

# Public Water System, Certified Water Operators and Environmental Laboratories

## COVID-19

Webinar # 2020-15

### DRINKING WATER SECTION

Lori Mathieu

Environmental Health & Drinking Water Branch Chief

June 25, 2020

(1:00 PM – 2:00 PM)

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT *of* PUBLIC HEALTH



# AGENDA



DRINKING WATER  
SECTION

WEBINAR SERIES  
Webinar # 15

COVID-19  
for  
Water Utilities

Certified Water  
Operators

Environmental  
Laboratories

June 25, 2020

- **Update from DPH/DWS on Recent Developments**
- **Status of WEBEOC and CtWARN**
- **Update from PURA**
- **Update from CTWC, Aquarion, RWA & MDC**
- **Update from other CWSs**
- **Questions ?**

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# DPH/DWS Updates

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June 25, 2020

- **Current Status of COVID 19 ; daily report from Governor via <https://portal.ct.gov/>**
- **Voluntary quarantine for travelers from AL,AK, AZ, FL, NC, SC, WA, UT, TX**
- **Calls: CWSs, Env. Labs, Top Ops, EPA R1, P3 group**
- **Reopening Phase II (June 17th) Circular Letters 2020-50 and 2020-51**
- **Reminder to collect WQPs per Pb & Cu sampling precautions [guidance](#) and [Circular Letter 2020-34](#)**
- **Reopening Phase III (next slide)**

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# DPH/DWS Updates – Reopening

## • Phase 3 Reopen Rules (mid-July)

**\*\* Note: additional information regarding Phase 3 will be coming soon \*\***

- ❖ **Restaurants, Breweries & Wineries**
- ❖ **Rules for Gatherings and Venues (additional guidance in Phase 2 below)**
  - ✓ **Indoor private gatherings – 50 people**
  - ✓ **Outdoor private gatherings (including Graduations) – 250 people**
  - ✓ **Outdoor organized gatherings (e.g. Fireworks, Concert in Municipal Park) – 15 feet of space blanket to blanket, no cap. Event organizer responsible for compliance with guidance.**
  - ✓ **Outdoor Event Venues (e.g. Amphitheaters, Race Tracks) – 50% of Fire Capacity and distancing**



# DPH/DWS Updates – Reopening

- Hot dry days coupled with reopening presenting us with unprecedented water demands causing water discoloration or insufficient pressure
- Conditions ripe for bacterial contamination and legionella growth
- Communicate often with customers and draft measures to be followed especially by HCFs
- Obviously report these events to DPH/DWS promptly
- Alternative care sites and shelters- Continue to provide technical assistance
- DWS “Return To Service” guidance is on DWS webpage

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**June 25, 2020**

# Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

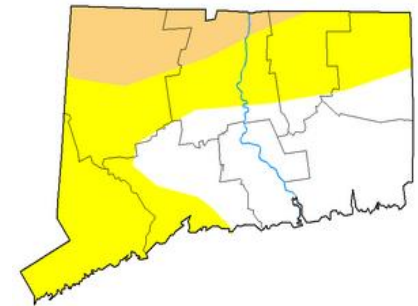
- **New Eligibility Applications (EAs) for projects needing funding during SFY 2021 (July 1,2020 – June 30, 2021) have been completed and the Project Priority List is being prepared.**
- **The public hearing on the SFY 2021 DWSRF Intended Use Plan and Project Priority List will be held in a virtual setting and an announcement will be published with a 30 day public comment period prior to the hearing**
- **No new news on the status of the anticipated federal stimulus bill for infrastructure, including drinking water but details will be provided if and when available and a specific request for eligible infrastructure projects will be issued at the appropriate time**
- **Send all questions to – [DPH.CTDWSRF@ct.gov](mailto:DPH.CTDWSRF@ct.gov)**

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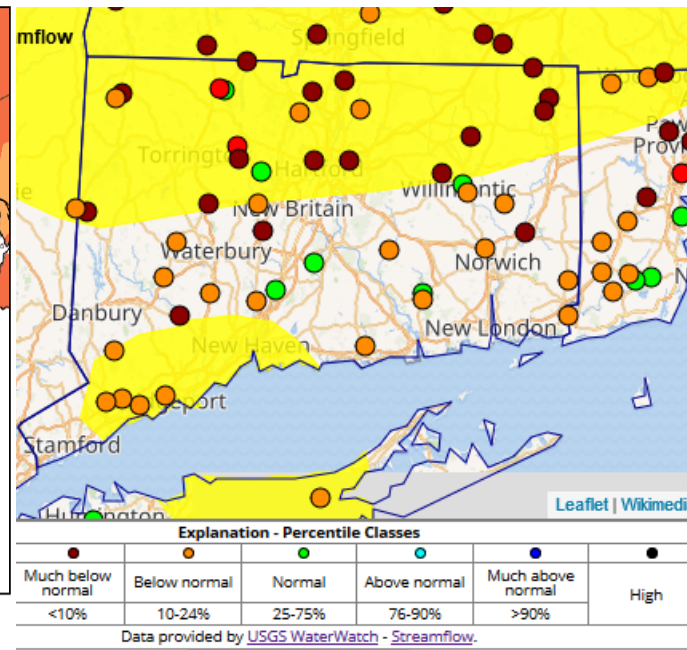
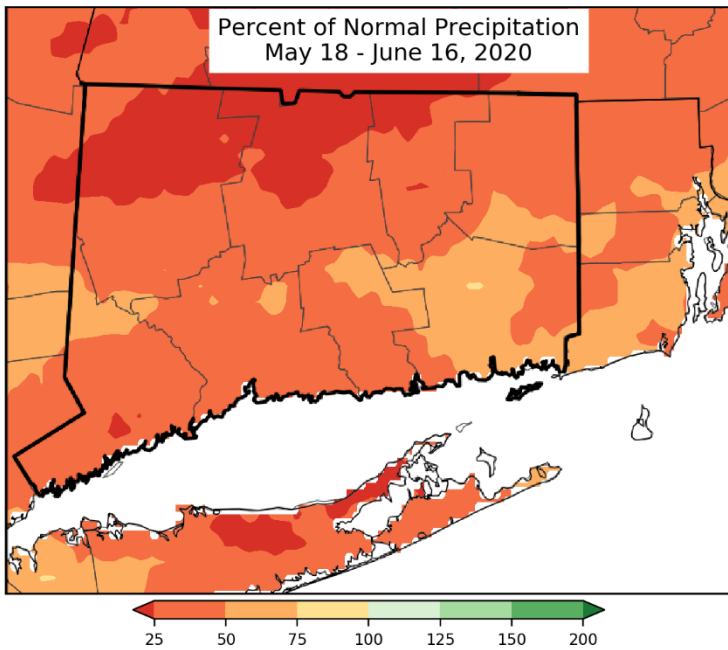




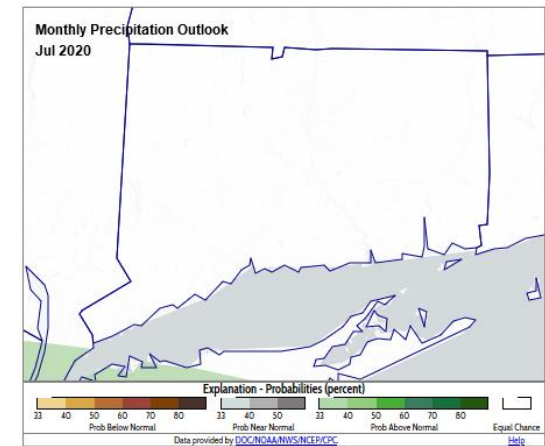
# Tracking per State Drought Plan



- ❖ Statewide Percent full is 95.32% ❖ Statewide Percent of Normal is 100.41%
- 5 Reservoir Systems are reporting 100% Full (-13 from 2 weeks ago, 29 trending ↓ )
- 23 Systems are still reporting capacities greater than or equal to 100% of Normal, 31 2wk ago
- Current Conditions: US Drought Monitor has large portions of CT in D0 abnormally dry



Stream flows also indicate very dry conditions. July precipitation outlook is equal chance.



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# DPH/DWS Updates - Certifications

- Certifications/licenses not renewed by DPH shall **not expire throughout the duration of the COVID-19 emergency**;
- Certifications/licenses suspended by the Commissioner **are to be renewed in the six-month period following the date of the resumption of the license renewal requirements**;
- Questions regarding qualifications for renewal should go [William.Sullivan@ct.gov](mailto:William.Sullivan@ct.gov) and copy [DWDcompliance@ct.gov](mailto:DWDcompliance@ct.gov)

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# Remote Sanitary Surveys

Please contact:

*Thomas Chyra : [thomas.chyra@ct.gov](mailto:thomas.chyra@ct.gov)*

*Mandy Smith : [mandy.smith@ct.gov](mailto:mandy.smith@ct.gov)*

- **DWS developed a five page remote sanitary survey template**
- **Started pilot program with 26 small water systems and 10 certified operators, DWS will be looking for feedback to finalize the process and template**
- **Roll out to rest of small PWSs in early July**
- **Working separately on template for larger PWSs. Will share with P3 for input and roll out in mid July**

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# Reporting to DPH/DWS

- **How to Report ?**
  - **An Acute Risk Water Quality Issue**
  - **The Water Main Breaks That Effect Critical Facilities**

**Call 860-692-2333 (Emergency) and  
*Email: [dwdcompliance@ct.gov](mailto:dwdcompliance@ct.gov)***



# WEBEOC & CtWARN

## • WEBEOC Update

- ❖ 89 entities/managers representing a total of 243 CWSs have logged in to WEBEOC (represents 2.7 million out of 3.1 million served by CWSs or 90%)
- ❖ 27 entities with log in credentials have not reported yet in WEBEOC
- ❖ All reports are for normal operation so far

## • CtWARN Update, including FEMA PPEs

- ❖ Update from Tom Barger
- ❖ Update from RWA, including RWA initiatives from John Schultz



# UPDATES

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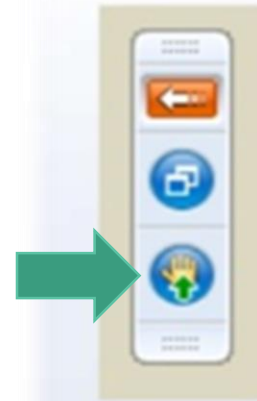
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- **PURA - John.betkoski@ct.gov**
- **CTWC**
- **Aquarion**
- **RWA**
- **MDC**
- **Others (Torrington, Bristol, etc..)**

Requesting to raise your hand from GotoWebinar Control Panel

Grab Tab



- Click **arrow** to expand and collapse control panel
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# COVID-19 - Suggestions

- Next webinar is on Thursday **7/09/20** at 1 pm.
- Email Questions about operator certification to [William.Sullivan@ct.gov](mailto:William.Sullivan@ct.gov)
- Email questions/notifications about water quality testing and monitoring to [dwdcompliance@ct.gov](mailto:dwdcompliance@ct.gov)
- Emergency notifications, may call 860-692-2333, and email to [dwdcompliance@ct.gov](mailto:dwdcompliance@ct.gov)

# Public Water System, Certified Water Operators and Environmental Laboratories

# Thank You

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