

Public Water System, Certified Water Operators and Environmental Laboratories

COVID-19

Webinar # 2021-11

DRINKING WATER SECTION

Lori Mathieu

Environmental Health & Drinking Water Branch Chief

June 03, 2021

(1:00 PM – 2:00 PM)

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT *of* PUBLIC HEALTH



AGENDA



**DRINKING WATER
SECTION**

**Webinar # 2021- 11
WEBINAR SERIES**

Water Utilities

**Certified Water
Operators**

**Environmental
Laboratories**

06/03/2021

- **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**
- **Cyber Security Reminder**
- **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**



COVID -19 Updates

COVID-19



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- **COVID-19 vaccine eligibility:**

All individuals who are 12 years of age or older and live, work, or attend school in Connecticut are eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. For more information on vaccinations and to learn how to get the vaccine, visit ct.gov/covidvaccine.

- **Executive Orders**

- **Executive Order No. 12A & Executive Order No. 12B (05/20/2021)**

Revised order for masks and face coverings

Extension and expiration of COVID-19 orders

- **Executive Order No. 12AC (05/25/2021)**

Modification of thirty-six month age limit for Birth-to-Three services

- **Governor page**

- **Building Reopening Guidance**



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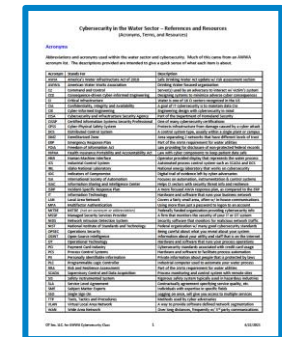
Cyber Security Updates

DWS Circular Letter #2021-33

New England Water Sector Cybersecurity Forum

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

Recording Link and Presentation slides



Recording link

This quiz is required for anyone seeking CEUs.
Webinar CEU Quiz:
<https://forms.gle/rbQTBHp2t4RUsgq9>





Cyber Security Contacts

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Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency

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Richard Berthaoon

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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 | 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>



PWS Surveys/Projects Update

- **Continue to schedule/conduct remote and some in field sanitary surveys**
 - **Use lessons learned from remote process to begin transition into field – streamline survey prep work and discuss management/operations, WQ issues ahead of time**
 - **Staff will be flexible when scheduling surveys to accommodate PWS needs/concerns**



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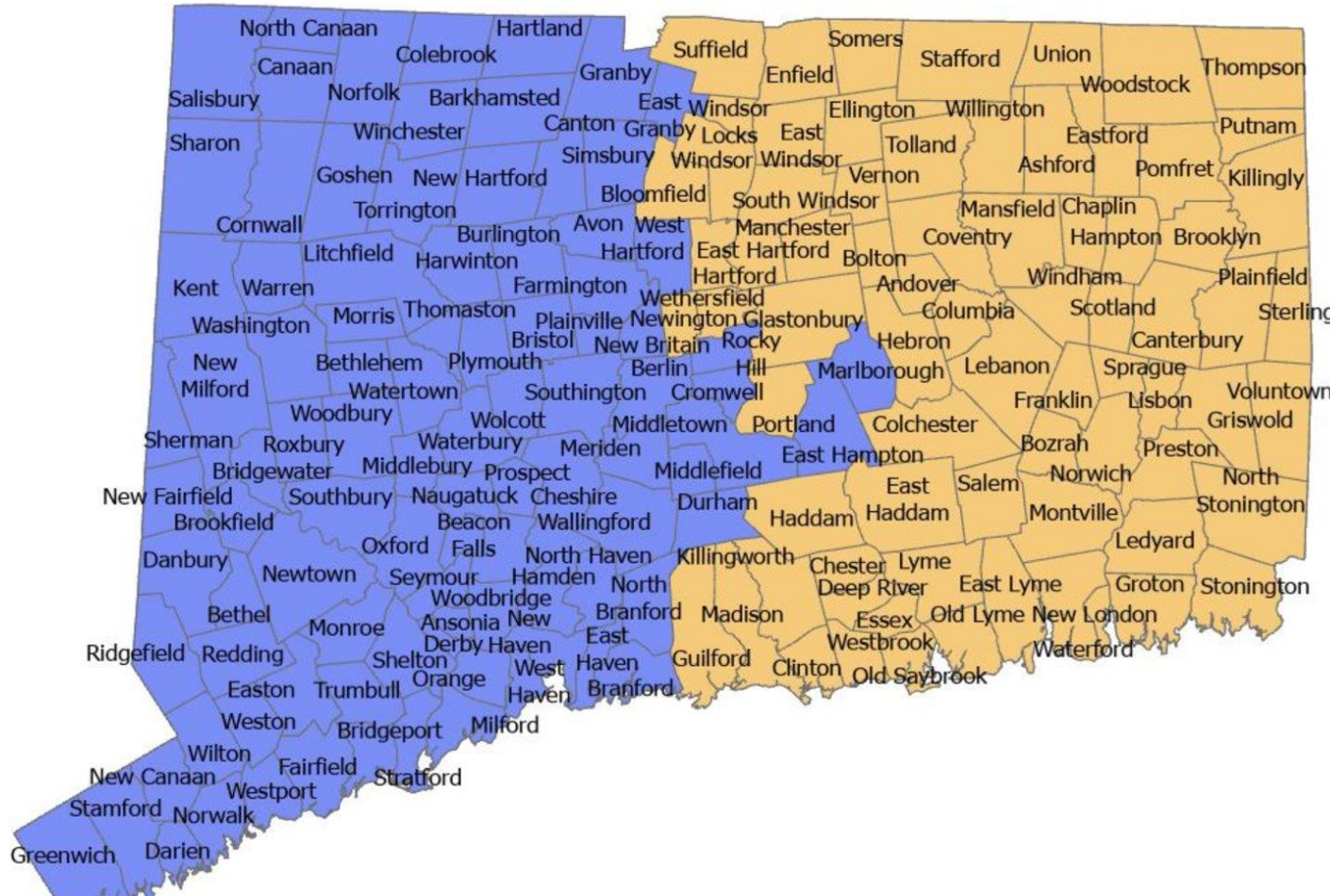
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DWS Organization - Technical



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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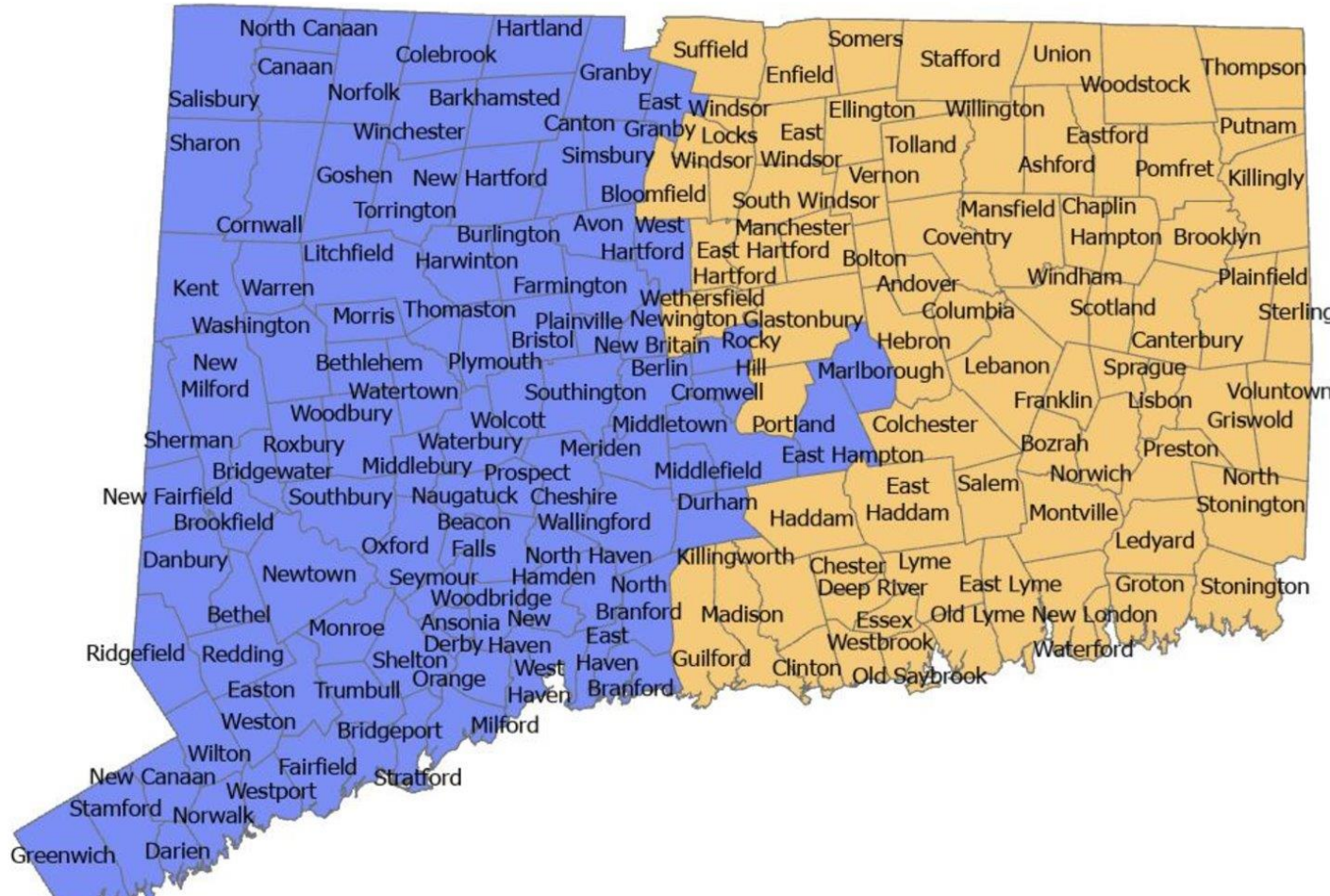
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DWS Organization - Technical



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

- **Public comments**

- Submit written comments by June 30, 2021 at <http://www.regulations.gov>: enter Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OW-2021-0255

- **EPA Public Listening Sessions**

- View the April 28, 2021 and May 5, 2021 sessions 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>

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 || Email: 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





Contaminants and Drinking Water Quality

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- **PFAS Action Plan Update**
 - Actions moving forward
- **PFAS and CCRs**
 - **Have you tested your water for PFAS?**
 - **If so, have you shared the results?**
 - **Consumer Confidence Report**
 - **Informational page on your website**
 - **If you haven't tested, how do you decide where to start?**
 - **Source Water PFAS Vulnerability Assessment Form**

Any questions, please contact:

Pat Bisacky || Email: patricia.bisacky@ct.gov





DPH/DWS Updates - Certifications

Operator Certification Program – dph.opcert@ct.gov

Bill Sullivan

Phone# 860-936-1266

Kevin Veilleux

Phone# 860-937-7735

Certification Examinations:

- ❖ [CT DPH Operator Certification Examination, Applications and Reference Material List](#)
- ❖ [Circular letter 2021-14](#): Computer Based Exams at Test Centers

COVID-19 Suspension of Certification Renewal:

- ❖ State of Emergency, Reinstatement, Expiration Date Extension
- ❖ www.elicense.ct.gov (without password, click "Online Services" click "Lookup a License")

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 email address





Environmental Labs Certification Program

Circular Letter 2021-37

537.1 and 537 rev. 1.1 Field Reagent Blanks

In section 8.3 for both methods, it states *An FRB must be handled along with each sample set. The sample set is composed of samples collected from the same sample site and at the same time.*

The FRBs are required to ensure contamination was not introduced during sample collection and handling; FRBs only need to be reported if there is a detection in the associated sample.

Dawn Shaban

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Shinu Zachariah

Email: Shinu.zachariah@ct.gov

Phone 860-936-1678





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Tracking per State Drought Plan

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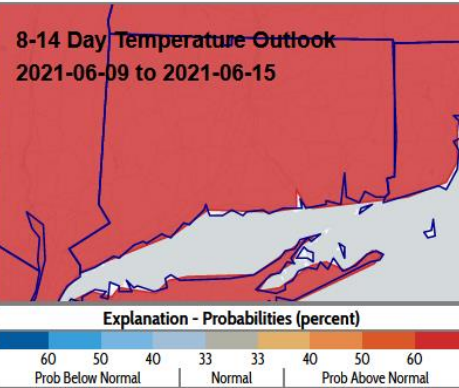
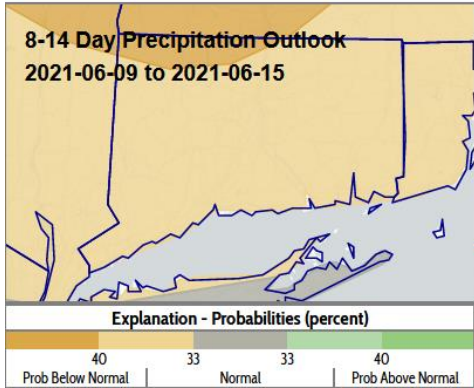
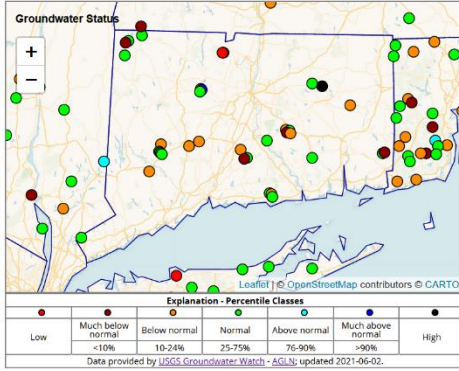
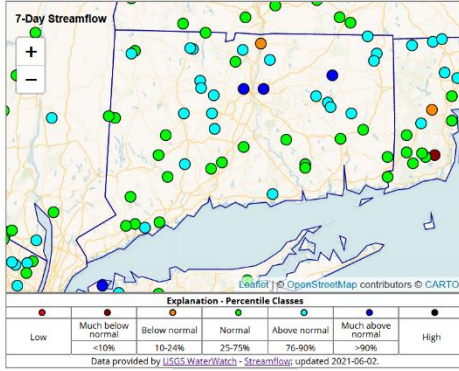
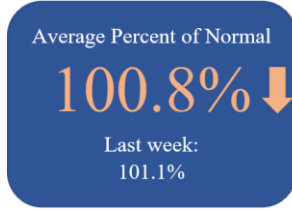
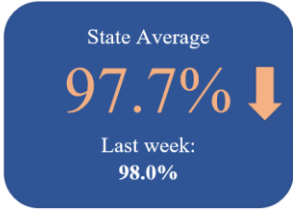
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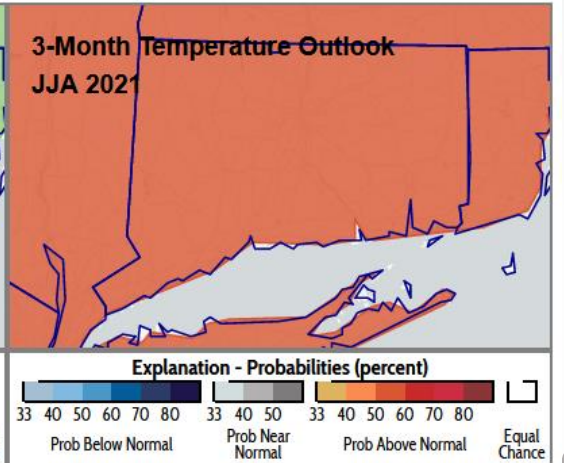
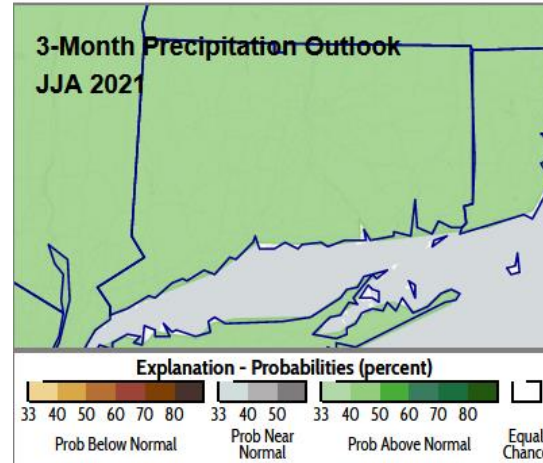
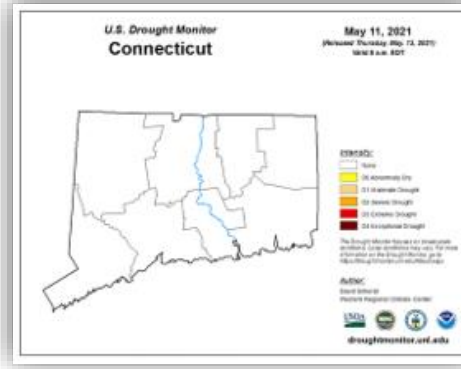
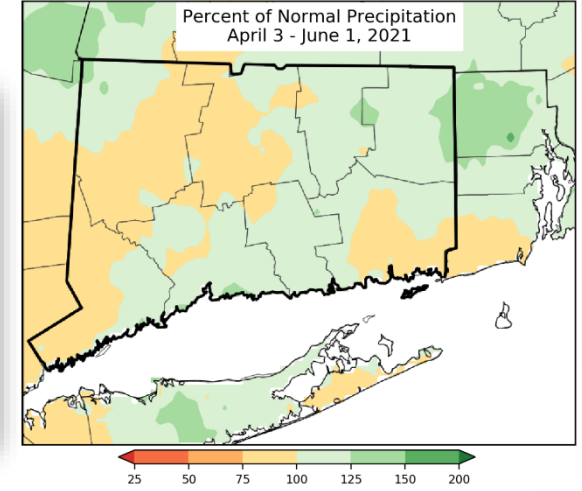
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❖ **Statewide:**



60-Day Percent of Normal



Any questions, please contact: **Steven Harkey** || Email: Steven.Harkey@ct.gov



DWSRF Update

- **DWSRF Eligibility Applications reviewed and scored**
- **Results sent soon via individual letters**
- **DWSRF Intended Use Plan is drafted**
- **IUP will be available - 30 day public review period with public hearing in July or early August 2021**

If you have any questions, please contact the DWSRF Program at 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.**



UPDATES

- PURA
- 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



Suggestions

- Next webinar is on Thursday July 1, 2021 at 1 pm.

July

July 1, 2021

1 PM – 2 PM

- 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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