

Public Water System, Certified Water Operators and Environmental Laboratories

COVID-19

Webinar # 2020-20

DRINKING WATER SECTION

Lori Mathieu

Environmental Health & Drinking Water Branch Chief

August 20, 2020

(1:00 PM – 2:00 PM)

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT *of* PUBLIC HEALTH



AGENDA



DRINKING WATER
SECTION

WEBINAR SERIES

Webinar # 20

COVID-19
for
Water Utilities

Certified Water
Operators

Environmental
Laboratories

August 20, 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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- **Current Status of COVID 19 ; daily report from Governor via <https://portal.ct.gov/>**
- **Travel Advisory from and to numerous States**
- **Calls: CWSs, Env. Labs, Top Ops, EPA R1, P3 group**
- **Schools Reopening & Return to Service Guidance**
- **Remote work when feasible per Gov. Directive**
- **Weekly reporting of water supply capacity readings**

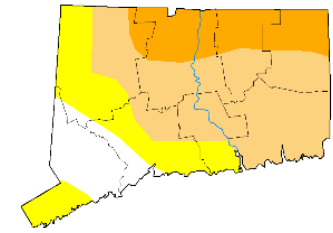
COVID-19



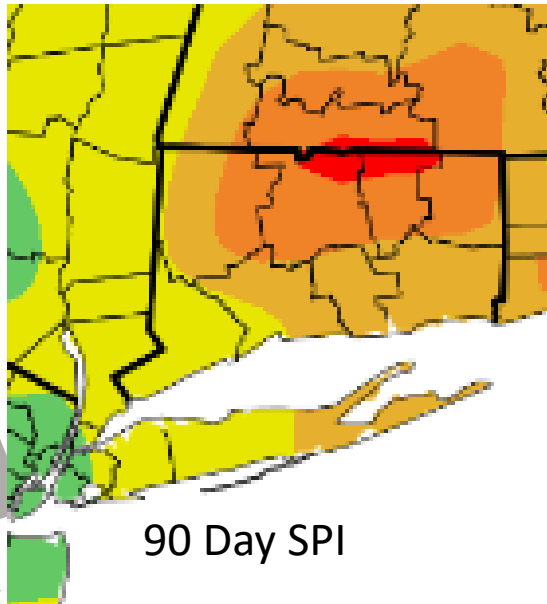
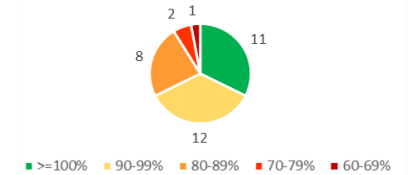


Tracking per State Drought Plan

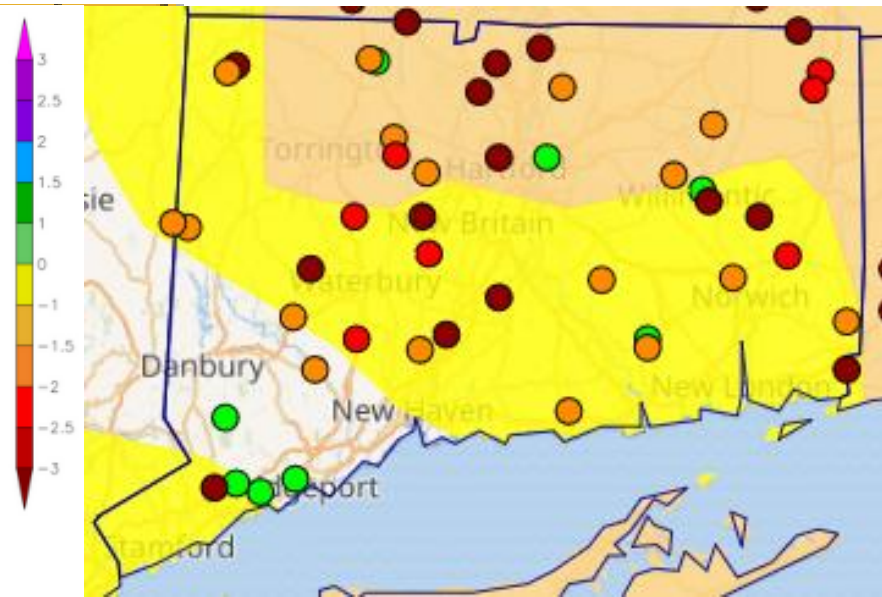
- ❖ Statewide Percent full is 78.9% ❖ Statewide Percent of Normal is 93.4%
- 11 Reservoir Systems >100% of Normal (-6 from previous week)
- 23 Systems – below normal capacities
- US Drought Monitor over 2wks added expanded D1 moderate drought to shore and D2 severe drought to three northern counties



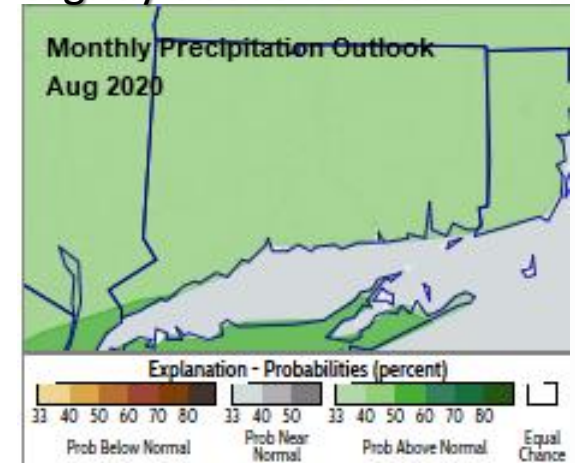
Number of Surface Water Systems
Percent of Normal



90 Day SPI



- Stream flows show below normal conditions
- August Precip outlook slightly above normal.



COVID-19





TS Isaias – After Action Discussion

- **Tropical Storm Isaias – August 4th**
 - **Significant power outages across the western part of CT**
 - **ESF12**
 - **PWS workgroup formed to establish issues and prioritize actions**
 - **Was this adequate? Do you believe it helped to get power back efficiently to critical infrastructure?**
 - **Was WebEOC adequate? Did it help in communications? Is more training needed?**
 - **Boil Water Advisories – less than in past storms**
 - **Open discussion**
 - **Large CWS in their report outs – speak to the effectiveness of EFS12, DWS, power utilities coordination, other issues encountered**
 - **Another After Action Webinar to discuss further?**



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Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

- The public hearing on the SFY 2021 DWSRF Intended Use Plan (IUP) and Project Priority List will be held via Zoom meeting on September 15
- A public hearing announcement was published in the Hartford Courant on August 14 and emailed to all PWS (DWS Administrative Contacts) that are eligible for DWSRF loans
- The Draft IUP is available for public review on our DWSRF website
- There will be a 30-day public comment period prior to the hearing
- No new news on the status of a federal stimulus infrastructure bill
- Send all questions and public comments on the Draft IUP to – DPH.CTDWSRF@ct.gov

COVID-19





Remote Sanitary Surveys

Please contact:

Thomas Chyra : thomas.chyra@ct.gov

Mandy Smith : mandy.smith@ct.gov

- **DWS developed remote Sanitary Survey Templates**
 - Small GW Template has been used since July- going well
 - Large PWS Template rolled out last couple of weeks
- **Survey staff have received equipment (iPhones, network access) and are scheduling remote surveys at PWS**
 - Look for Staff work cell phones on their email signature blocks and reach out if/when necessary
 - Remote survey should not add extra work to PWS staff and is in place to protect critical staff. If there is something you are concerned about – discuss how to best approach it with the DWS survey staff assigned to your PWS

COVID-19



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 and copy DWDcompliance@ct.gov





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***



WEBEOC & CtWARN

- **WEBEOC Update**

- ❖ 104 entities/managers representing a total of 256 CWSs have logged in to WEBEOC (represents over 2.8 million out of 3.1 million served by CWSs or 90%)
- ❖ 16 entities with log in credentials have not reported yet in WEBEOC
- ❖ All reports are for normal operation regarding COVID. Several were on generators during the recent storm.

- **CtWARN Update**

- ❖ Update from Tom Barger





UPDATES

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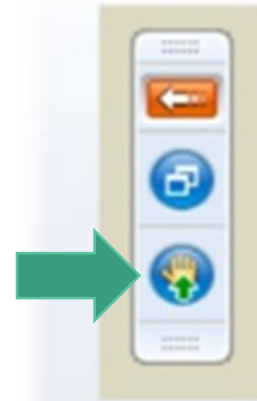
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- PURA - John.betkoski@ct.gov
- CTWC
- Aquarion
- RWA
- MDC
- Others (Torrington, Bristol, etc..)

Requesting to raise your
hand from GotoWebinar
Control Panel

Grab Tab



- Click **arrow** to expand and collapse control panel
- Click **hand icon** to raise/lower hand

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COVID-19 - Suggestions

- Next webinar is on Thursday **9/03/20** at 1 pm.

September
September 3, 2020
September 17, 2020

- Email questions/notifications about water quality testing and monitoring to dwdcompliance@ct.gov
- Emergency notifications, may call 860-692-2333, and email to dwdcompliance@ct.gov

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Thank You

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