

# Public Water System, Certified Water Operators and Environmental Laboratories

## COVID-19

Webinar # 2021-10

### DRINKING WATER SECTION

Lori Mathieu

Environmental Health & Drinking Water Branch Chief

May 20, 2021

(1:00 PM – 2:00 PM)

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT *of* PUBLIC HEALTH



# AGENDA



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**COVID-19  
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- **Update from DPH COVID19**
- **DWS on Recent Developments**
- **Update from CTWC, Aquarion, RWA & MDC**
- **Update from other Municipal Water Systems**
- **Questions ?**





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# DPH/DWS Updates

- **COVID19 - Updates**
- **Water Planning Council Update**
- **PWS Surveys/Projects Update**
- **LCRR Updates**
- **Contaminants and Drinking Water Quality**
- **Operators Certifications Update**
- **Environmental Labs Certifications Update**
- **Drought Status**
- **DWSRF Reminder**
- **Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey and Assessment**
- **Cyber Security Updates**



# COVID19 Updates

COVID-19



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- **May 19th**
- **New Guidance**  
[What You Need to Know: COVID-19 Vaccination, Mask-Wearing, and Social Distancing](#)
- **Executive Orders**
  - **Executive Order No. 12** (05/18/2021)  
Takes several emergency actions in response to the COVID-19 outbreak and the governor's civil preparedness and public health declarations, including revised order for masks and face coverings
- **Governor page**
- **Building Reopening Guidance**





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# Water Planning Council Update

- **Water Conservation**
  - **Fixtures**
  - **Voluntary conservation messaging**
  - **Two-day irrigation ethic**
  
- **Private Wells**
  - **Location**
  - **Testing**
  
- **Source Water Protection/Land Protection**





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# Legislative Hearing



## The CLEAN Future Act and Drinking Water: Legislation to Ensure Drinking Water is Safe and Clean

The Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce will hold a legislative hearing on **Tuesday May 25, 2021, at 11:30 AM EDT via Cisco Webex.**

- Hearing can be watched on the Committee website [here](#) and
- [Website](#) also **lists the 10 bills** that will be discussed at this hearing.





# PWS Surveys/Projects Update

- **Continue to schedule/conduct remote sanitary surveys –**
  - **use lessons learned from remote process to begin transition into field – more efficient surveys**
  
- **Large uptick in PWS project applications**
  - **Reminder to send in complete applications – makes review faster**
  - **Standard review time 30-60 days – include DPH review time in your project schedule**



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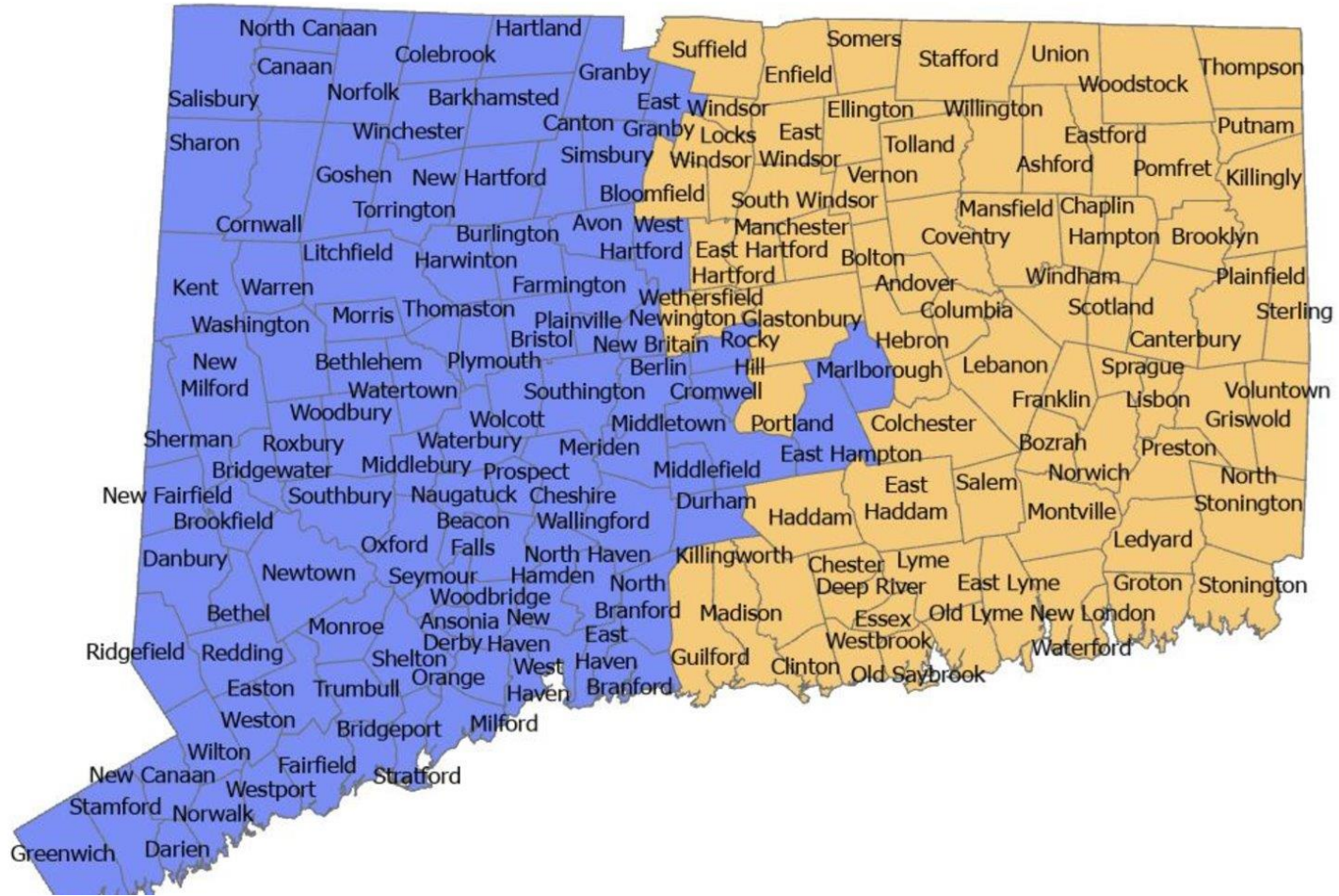
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# DWS Organization - Technical



## Eastern Capacity Assessment Region

**Supervisor:**  
**Mandy Smith**

**Lead Engineers:**  
**Dominic DelVecchio**  
**Carissa Madonna**  
**Austin McMann**

**Staff:**  
**Robert Ondrey**  
**Isaac Quansah**  
**Clark Stan**  
**Steven Wallett**  
**Christian Wolf**  
**Monica Zhang**







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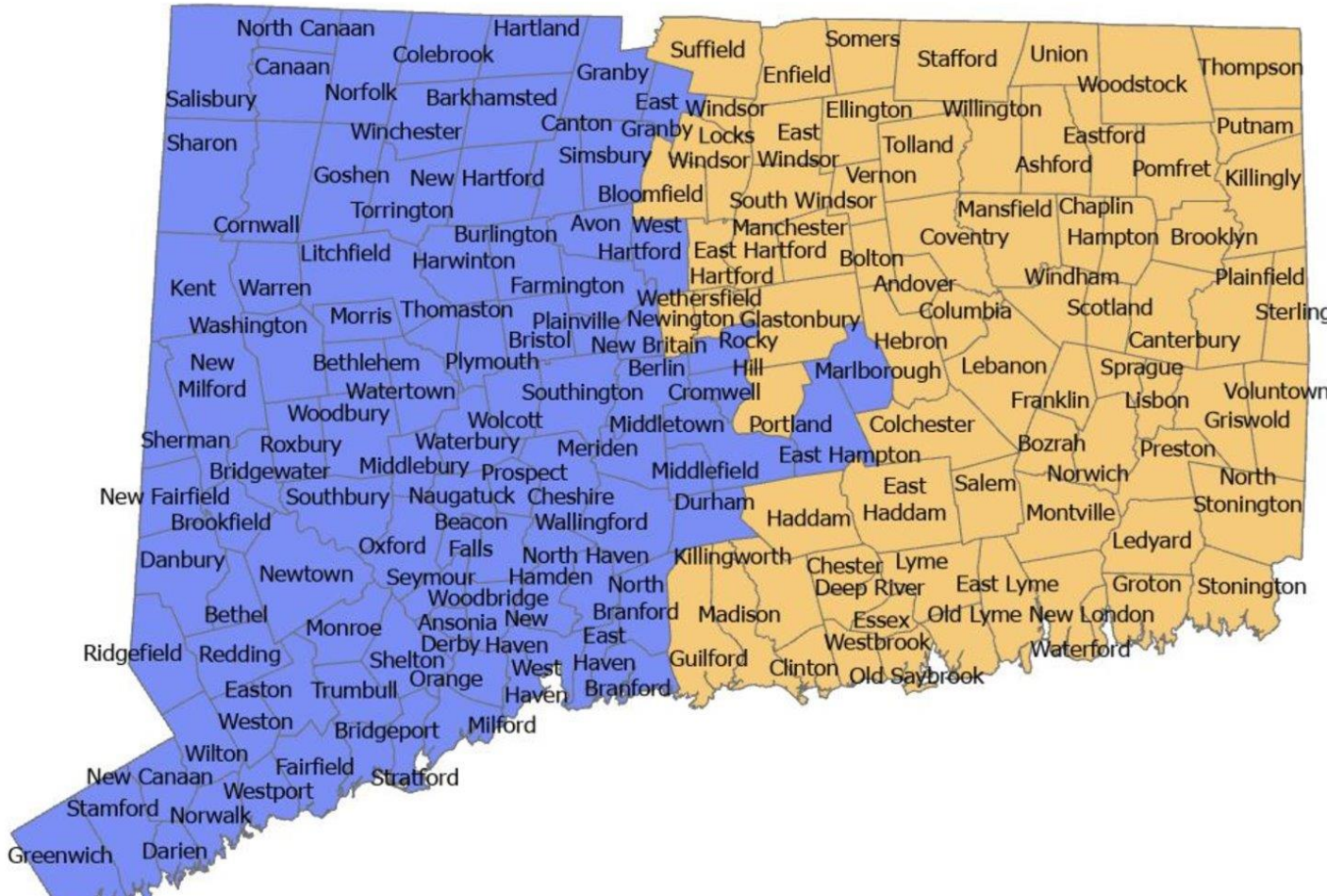
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# DWS Organization - Technical



**Western Capacity  
Assessment Region**

**Supervisor:**  
**Tom Chyra**

**Lead Engineers:**  
**Vicky Carrier**  
**Cindy Sek**  
**Alex Tabatabai**

**Staff:**  
**Luis Andrade**  
**Brian Liu**  
**Cassandra Santos**  
**Chris Urena**  
**Alex Zacharias**





# LCRR

- **EPA Public Listening Sessions**

- April 28, 2021 and May 5, 2021
- View the Public Listening Session at <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/lead-and-copper-rule-revisions-virtual-engagements>  
Or <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0VBG2o4x4XIfp8XiIDA1wQ/live>
- Written comments can be submitted by June 30, 2021 at <http://www.regulations.gov>: enter Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OW-2021-0255

Some comments from these sessions:

- Additional steps to address lead in schools and childcare facilities
- All LSL replaced in 10 years
- Federal funding to support LSLR
- Change the lead action level to 5 ppb or 10 ppb

**Any questions, please contact: [Cindy Sek](mailto:cindy.sek@ct.gov) || Email: [cindy.sek@ct.gov](mailto:cindy.sek@ct.gov)**



# LCRR

## Lead Service Line Replacement (LSLR)

- **Environmental Policy Innovation Center (EPIC) Lead-Free Water Challenge** for small municipalities and water systems
  - Provide technical assistance on the following:
    - Develop and implement a LSLR program
    - Develop a grant/loan financing strategy (EPIC will not provide any direct funds)
    - Connecting to other resources with specific expertise
    - Policy expertise
  - Apply to the challenge by **June 15, 2021**. For additional information and application: <http://policyinnovation.org/water/leadfree>

Any questions, please contact: **Cindy Sek** || Email: [cindy.sek@ct.gov](mailto:cindy.sek@ct.gov)





# LCRR

## LSLR and LCRR Resources

- The LSLR Collaborative
  - Website with key requirements and key terms on the LCRR  
<https://www.lslr-collaborative.org/epas-lcr.html>
  - Webinar: New Resource: Leveraging the LCR to Accelerate LSLR  
Wed, May 26, 2021 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM EDT

Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/new-resource-leveraging-the-lcr-to-accelerate-lsl-replacement-tickets-152899320985>

Any questions, please contact: **Cindy Sek** || Email: [cindy.sek@ct.gov](mailto:cindy.sek@ct.gov)





# Contaminants and Drinking Water Quality

- The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) released final **Toxicological Profiles** for twelve PFAS that have been measured in human serum
- ATSDR develops “Minimum Risk Levels” (MRLs) as screening tools to help identify chemicals that may be of concern.
- MRLs **do not** define regulatory or action levels for ATSDR
- Oral MRLs were able to be developed for only four of the twelve:
  - **PFOA, PFOS, PFHxS and PFNA**

Any questions, please contact:

**Pat Bisacky** || Email: [patricia.bisacky@ct.gov](mailto:patricia.bisacky@ct.gov)





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# DPH/DWS Updates - Certifications

Operator Certification Program – [dph.opcert@ct.gov](mailto:dph.opcert@ct.gov)

**Bill Sullivan**

**Email:** [william.sullivan@ct.gov](mailto:william.sullivan@ct.gov)

**Phone#** 860-936-1266

**Kevin Veilleux**

**Email:** [kevin.veilleux@ct.gov](mailto:kevin.veilleux@ct.gov)

**Phone#** 860-937-7735

- **Certification Examinations**
  - ❖ [Circular letter 2021-14](#): Computer Based Exams at Test Centers
- **COVID-19 Suspension of Certification Renewal**
  - ❖ State of Emergency, Reinstatement, Expiration Date Extension
- **Approved Water Operator Training**
  - ❖ [Distance Education \(Correspondence, Online, Live Internet Instructor Lead Courses\)](#)
- **Cross Connection Control**
  - ❖ Correspondence to be submitted to [dph.ccsr@ct.gov](mailto:dph.ccsr@ct.gov) email address





# Environmental Labs Certification Program

## PT Acceptable Results

- The 80% rule applies to methods for each matrix that at least 5 analytes are analyzed.

Method and Analyte(s)	PT ACCEPTABLE REQUIREMENT
Vinyl Chloride 524	100%
VOCs 524	80%*
THM	100%
VOC 624, 8260	80%*
HAA5	80%*
Semi-VOC 525, 625	80%*

*\*If an analyte is repeatedly failed certification will be downgraded*

**Dawn Shaban**  
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 Phone 860-488-0652

**Shinu Zachariah**  
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 Phone 860-936-1678





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# Tracking per State Drought Plan

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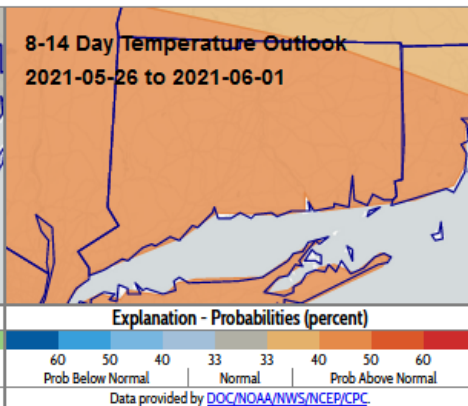
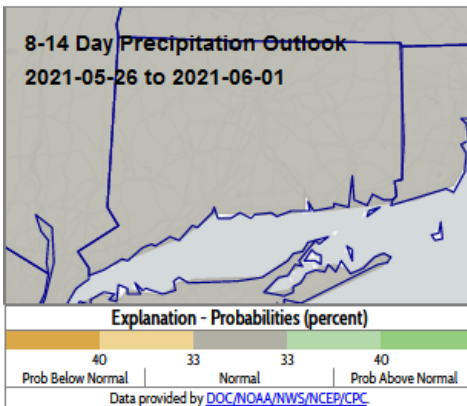
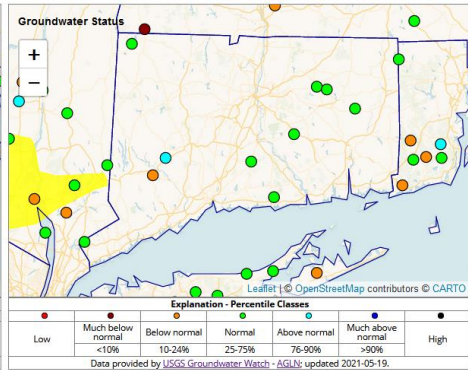
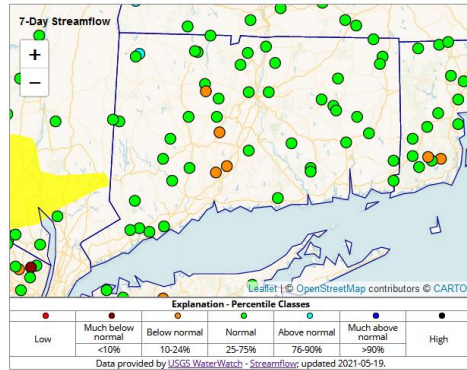
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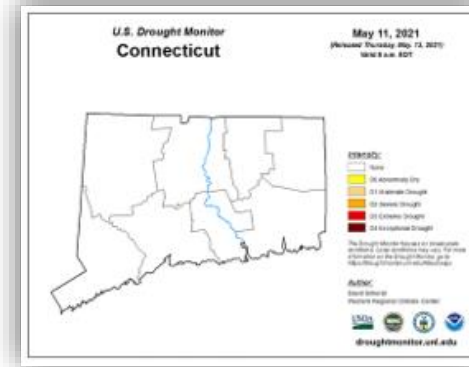
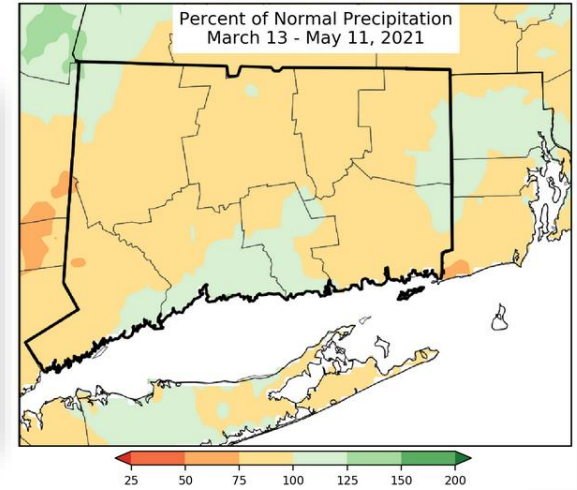
❖ Statewide:

State Average  
**98.3%**  
Last week:  
98.3%

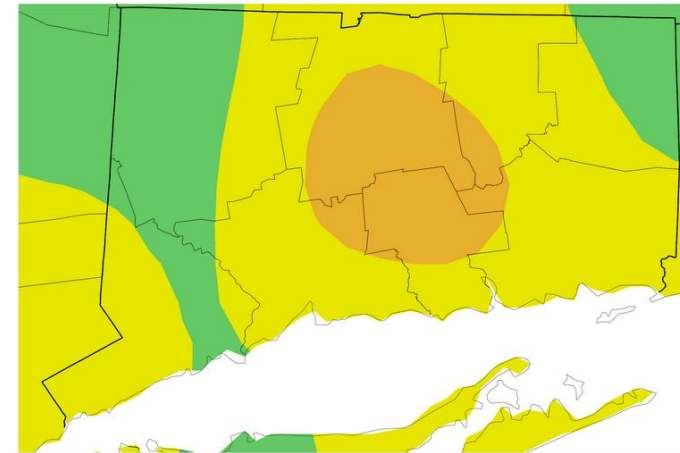
Average Percent of Normal  
**101.4%**  
Last week:  
101.4%



## 60-Day Percent of Normal



## 30 Day SPI 4/17/2021 - 5/16/2021



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# DWSRF Update

**US Treasury released guidance on funding to states provided in the American Rescue Plan of 2021 on May 10, 2021**

**<https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/coronavirus/assistance-for-state-local-and-tribal-governments/state-and-local-fiscal-recovery-funds>**

- **If you have any questions, please contact the DWSRF Program at [dph.ctdwsrf@ct.gov](mailto:dph.ctdwsrf@ct.gov)**





# Drinking Water Needs Survey and Assessment (DWINSA)

- **The DWINSA determines:**
  - a nationwide 20-year capital need for investment
  - funds allocated from the EPA for Connecticut's DWSRF
- **Independent Documentation of Need and/ or Cost is very important to the DWINSA. These documents include:**
  - Capital Improvement Plan or Master Plan
  - Facilities Plan or Preliminary Engineering Report
  - engineering studies, watermain break report, repair reports, and distribution system studies
  - Grant or Loan Application Form
  - Engineer's Estimate or Bid Tabulation
  - Cost of Previous Comparable Construction
- **23 PWS' are included in the current DWINSA and have been contacted by staff for their support and participation.**



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# Cyber Security Reminder

## DWS Circular Letter #2021-33

### **New England Water Sector Cybersecurity Forum**

May 26, 2021 at 10:00-12:00 PM EDT

**Two hours webinar hosted by Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the water utilities. This webinar will provide an overview of cybersecurity threats, incidents, lessons learned, and recommendations for utilities to take to reduce their cybersecurity vulnerabilities.**

**[Registration link](#)**

**Please note that the New England Water Sector Cybersecurity Forum (Course# TDS-100-2251) is now approved for 2.0 TCHs (0.2 CEUs).**





# EPA Water Security Division Updates

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Date and Time	Upcoming Webinars	Registration Link
May 20, 2021 at 2:00 – 3:00 PM (EDT)	<b>AWIA Risk and Resilience Assessments and Emergency Response Plans: Review and FAQs:</b>	<a href="#">Register Here</a>
May 20, 2021 at 2:30 – 3:30 PM (EDT)	<b>Water Laboratory Alliance Response Plan (WLA-RP):</b>	<a href="#">Register Here</a>
May 27, 2021 at 2:30 – 3:30 PM (EDT)	<b>Sampling Guidance for Unknown Contaminants in Drinking Water Webinar:</b>	<a href="#">Register Here</a>



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# Cyber Security Contacts

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Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency

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## Richard Berthaoon

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Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

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Mobile# (202) 839-1429

## Ron Ford

Cybersecurity Advisor | Region 1 - New England (CT, ME, MA, NH, VT) |  
Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency | U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Email: [Ron.Ford@cisa.dhs.gov](mailto:Ron.Ford@cisa.dhs.gov) | Phone# (978) 778-8390

Report a Cyber Issue: <https://us-cert.cisa.gov/report> or (888) 282-0870

CISA Cyber: <https://www.cisa.gov/cybersecurity>

CISA Resources Hub: <https://www.cisa.gov/cyber-essentials>





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# UPDATES

- PURA
- CTWC
- Aquarion
- RWA
- MDC
- Others (Torrington, Bristol, etc..)

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hand from GotoWebinar  
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Grab Tab



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





# Suggestions

- Next webinar is on Thursday **06/03/21** at 1 pm.

June	
<p><b>June 03, 2021</b> 1 PM – 2 PM</p>	<p><b>June 17, 2021</b> 1 PM – 2 PM</p>

- 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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