

Public Water System, Certified Water Operators and Environmental Laboratories

COVID-19

Webinar # 2020-12

DRINKING WATER SECTION

Lori Mathieu

Environmental Health & Drinking Water Branch Chief

May 28, 2020

(1:00 PM – 2:00 PM)

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT *of* PUBLIC HEALTH



AGENDA



DRINKING WATER
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WEBINAR SERIES
Webinar # 12

COVID-19
for
Water Utilities

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May 28, 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 ?

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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**
- **Cross-connection & Watershed surveys Circular Letter 2020-32**
- **Pb & Cu sampling precautions guidance and Circular Letter 2020-34**
- **Extension of PE tests by laboratory Circular Letter 2020-37**
- **Emergency contingency plan update**

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DPH/DWS Updates

- **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>**

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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**;
- Questions regarding qualifications for renewal should go William.Sullivan@ct.gov and copy DWDcompliance@ct.gov

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DPH/DWS Updates – General Info.

- Alternative care sites and shelters- Utilities be prepared to provide technical assistance
- Circular Letter 2020-33 to CWS & LHD re: Re-opening & Return to Service
- 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
- Circular Letter 2020-36 to NCWSs re: Re-opening & Return to Service
- Circular Letter 2020-35 re: Asset management plan Webinar on June 2, 2020 at 2:30 pm

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DPH/DWS Updates – General Info.

- **Field Inspections of Public Water Systems**
 - ❖ **Initiate in June (unless mission critical),**
 - ❖ **Conduct remotely or in person with PPE protocols in place**
 - ❖ **Developing protocols for doing sanitary surveys**

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LCR Sampling Guidance

Please contact:

Cindy Sek: cindy.sek@ct.gov

- **Developed for COVID-19 pandemic with safety measures and sampling precautions to prevent staff and customers from exposure to the COVID-19 disease virus**
- **Monitoring and reporting requirements continue to apply**
 - **Lead and Copper**
 - **Water Quality Parameters (WQPs)**
 - **NTNC that is closed**
- **Monitoring periods**
 - **Semi-annual (1/1 – 6/30; 7/1 – 12/31)**
 - **Annual & triennial (6/1 – 9/30)**

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LCR Sampling Guidance cont.

Please contact:

Cindy Sek: cindy.sek@ct.gov

- **Collect samples from approved sites meeting the LCR Tier Level criteria**
- **Sampling location flexibility for WQPs**
- **LCR allows customers to collect lead and copper samples**
- **PWS to contact customers of approved sampling sites in advance to confirm participation**
- **Revert back to standard monitoring (every six-month) if can't collect samples by 9/30 for PWS on annual and triennial schedule**

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Remote Sanitary Surveys

Please contact:

Thomas Chyra : thomas.chyra@ct.gov

Mandy Smith : mandy.smith@ct.gov

- **DWS developed a five page remote sanitary survey template**
 - ❖ First page completed by DWS
 - ❖ Last four pages completed by certified operators including pictures of critical components
 - ❖ Submit completed document to DWS within two weeks
 - ❖ Follow up as necessary by DWS and issue sanitary survey report
- **Start pilot program this week with 26 small water systems and 10 certified operators, DWS will be looking for feedback**
- **Roll out to rest of small PWSs late June**
- **Working separately on template for larger PWSs, plan similar pilot program with larger PWSs sometime in late June**

Slide 11

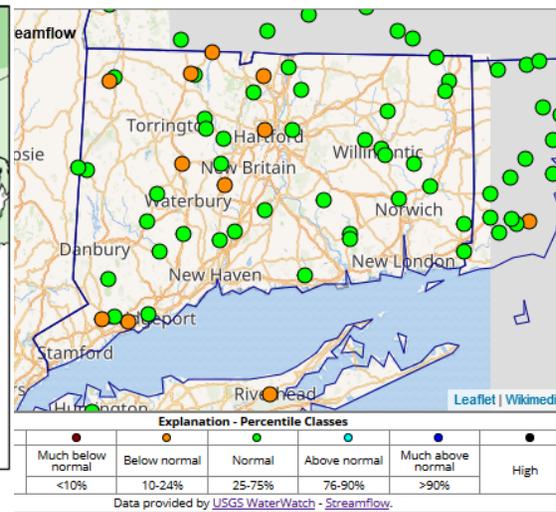
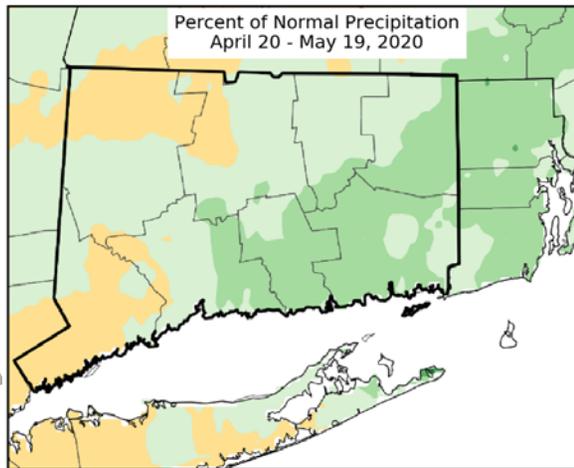
ML2 update by deleting much of the words and adding in an new EOs, please note my edits to this slide
Mathieu, Lori, 4/15/2020



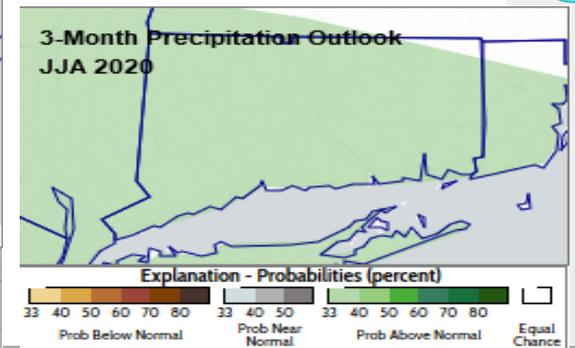
Tracking per State Drought Plan

- ❖ Statewide Percent full is 99.97%
- ❖ Statewide Percent of Normal is 102%

- 21 Reservoir Systems are reporting 100% Full (-1 from previous week, 7 trending ↓)
- 33 Systems are reporting capacities greater than or equal to 100% of Normal
- Current Conditions – 30 day % of Normal Precip indicates slight dryness in NW and SW Corners:



- Stream flows look good
- 3 - months probability of above to near normal Precipitation



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DPH

Connecticut Department
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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 May 14; we are now in the process of reviewing the applications.
- 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 and details will be announced once they are available
- A specific request for projects will be issued after these details are available
- Send all questions to – DPH.CTDWSRF@ct.gov

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Reporting to DPH/DWS

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

**Call 860-692-2333 (Emergency) and
*Email: dwdcompliance@ct.gov***

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WEBEOC & CtWARN

- **WEBEOC Update**

- ❖ 89 entities/managers representing a total of 24 CW3Ss have logged in to WEBEOC (represents 2.7 million out of 3.1 million served by CWSs or 90%)
- ❖ 27 entities with log in credentials have not reported yet in WEBEOC
- ❖ All reports are for normal operation so far

- **CtWARN Update, including FEMA PPEs**

- ❖ Update from Tom Barger
- ❖ Update from RWA, John Schultz

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UPDATES

- PURA - John.betkoski@ct.gov
- CTWC
- Aquarion
- RWA
- MDC
- Others (Torrington, Bristol, etc..)

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COVID-19 - Suggestions

- Next webinar is on Thursday 6/4/20 at 1 pm.
- Email Questions about operator certification to William.Sullivan@ct.gov
- 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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