

Public Water System, Certified Water Operators and Environmental Laboratories

COVID-19

Webinar # 2021-13

DRINKING WATER SECTION

Lori Mathieu

Environmental Health & Drinking Water Branch Chief

August 5, 2021

(1:00 PM – 2:00 PM)

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT *of* PUBLIC HEALTH



AGENDA



**DRINKING WATER
SECTION**

**Webinar # 2021- 13
WEBINAR SERIES**

Water Utilities

**Certified Water
Operators**

**Environmental
Laboratories**

08/05/2021

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





DPH/DWS Updates

- **COVID19 – Updates**
- **DWS Circular Letters**
- **Cyber Security Reminder**
- **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

• legislative Updates



Gov. Ned Lamont's emergency powers extended through September

The General Assembly voted on Wednesday for a 44-word resolution extending Gov. Ned Lamont's emergency powers through Sept. 30, making Connecticut among the last in the northeast under a COVID-19 state of emergency.

• Executive Orders

• Extension of Declaration of Civil Preparedness and Public Health Emergencies

(07/13/2021)

• Executive Order No. 13 (07/19/2021)

Takes several emergency actions in response to the COVID-19 outbreak and the governor's civil preparedness and public health declarations, including extension and modification of several previously issued executive orders; Expiration of 27 previously issued executive orders.

• 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

• SARS-CoV-2 variants in Connecticut (<https://covidtrackerct.com/variant-surveillance/>)

In collaboration with the Connecticut Department of Public Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Yale University, Jackson Laboratories, and diagnostic laboratories across the state, surveillance for SARS-CoV-2 variants is conducted. See the [CDC's webpage for more information](#)





DWS Circular Letters

DWS Circular Letter #2021-56

Sent on July 30, 2021

Return to Service Guidance

DWS Circular Letter #2021-57

Sent on July 30, 2021

Reducing the Risk of Legionella Growth in Water Distribution System

DWS Circular Letter #2021-58

Sent on July 30, 2021

Private Well Parcel Mapping





Cyber Security Contacts

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

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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>



Contaminants and Drinking Water Quality

- **Sodium Notification Level = 100 mg/l**
- **Chloride issues haven't gone away!**
 - **Reconvene the Sodium Chloride Workgroup with CT Environmental Health Association**
 - **Continue work with DOT, DEEP and UCONN to improve training content and expand “Green Snow Pro” educational opportunities to private contractors**
- **PFAS-Future Steps**

Any questions, please contact:

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





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08/05/2021

Operator Certification Program

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:

- ❖ Operators, whose renewal requirement has been suspended, should prepare to renew their certification
- ❖ Operators who are ready to renew, may request their renewal application
 - send email to dph.opcert@ct.gov
- ❖ While the period for renewal may have been extended your next period will be shortened by an equivalent amount,
- ❖ www.elicense.ct.gov (without password, click "**Online Services**" click "**Lookup a License**")

Approved Water Operator Training:

- ❖ [Distance Education \(Correspondence, Online, Live Internet Instructor Lead Courses\)](#)





Environmental Labs Certification Program

Proficiency Tests

- **Deadline was July 31st**
- **Make sure to review graded PT reports for errors and failures. Let ELCP staff know any issues with the PTs.**
- **If two PTs are failed ELCP will need a corrective action before a third PT can be analyzed. The parameter status will also be downgraded.**

Certification Renewals

The Covid extension is still in place, we are working on our backlog.

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DRINKING WATER SECTION

Tracking per State Drought Plan

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08/05/2021

Statewide:

>= 100% of Normal n=34

34

Change since last week:
—

State Average

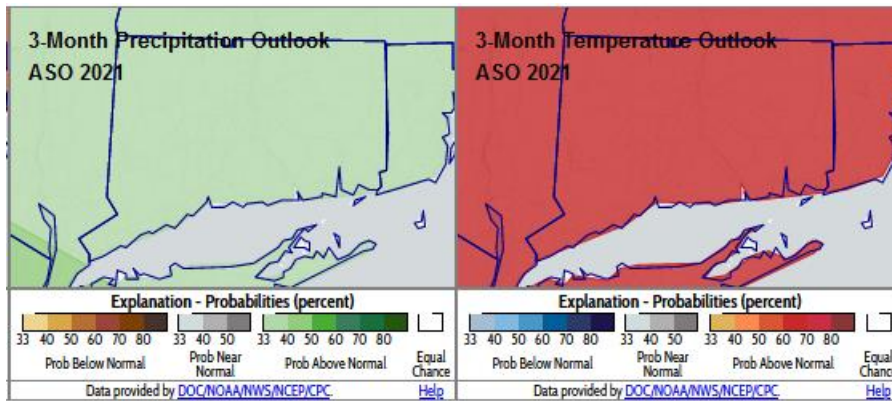
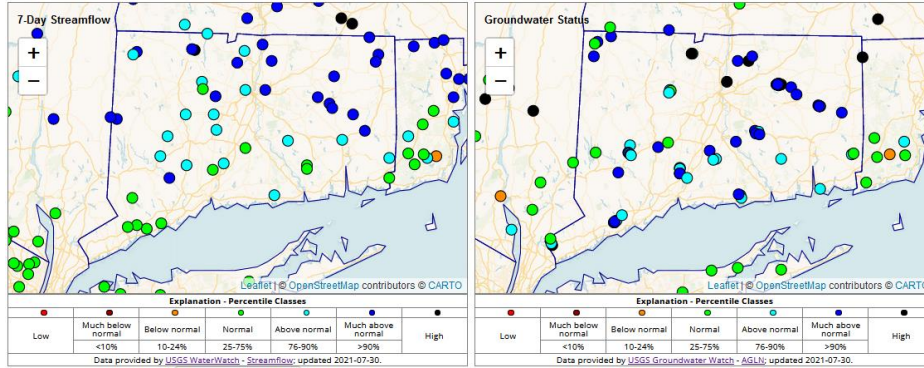
97.4%

Last week:
97.4%

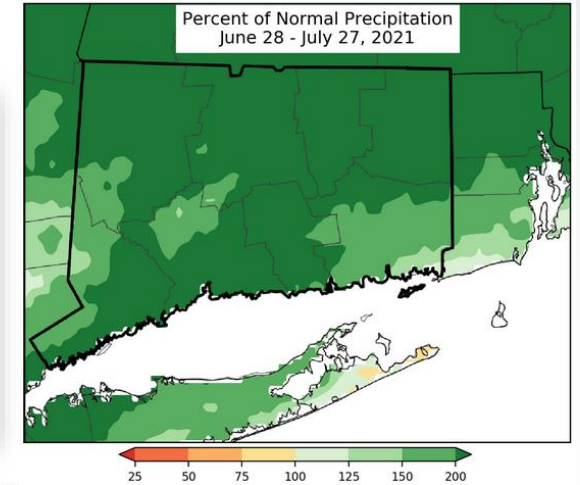
Average Percent of Normal

108.5%

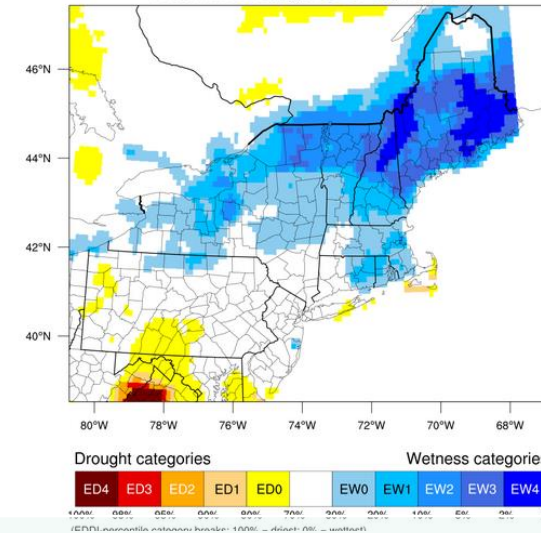
Last week:
108.5%



30-Day Percent of Normal



1-week EDDI categories for July 23, 2021



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





DWSRF Update

- **DWSRF Draft Intended Use Plan (IUP) for SFY 2022 has been drafted and a public hearing is scheduled for 10:00am on Wednesday, August 18**
- **The IUP is available on the [DWSRF website](#) for a 30 day public comment period prior to the hearing; comments are due in advance by noon **August 17th****
- **Oral testimony may be provided during the hearing**
- **Typically following the hearing final comments will be accepted for a short time, to be announced during the hearing**

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.**

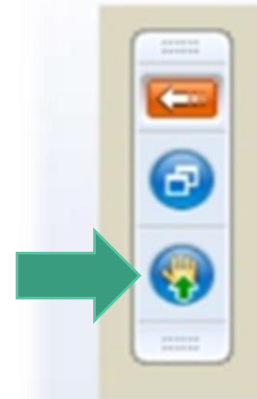


UPDATES

- 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 September 2, 2021 at 1 pm.

September

September 2, 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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