

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



Environmental Health and Drinking Water Branch



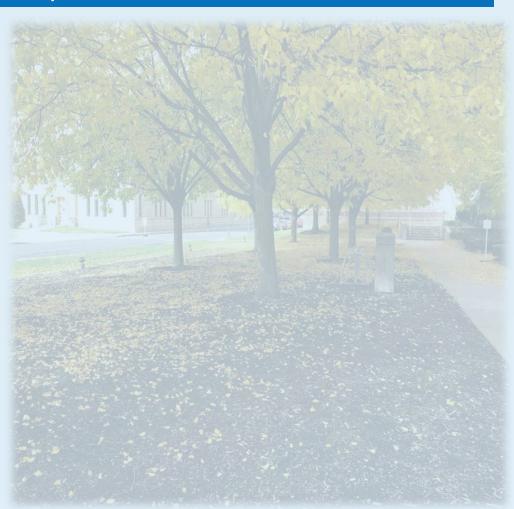
Monthly Drinking Water Webinar Series Lori Mathieu, Public Health Branch Chief



AGENDA

Water Utilities | Certified Operators | Environmental Laboratories

- Update from DPH
- DWS on Recent Developments
- Questions?





DPH/DWS Updates

Water Utilities

Certified Operators

Environmental Laboratories

- Drought Status
- Contaminants and Drinking Water Quality
- Operators Certifications updates
- Source Protection / Planning
- CT DPH Capacity Development Strategy





Tracking per State Drought Plan

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Statewide Metrics:

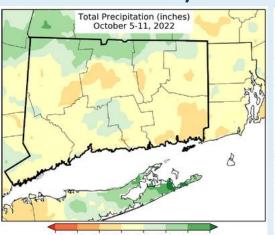
Reservoir Capacities

>= 100% of Normal n=34 Change since last week:

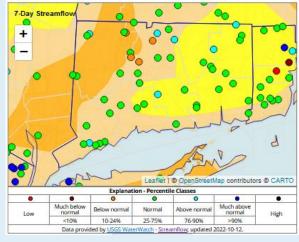
70.7 % Last week 72.0%

Average Percent of Normal Last week: 89.3%

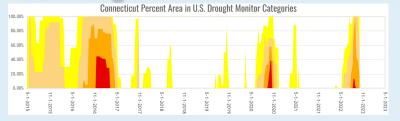
Total Precipitation Oct 5-11, 2022



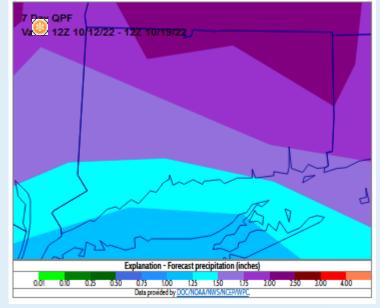
7-Day Streamflow



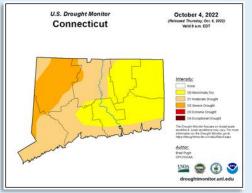
US Drought Monitor:



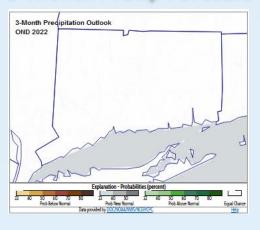
7-Day Precip Forecast



October 4, 2022 Map



3-Month Precip Forecast



Any questions, please contact:



Contaminants and Drinking Water Quality

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- UCMR5 EPA Public Webinar Meetings
 - These meetings will provide a comprehensive overview of the UCMR5 and explain the requirements for systems that are participating.
 - Small PWS Webinar (those systems serving 10,000 or fewer people)
 - October 26th 9:00-12:00 OR
 - October 27th 1:00-4:00
 - Large PWS Webinar (those serving over 10,000 people
 - October 26th 1:00-4:00 OR
 - October 27th 9:00-12:00

EPA Public Webinar:

Preparing for EPA's Upcoming Proposed PFAS

Drinking Water Regulation

- NOVEMBER 2, 2022, 2:30-4:00 pm
- What are PFAS and how do they impact drinking water
- How EPA develops a drinking water regulation
- EPA's timeline an activities associated with the proposed drinking water regulations
- What happens after the regulations is proposed and how can communities provide their input to EPA
- Where to go for more information
- During the webinar, EPA will not be discussing the specific requirements of the proposed PFAS drinking water regulation.

Save the Date: CT Interagency PFAS Task Force 3-Year Review November 16th or 17th 2:00- 4:00 Location TBD



Operator Certification Program

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COVID-19 Suspension of Certification Renewal (COVID-19):

- 5/5/22 CT DPH Commissioner's <u>ordered</u> the reinstatement of licensure renewal requirements-effective 5/10/2022
- All impacted certifications have a 11/10/22 expiration date if not renewed by this date your certification "shall expire"

29 days Remaining to the 11/10/22 Certification Expiration

- No additional extension or modification to this deadline is expected, Operator should begin to prepare for the submission of their renewal application,
- Operators shouldn't wait to 11/10/22 to renew their certification,
- Look for Certified Operator Message 216 (EHDW Circular Letter #2022-48)
- While the renewal cycle (COVID-19) of impacted certifications had been extended, the next cycle will be shortened by an equivalent amount

Bill Sullivan: (860) 936-1266 | Kevin Veilleux: (860) 937-7735 | Jofans George: (860) 994-6231)



Operator Certification Program

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www.elicense.ct.gov - to check status of your certification,

Print out, Fill out, Sign & Submit Via mail delivery (check made out to: "Treasurer, State of Connecticut"),

Operators can also request their renewal application via email,

send email request to dph.opcert@ct.gov (please provide your name and cert. #),

Note the following links: <u>Approved Training – Internet, Online and Correspondence Courses</u>

<u>Approved Training Courses – Classroom Courses</u>

Link to: <u>Operator Contact Update Form</u> (change of contact information including email address)

10/18/2022 or 10/20/2022 RTCR Level 2 Assessor Training Course (6 hours) – Look for DWS CL #2022-53 (Certified Operator Message 217)



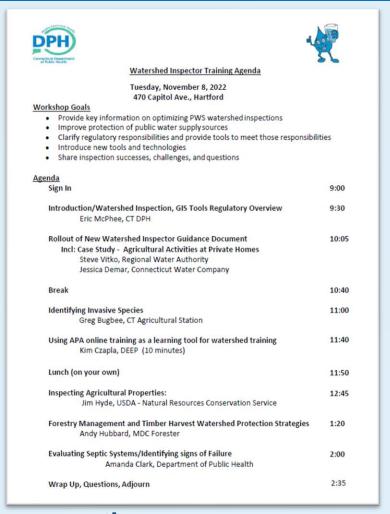
Source Protection/Planning

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- Next WUCC Implementation meeting is on November 16th at 1:00 on Teams.
 The agenda and meeting link are on the WUCC Webpage.
- Watershed Inspector Training Tuesday, November 8 at 470 Capitol Ave. Online Registration now open via the "TRAIN" website



please email dph.sourceprotection@ct.gov with any questions.



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2022 Revision

- EPA Requirements
- DWS Strategy
 - New PWS
 - Existing PWS
- Cap Dev Approach
- Recommendations for Improvement
- Stakeholder Input/Next Steps



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DPH as the Primacy Agency must Develop a Capacity Development Strategy that:

- Helps create & maintain TMF capacity at NEW and EXISTING PWS
- Describes methods/criteria for identifying and prioritizing PWS who need help
- How to assist PWS to maintain compliance, encourage partnerships and train certified operators
- Includes factors that encourage and impair TMF capacity
- Ties SRF funding to acceptable levels of TMF capacity



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DPH as the Primacy Agency must Develop a Capacity Development Strategy that:



- Must include stakeholders in this process
- Original CapDev Strategy was drafted and approved by EPA in 2000.
 - Primacy Agencies can lose 20% of their set aside funding if this is not completed.



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American Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) of 2018:

• Requires State Primacy Agencies to update their CapDev Strategies to encourage PWS to develop asset management plans and train certified operators on asset management.

DPH is working on revised CapDev Strategy due to EPA by 12/31/22.

- Include important work DWS is doing with Fiscal & Asset Management plans at small PWS and water supply planning process with large PWS.
- How to measure and show growth over time
- Bring strategy up to date- big difference in technology since 2000



Cap Dev Strategy – NEW PWS

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New PWS must demonstrate capacity before operating

Main Mechanism is the Certificate of Public Convenience & Necessity (CPCN)

Control Points:

WUCC/ESA Review and Approval TMF Capacity Review

Local Planning and Zoning Approval Operator Certification

Source Review and Approval Cross Connection Program

System Construction Approval



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Build and Maintain Capacity for Existing PWS

State and Federal Laws provides primary mechanism along with

DWS Staff resources

Control Points:

Water Quality and Compliance Data

SS Program/TMF Capacity Review

DWSRF Capacity Review Operator Certification Program

PWS Planning Data

Dist. System & X-Connection Control

Emerging Contaminants Source Protection



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(1) Source Protection

First barrier in the multi-barrier approach to build capacity

Use of code compliant high-quality sources

Annual Watershed survey requirement

Approval for new sources of supply at existing PWS

Water Company Land Permits for change in use or sale to maintain integrity and protections for sources



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(2) Water Quality and Compliance Data

PWS ability to maintain compliance with WQ and other regulatory requirements may indicate a lack of TMF capacity

Water Quality Monitoring and Compliance Schedules maintained for all PWS

Technical Assistance provided to PWS on all sorts of topics

Processing of WQ Data/MCL and AL exceedances/Sampling Plans/Inventory

Tracking and work with PWS on EPA Enforcement Tracking Tool (ETT) list



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(3) Operator Certification

Certified Operators are a demonstrated asset to PWS and can increase a PWS's TMF capacity

All Community and NTNC PWS are required to retain a certified operator

DWS ensures operators are trained and qualified to meet the PWS needs by reviewing and approving training courses for CEUs/TCHs

Operator Certification Unit provides technical assistance to PWS with no operator and to operators with large numbers of violations at PWS they operate



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(4) SS Program/TMF Capacity Review

First-hand look at PWS at the site gives clear picture of TMF capacity

In-person review of PWS infrastructure, operations and compliance
Sanitary Survey Capacity Questionnaire required as part of SS for CWS – ties in
TMF capacity assessment tool

Conduct plan reviews concurrent with SS- Water Supply Plan as well as Fiscal and Asset Management Plan

Are PWS owners engaged and knowledgeable?

Identify PWS in need of technical assistance and work with partners/staff



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(5) DWSRF Program Capacity Review

PWS needs acceptable TMF Capacity to be eligible for an SRF loan

Developed/Utilize DWSRF Capacity Review Checklist

Office of Treasurer (OTT) and Public Utility Regulatory Authority (PURA) helps with financial capacity review for PWS

Development of Asset Management Plan can be rolled into SRF Loan if not already in place

SRF Unit works closely with compliance units to make PWS eligible for loans



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(6) Distribution System/Cross Connection Control

Maintain acceptable water quality within distribution systems

Accurate mapping, LSL inventories, sampling plans is key
Programs for flushing, valve exercising, unaccounted for water must be in place.
Timely submission of x-conn surveys and resolution of violations identified
Large amounts of customer complaints can be an indication of TMF capacity



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(7) PWS Planning Programs

Different planning requirements based on PWS size

PWS >1,000 – Water Supply Plan

Large CWS create comprehensive plan and update every 6-9 years. Includes topics such as available water, capital improvement schedule, system asset inventory, drought triggers, emergency response plan and more. Plans should be used and not just kept on a shelf.

PWS <1,000 – Fiscal & Asset Management Plan, Capacity Implementation Plan:

DPH developed template, instructions, guidance and training webinars for PWS owners and operators. Create baseline plan by 1/1/2021 and then annual updates.



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(8) Emerging Contaminants

Help PWS be viable now and into the future

Help PWS prepare for new contaminants to ensure long term viability

Lead for DPH on PFAS taskforce and new state PFAS action levels

Work on other contaminants like Manganese, Sodium & Chloride, Legionella, cyanotoxins, etc.



CD Strategy – Factors that Encourage Capacity

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- Skilled and Knowledge Certified Operators
- Close Regulatory Oversight by knowledgeable DWS staff
- Federal and State Laws to protect public health
- Technical Assistance/Education from Partners
- Variety of Funding Options for PWS



CD Strategy – Factors that Impair Capacity

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- Lack of Involvement/knowledge from volunteer boards/associations
- Aging infrastructure, no proactive replacement program
- Lack of system redundancy
- Insufficient revenues to run the PWS and account for depreciation
- Pressures to keep rates low
- Small water system affordability
- Arduous and Costly Takeover/Acquisition Process
- Staffing Shortages affect PWS, Certified Operators, TA Providers



CD Strategy – Cap Dev Approach

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Identifying Resources to Assist PWS in Developing Capacity

Table including Internal (DPH) and External Resources. DWS Staff and operators are two of the most valuable resources for PWS.

Partnerships to Enhance Capacity

Bring PWS together with Operators, local communities, technical experts and each other. Work with external entities to bring important information to PWS in CT. Bridge gap between PWS and other state programs

Operator Training and Certification

Ensure ample training opportunities, help operators meet requirements, develop new training/communication as needed.



CD Strategy – Rec's for Improvement

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Several Ideas for the Future of Capacity Development

- Revamping the CPCN process
- Expansion of CAT make publicly available
- Including Health Equity Measures: prioritize help to those in need
- Work more closely with other entities that license businesses that are PWS
 OEC, local health, Dept of Education, DPH Facility Licensing
- Operator Certification regulation revisions clarify roles for small system operator
- Revenues and Delinquent account programs DSS program provides help for water and wastewater systems and their customers



CD Strategy – Moving Forward

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Establish Baseline and Measure Progress of Strategy

Annual/Triennial Capacity Report is primary mechanism

Include analysis of measures over time- show growth

Keep Capacity Assessment Tool (CAT) updated is key



CD Strategy – Next Steps

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Stakeholder Input Presentation Sessions



Top Ops, WUCCs, Partners/PWS Webinar, Website Posting



Incorporate Comments from Stakeholder Meetings



Final Draft Available November 2022



Finalize by December 2022 and submit to EPA by 12/31/22



CD Strategy – Feedback Welcomed!

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Stakeholder Feedback requested by <u>10/31/22</u>

How?

Review Full DRAFT Cap Dev Strategy 2022 on DPH Website

Share thoughts during this meeting OR

Email comments to DPHCapacity@ct.gov



Next Webinar

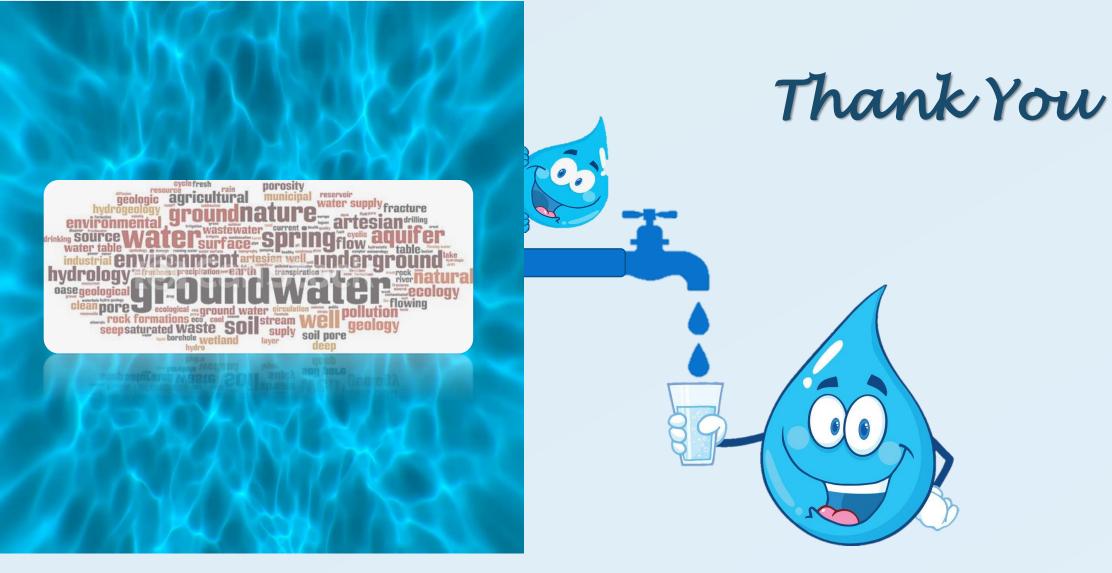
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Next webinar is on Thursday, November 10, 2022 at 1 pm.

November

November 10, 2022 1 PM - 2 PM





Webinar #2022-09

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