

# Public Water System, Certified Water Operators and Environmental Laboratories

## COVID-19

Webinar # 2021-9

### DRINKING WATER SECTION

Lori Mathieu

Environmental Health & Drinking Water Branch Chief

May 06, 2021

(1:00 PM – 2:00 PM)

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT *of* PUBLIC HEALTH



# AGENDA



**DRINKING WATER  
SECTION**

Webinar # 2021- 9  
WEBINAR SERIES

**COVID-19  
for  
Water Utilities**

**Certified Water  
Operators**

**Environmental  
Laboratories**

05/06/2021

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

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05/06/2021

# DPH/DWS Updates

- **COVID19 - May1st, May 19th**
- **Reminder – PWS reopening**
- **PWS Surveys/Projects Update**
- **LCRR Updates**
- **Contaminants and Drinking Water Quality**
- **Certifications (Operators & Laboratories) Update**
- **Drought Status**
- **DWSRF Reminder**
- **Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey and Assessment**
- **Cyber Security Updates**

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# PWS Surveys/Projects Update

- **Continue to schedule/conduct remote sanitary 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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# LCRR

## Lead and Copper Sampling requirements

- **After compliance date (1/16/2024; proposed 9/16/2024)**
  - **Use new sampling tier method**
    - **Tier 1 – Single-family structure with LSL**
    - **Tier 2 – Buildings with LSL**
    - **Tier 3 – Single-family with galvanized lines downstream of an LSL or lead gooseneck, pigtail, or connector, currently or in the past**
    - **Tier 4 – Single-family with copper pipes with lead solder installed before 1987**
    - **Tier 5 – Buildings representative of sites throughout the DS**
  - **Standard monitoring**
  - **PWS conduct schools and childcare facilities lead sampling**

Any questions, please contact: **Cindy Sek** || 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)



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Webinar # 2021- 9  
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COVID-19  
for  
Water Utilities

Certified Water  
Operators

Environmental  
Laboratories

05/06/2021

DPH

Connecticut Department  
of Public Health



# LCRR – EPA Virtual Engagements

- **EPA Public Listening Sessions**
  - April 28, 2021 and May 5, 2021, from 10 am to 10 pm EST
  - Written comments can be submitted by June 30, 2021 at <http://www.regulations.gov>: enter Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OW-2021-0255
  - View the April 28th Public Listening Session at <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/lead-and-copper-rule-revisions-virtual-engagements>
- **EPA Virtual Roundtables**
  - Community roundtables in May 2021
  - Stakeholder roundtables in June 2021
  - See details at <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/lead-and-copper-rule-revisions-virtual-engagements>

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



# Contaminants and Drinking Water Quality

## UCMR5 Draft Rule:

- **29 PFAS and Lithium**
- Systems Serving 3,300+ and randomly selected small systems
- Comments Due **5/10/21**
- Final Rule **December 2021**



## Timeline of Activities

| 2022   | 2023   | 2024 | 2025 | 2026  |
|--|--|------|------|---|
| <b>Pre-sampling Activity by EPA</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage Lab Approval Program</li> <li>• Organize Partnership Agreements and State Monitoring Plans</li> <li>• Begin PWS SDWARS registration/inventory</li> <li>• Review GWRMP submittal</li> <li>• Conduct outreach/trainings</li> </ul> | <b>Sampling Period</b><br>← <b>EPA Implementation Activities</b> → <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide compliance assistance</li> <li>• Implement small system monitoring</li> <li>• Post data quarterly to NCOD</li> </ul>   |      |      | <b>Post-sampling Activity</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete resampling, as needed</li> <li>• Conclude data reporting</li> </ul> |
|  | <b>PWS Sample Collection; Laboratory Analysis; Reporting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All large systems serving more than 10,000 people;</li> <li>• All small systems serving between 3,300 and 10,000 people;</li> <li>• 800 small systems serving fewer than 3,300 people</li> </ul> |      |      | <b>PWSs, Laboratories</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete upload of UCMR 5 data to NCOD</li> </ul>                                |

Any questions, please contact:

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







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Certified Water  
Operators

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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

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SECTION

Webinar # 2021- 9  
WEBINAR SERIES

COVID-19  
for  
Water Utilities

Certified Water  
Operators

Environmental  
Laboratories

05/06/2021

# Environmental Labs Certification Program

- Analytical Method Questionnaire
  - **Closed May 3rd**
- Certificate Renewals
  - Current certificate is still valid and will be for 6 months from when the Executive Order is lifted.
- **Inquiries, requests and applications to be submitted to:**

**Dawn Shaban**

Email: [Dawn.Shaban@ct.gov](mailto:Dawn.Shaban@ct.gov)

Phone 860-488-0652

**Shinu Zachariah**

Email: [Shinu.zachariah@ct.gov](mailto:Shinu.zachariah@ct.gov)

Phone 860-936-1678

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# Tracking per State Drought Plan

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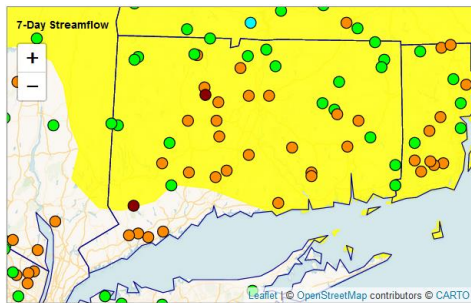
Environmental  
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❖ Statewide:

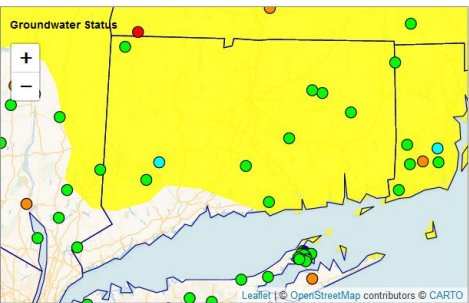
State Average  
**98.3%**  
Last week:  
98.2%

Average Percent of Normal  
**101.3%**  
Since last week:  
101.1%



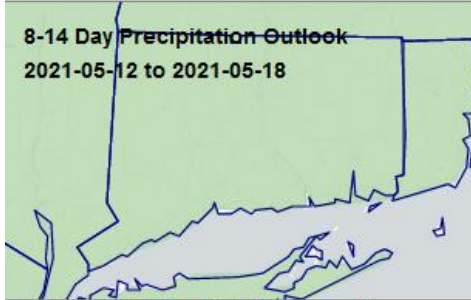
| Explanation - Percentile Classes |                   |              |        |              |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|--------|--------------|
| Low                              | Much below normal | Below normal | Normal | Above normal |
|                                  | <10%              | 10-24%       | 25-75% | 76-90%       |
|                                  |                   |              |        | >90%         |

Data provided by USGS WaterWatch - Streamflow; updated 2021-05-05.



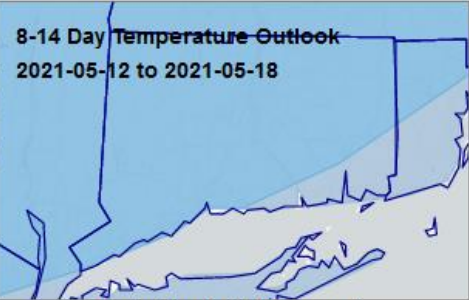
| Explanation - Percentile Classes |                   |              |        |              |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|--------|--------------|
| Low                              | Much below normal | Below normal | Normal | Above normal |
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|                                  |                   |              |        | >90%         |

Data provided by USGS Groundwater Watch - AGLN; updated 2021-05-05.



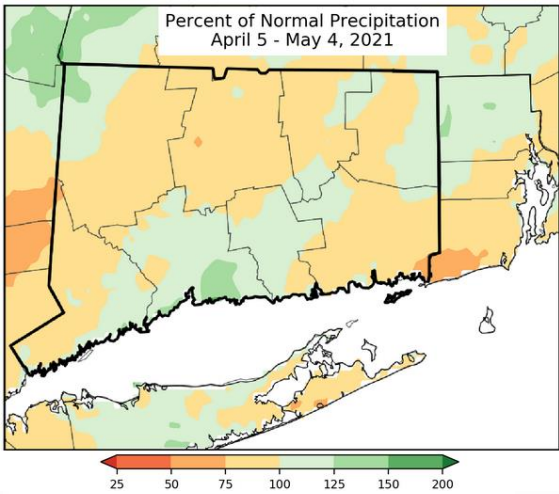
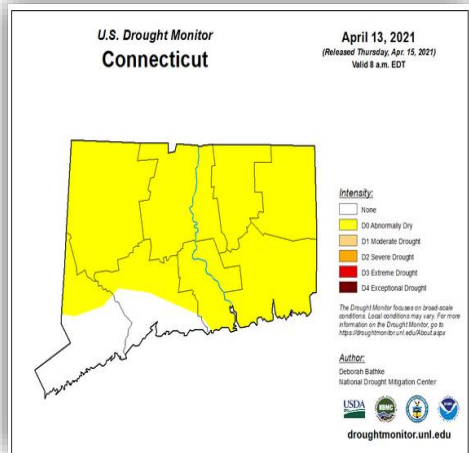
| Explanation - Probabilities (percent) |        |                   |
|---------------------------------------|--------|-------------------|
| Prob Below Normal                     | Normal | Prob Above Normal |
| 33                                    | 33     | 33                |

Data provided by DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

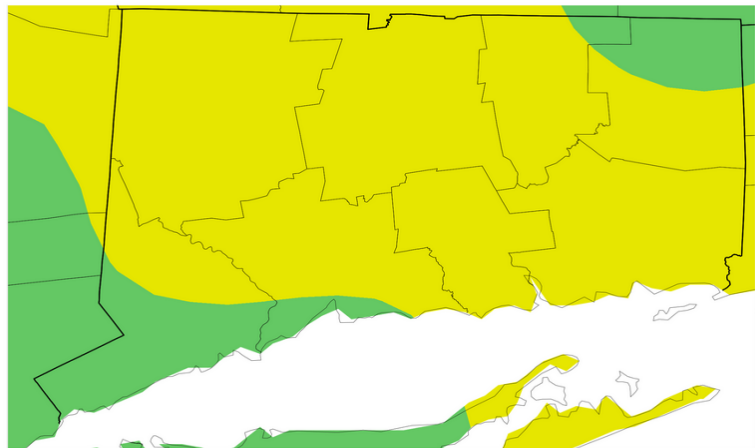


| Explanation - Probabilities (percent) |        |                   |
|---------------------------------------|--------|-------------------|
| Prob Below Normal                     | Normal | Prob Above Normal |
| 40                                    | 33     | 33                |

Data provided by DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC



30 Day SPI  
4/5/2021 - 5/4/2021



Generated 5/5/2021 at 9:00 AM using provisional data. 1 1.5 2 NOAA Regional Climate Centers

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# DWSRF Reminder

- DPH received 32 applications for \$112M in DWSRF funding for SFY 2022 by the March 31, 2021 deadline
- DPH received an additional 11 applications for \$104M in DWSRF funding for **lead service line inventory and/or replacement** projects by the April 16, 2021 deadline
- US Treasury has not released any guidance on water infrastructure funding in the American Rescue Plan of 2021
- The Biden Administration's American Jobs Plan is proposed to include \$45 billion in funding for lead service line replacements and \$56 billion for aging infrastructure
- 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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Webinar # 2021- 9  
WEBINAR SERIES

COVID-19  
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Water Utilities

Certified Water  
Operators

Environmental  
Laboratories

05/06/2021

# Cyber Security Updates

## 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](#)**





# EPA Water Security Division Updates

DRINKING WATER  
SECTION

Webinar # 2021- 9  
WEBINAR SERIES

COVID-19  
for  
Water Utilities

Certified Water  
Operators

Environmental  
Laboratories

05/06/2021

| Date and Time  | Upcoming Webinars  | Registration Link                           |
|--|--|---|
| <p><b>May 13, 2021 at<br/>2:00 – 3:00 PM<br/>(EDT)</b></p> | <p><b>Releases to Sources of Drinking Water: National Occurrence and Resources to Identify Risks:</b><br/>Spills from storage tanks, transportation accidents, facility discharges and other hazards threaten many drinking water sources. To understand this risk, a study was conducted to assess the frequency of spills impacting sources of drinking water in the U.S. The findings of this study are provided in the report “Occurrence of Releases with the Potential to Impact Sources of Drinking Water.” View Report: <a href="https://www.epa.gov/waterqualitysurveillance/resources-assess-risk-source-water-contamination">https://www.epa.gov/waterqualitysurveillance/resources-assess-risk-source-water-contamination</a><br/>This webinar will review key findings from this report. The webinar will also provide recommendations and information about resources, specifically Drinking Water Mapping Application to Protect Source Water (DWMAPS), that can be used to identify and characterize potential sources of contamination to sources of drinking water. The information and resources presented during this webinar can inform the assessment of source water risks when performing America’s Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) Risk and Resilience Assessments.</p> | <p><a href="#"><u>Register Here</u></a></p> |
| <p><b>May 20, 2021 at<br/>2:00 – 3:00 PM<br/>(EDT)</b></p> | <p><b>AWIA Risk and Resilience Assessments and Emergency Response Plans: Review and FAQs:</b><br/>EPA will host an AWIA webinar to review key topics and answer attendee questions from previous AWIA workshops, webinars, and presentations. A guest speaker from a small community water system (CWS) will speak about their experience completing and certifying their AWIA Risk and Resilience Assessment (RRA). The target audience for this webinar are CWSs serving a population of 3,301 to 49,999 people who must certify their RRA by June 30, 2021.</p>   | <p><a href="#"><u>Register Here</u></a></p> |
| <p><b>May 20, 2021 at<br/>2:30 – 3:30 PM<br/>(EDT)</b></p> | <p><b>Water Laboratory Alliance Response Plan (WLA-RP):</b><br/>The WLA-RP provides a comprehensive, national approach to coordinated laboratory response incidents requiring additional analytical support than a typical utility or state laboratory can provide. Learning objectives include: Describe the key elements of the WLA-RP (including Water Sector best practices for emergency response), describe the roles that laboratories and others would have when they participate in a response to a water contamination incident, identify EPA Water Security tools, and build relationships between laboratories, water utilities, and other stakeholders.</p>   | <p><a href="#"><u>Register Here</u></a></p> |
| <p><b>May 27, 2021 at<br/>2:30 – 3:30 PM<br/>(EDT)</b></p> | <p><b>Sampling Guidance for Unknown Contaminants in Drinking Water Webinar:</b><br/>This webinar will highlight how to use Water Laboratory Alliance’s Sampling Guidance for Unknown Contaminants in Drinking Water to examine recommendations for pathogen, toxin, chemical and radiochemical sample collection, preservation and transport procedures that support multiple analytical approaches for the identification of potential contaminants in drinking water. Participants will be presented with examples of what is required for a comprehensive sampling program, and how the guidance can be used to enhance laboratory, utility, and emergency responder preparedness by supplementing emergency response plans.</p>  | <p><a href="#"><u>Register Here</u></a></p> |



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SECTION

Webinar # 2021- 9  
WEBINAR SERIES

COVID-19  
for  
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Certified Water  
Operators

Environmental  
Laboratories

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# Cyber Security Contacts

## Bryan H. Gran

Protective Security Advisor  
Connecticut District  
Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency

Email: [bryan.gran@cisa.dhs.gov](mailto:bryan.gran@cisa.dhs.gov)

Phone# 202-809-8408

## Richard Berthaoon

Cybersecurity Advisor for Connecticut  
Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Email: [richard.berthao@cisa.dhs.gov](mailto:richard.berthao@cisa.dhs.gov)

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>





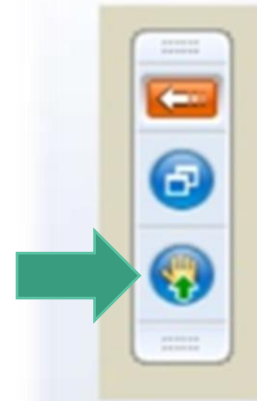


# UPDATES

- 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

COVID-19





# Suggestions

- Next webinar is on Thursday **05/20/21** at 1 pm.

| May  |
|--|
| <p><b>May 20, 2021</b><br/>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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