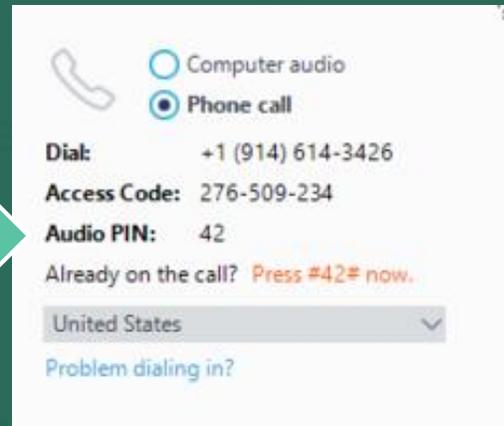


# Public Water System, Certified Water Operators and Environmental Laboratories

## COVID-19

Webinar # 2020-07

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# Public Water System, Certified Water Operators and Environmental Laboratories

## COVID-19

Webinar # 2020-07

### DRINKING WATER SECTION

Lori Mathieu

Environmental Health & Drinking Water Branch Chief

April 23, 2020

(1:00 PM – 2:00 PM)

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT *of* PUBLIC HEALTH



# AGENDA



DRINKING WATER  
SECTION

WEBINAR SERIES  
Webinar # 7

COVID-19  
for  
Water Utilities

Certified Water  
Operators

Environmental  
Laboratories

April 23, 2020

- **Update from DPH/DWS on Recent Developments**
- **Status of WEBEOC and CtWARN**
- **Update from PURA**
- **Update from CTWC, Aquarion, RWA & MDC**
- **Update from other CWSs**
- **Questions ?**

COVID-19





# DPH/DWS Updates

- **Current Status of COVID 19 ; can sign up for daily report from Governor via <https://portal.ct.gov/>**
- **Weekly calls: CWSs, Env. Labs, Top Ops, EPA R1, P3 group**
- **Remote inspections with phased in full onsite surveys**
- **Suspension or waiving of regulations if any still under review**
- **Pb & Cu sampling precautions guidance is under review**
- **Extension of PE tests by laboratory is under review**
- **Emergency contingency plan update**



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# DPH/DWS Updates

- CL 2020-18: Recreational
- CL 2020-22: Campgrounds
- **DWS COVID 19 Related info to PWSs at**  
<https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Drinking-Water/COVID-19/COVID-19---Information-for-Public-Water-Systems>
- **EPA COVID 19 Webpage**  
<https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus/coronavirus-and-drinking-water-and-wastewater>
- **CT AWWA COVID 19 Webpage**  
<https://ctawwa.org/COVID-19>

COVID-19





# DPH/DWS Updates - Certifications

- **Certifications/licenses not renewed by DPH shall not expire throughout the duration of the COVID-19 emergency;**
- **Certifications/licenses suspended by the Commissioner are to be renewed in the six-month period following the date of the resumption of the license renewal requirements;**
  - ❖ **If DPH renews a certification/license on a date other than the customary renewal date, the period of licensure shall not extend beyond the customary renewal date provided pursuant to the Connecticut General Statutes; and**
  - ❖ **At the time of such renewal, the licensee shall be responsible for payment of all license fees to DPH, including payment of fees not collected by DPH due to the suspension of such license renewal requirements.**





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# DPH/DWS Updates – EO 7S & 7W

- On 4/1/20, Gov. Signed **EO 7S**
- Section 6 - EO 7S and EO 7W Sec.1 apply to municipalities' suspension of tax deadlines and collection efforts
- OPM has already prepared guidance on the Executive Orders regarding the tax/utility charge deferral and low interest rate program. They have updated the guidance and it is now posted on its website.

<https://portal.ct.gov/OPM/IGPP-MAIN/IGPP-Home-Page>

COVID-19





# DPH/DWS Updates – General Info.

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- **Alternative care sites and shelters- Utilities be prepared to provide technical assistance**
- **DWS “Return To Service” guidance is on DWS webpage [https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Departments-and-Agencies/DPH/dph/drinking\\_water/pdf/COVID-19-Return-to-Service-Guidance.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Departments-and-Agencies/DPH/dph/drinking_water/pdf/COVID-19-Return-to-Service-Guidance.pdf)**
- **CDC building water system guidance**
- **Flushing procedures from ESPRI**
- **EPA national flushing guidance**

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# DPH/DWS Updates – General Info.

- **Field Inspections of Public Water Systems**
  - ❖ **Initiate in May (unless mission critical),**
  - ❖ **Conduct remotely or in person with PPE protocols in place**
- **WRF Latest COVID Research Update Webcast , next one on 4/27/20**

COVID-19





# Reporting to DPH/DWS

- **How to Report ?**
  - **An Acute Risk Water Quality Issue**
  - **The Water Main Breaks That Effect Critical Facilities**

## **DWS Phone Numbers:**

**860-509-7333 (Normal hours)**

**860-692-2333 (After hours)**

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

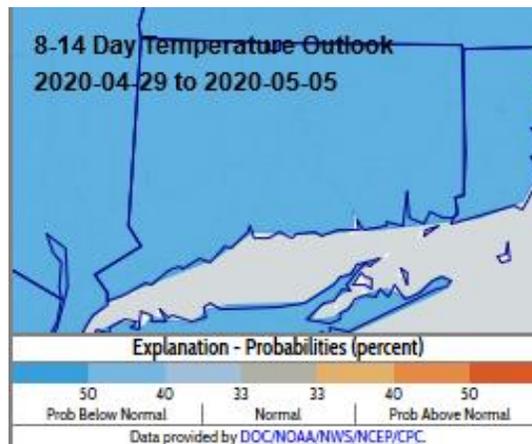
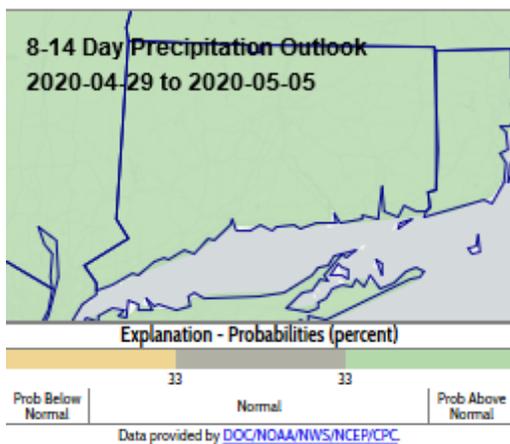


# Tracking per State Drought Plan

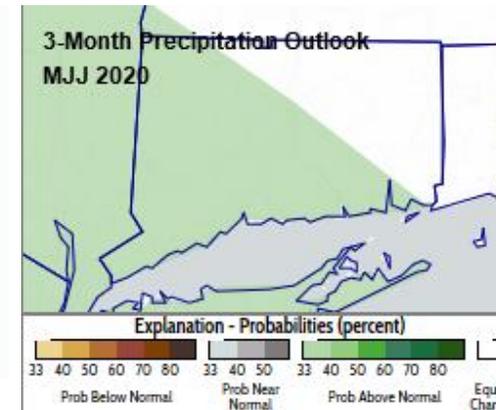
- ❖ Statewide Percent full is 98.2%
- ❖ Statewide Percent of Normal is 101.8%

- 21 Reservoir Systems are reporting 100% Full
- Others have reported an increase since their last submitted measurements
- For many reservoir systems - 2020 is their highest monthly recorded capacity for January, February, and March.
- Forecasted Outlook for Precipitation and Temperature:

The 8-14 day indicates above normal precipitation with below normal temperatures.



3 month  
indicates equal  
chance or  
above normal  
precipitation  
chance



COVID-19





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# Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

- **Deadline for new Eligibility Applications (EAs) for projects needing funding during SFY 2021 (July 1,2020 – June 30, 2021) was extended to April 30, 2020.**
- **EPA is anticipating another large federal stimulus bill for infrastructure, including drinking water, that may include a significant grant component**
- **Stimulus funding for drinking water infrastructure anticipated to be distributed to states through the DWSRF**
- **Interested PWS are encouraged to submit EAs now.**
- **Send all questions to – [DPH.CTDWSRF@ct.gov](mailto:DPH.CTDWSRF@ct.gov)**

COVID-19





# WEBEOC & CtWARN

- **WEBEOC Update**
  - ❖ 65 entities/managers representing a total of 212 CWSs have login credentials
  - ❖ 33 of these entities have reported in WEBEOC
  - ❖ All reports are for normal operation so far
- **CtWARN Update, including FEMA PPEs**
  - ❖ Updates from Tom Barger

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# UPDATES

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

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#### Grab Tab



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

COVID-19





# COVID-19 - Suggestions

- Next webinar is on Thursday 4/30/20 at 1 pm.
- Email Questions about operator certification to [William.Sullivan@ct.gov](mailto:William.Sullivan@ct.gov)
- 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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