bourne
- Boylston
- Brewster
- Bridgewater
- Brockton
- Brookfield
- Carver
- Charlton
- Chatham
- Chilmark
- Dartmouth
- Dennis
- Dighton
- Douglas
- Dover
- Dudley
- East Bridgewater
- East Brookfield
- Eastham
- Easton
- Edgartown
- Fairhaven
- Fall River
- Falmouth
- Foxboro
- Framingham
- Franklin
- Freetown
- Gay Head
- Gosnold
- Grafton
- Harwich
- Holden
- Holliston
- Hopedale
- Hopkinton
- Lakeville
- Leicester
- Mansfield
- Marion
- Marlborough
- Mashpee
- Mattapoisett
- Medfield
- Medway
- Mendon
- Middleborough

**Communities in 978**

- Hudson
- Ipswich
- Lancaster
- Lawrence
- Leominster
- Littleton
- Lowell
- Lunenburg
- Manchester
- Maynard
- Merrimac
- Methuen
- Middleton
- New Salem
- Newbury
- Newburyport
- North Andover
- North Reading
- Orange
- Peabody
- Pepperell
- Petersham
- Phillipston
- Princeton
- Rockport
- Rowley
- Royalston
- Salem
- Salisbury
- Shirley
- Sterling
- Stow
- Sudbury
- Templeton
- Tewksbury
- Topsfield
- Townsend
- Tyngsboro
- Warwick
- Wendell
- Wenham
- West Newbury
- Westford
- Westminster
- Wilmington
- Winchendon

# Verizon Reminds Eastern Massachusetts Customers New Area Codes Go into Effect April 2

BOSTON -- When resetting your clocks this weekend for Daylight Saving, check to make sure you also have reprogrammed all your phone equipment for a new way of dialing calls that goes into effect beginning April 2.

"Time is running out for dialing local calls without including the area code," said Rick Colon, Verizon manager for area code customer education. "All customers in Eastern Massachusetts should be using the new dialing method now so they are familiar with it. They also should check immediately whether they need to reprogram their services or equipment, such speed dialing or computer modems, that dial local phone numbers."

Eastern Massachusetts is adding new area codes with the same geographic boundaries as the current 617, 508, 781 and 978 area codes. These "overlay" area codes will eliminate the need to split the existing codes into ever-smaller areas to create new phone numbers and will allow existing customers to keep their current phone numbers.

The new area codes will coincide with existing area codes as follows:

The new area codes will coincide with existing area codes as follows:

- 857 will overlay 617
- 774 will overlay 508
- 339 will overlay 781
- 351 will overlay 978

While telephone numbers in the existing area codes will not change, callers in Eastern Massachusetts will need to dial 10 digits -- the area code and seven-digit number -- for all local calls and "1" plus 10 digits for all toll calls starting April 2. If they prefer, customers may complete all calls -- local, toll and long distance -- by dialing "1" plus 10 digits.

Beginning April 2, customers who dial incorrectly will hear a recorded message reminding them that they must also dial the complete number, which includes the area code. It will take about two weeks to convert all the company's 250 call-routing centers in Eastern Massachusetts for the change.

This change affects Eastern Massachusetts customers only. Customers in the 413 area code in Western Massachusetts will continue to dial all their calls as they do today.

Beginning May 2, local telephone companies may assign numbers in the new 857, 774, 339 and 351 area codes to customers who request new phone service or additional lines.

The demand for new telephone numbers is exploding as Massachusetts residents and businesses increasingly have a choice of which company provides their local phone service. These competing companies require phone numbers for their customers.

Just three years ago, two new area codes were created in Massachusetts by splitting existing area codes in half. The 781 area code was carved out of the 617 code and the 978 area code was carved out of the 508 area code. With the addition of the four new overlay codes, Massachusetts will have nine area codes.

Nationwide, the number of new area codes also is increasing as a result of the heavy demand for additional phone numbers.

The additional area codes and new dialing pattern will not affect current telephone numbers, the price of telephone service or local calling areas. In addition, customers will still dial 911 to reach emergency services.

Since September, Verizon has been informing its customers about the dialing change and new area codes through advertising, inserts in phone bills, letters to businesses, press releases, outreach to senior citizens and others, and special activities.

The company offers the following tips:

- Dial 10 digits or "1" plus 10 digits for all local calls.
- Reprogram computers that are used for Internet access, fax machines, speed dialing and call forwarding services and other equipment that dials phone numbers. A list of some equipment and services that may require reprogramming follows this release.
- Check with your security company or the supplier of your PBX business phone system to make sure your systems are programmed to handle the new area codes.
- Update phone lists, databases, Web pages, billing records and address books with the new area codes.
- Include the area code when giving out your phone number.

More information on the area codes and dialing changes is available Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. by calling Verizon's toll-free Area Code Information Line at 877-554-3685. Customers also may visit the company's area code pages on the World Wide Web at [www.verizon.com/support/areacode.html](http://www.verizon.com/support/areacode.html).

Verizon Communications (NYSE:VZ) is one of the world's leading providers of communications services. Verizon companies are the largest providers of wireline and wireless communications in the United States, with nearly 109 million access line equivalents and more than 27.5 million wireless customers. Verizon is also the world's largest provider of print and online directory information. A Fortune 10 company with approximately 260,000 employees and more than \$63

billion in annual revenues, Verizon's global presence extends to 40 countries in the Americas, Europe, Asia and the Pacific. For more information on Verizon, visit [www.verizon.com](http://www.verizon.com).

####

---

ATTENTION CUSTOMERS IN THESE AREA CODES:  
617 / 508 / 781 / 978

Get Ready Now for Ten Digit or "1"+ Ten-Digit Dialing For All Local & Toll Calls

Customers with phone numbers in the 617 / 508 / 781 / 978 area codes need to reprogram any telephone equipment, computer or service that currently dials seven-digit phone numbers. The change is necessary for the introduction of new area codes in Eastern Massachusetts this spring. Customers should reprogram that equipment or service as soon as possible so that it dials ten digits or "1" plus ten digits for all seven-digit numbers they dial today. This reprogramming must be completed by April 2.

Examples of equipment or Verizon services that may need to be reprogrammed include:

- Computers used for Internet access
- Modems
- Speed dialing lists
- Automatic dialers
- Cellular and mobile phones
- Security systems (check with your security company)
- PBX business phone systems (check with your PBX supplier)
- Pagers
- Fax machines
- Home Voice Mail or Answer Call/Voice Mail features
- Call Forwarding

In addition, be sure to update phone lists, databases, Web pages, billing records and address books to include area codes and include the area code when exchanging telephone numbers.

For more information on Massachusetts area codes or how to dial calls, call Verizon's toll-free Area Code Information Line on 877-554-3685. Customers also may visit the company's area code pages on the World Wide Web ([www.verizon.com/support/areacode.html](http://www.verizon.com/support/areacode.html)).