

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Drinking Water Section

Circular Letter DWS 2011-03

To: All Public Water Systems

From: Lori Mathieu, Public Health Section Chief, Drinking Water Section

Subject: Hurricane Irene – Water Advisory

Date: August 29, 2011

Irene has created widespread power outages and flooding throughout the State. Public Water Systems with source flooding or compromised treatment, storage, pumping or other critical facilities are reminded to report their operational status to the Department of Public Health **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE** at 860-509-7333 (8:00 to 4:30). Off-hours emergencies should be reported to the DPH at 860-509-8000. If we do not hear from you, the Drinking Water Section will attempt to contact you directly in order to access your system status and offer our assistance as necessary.

Public Water Systems with automatic emergency generators may have been able to maintain service and water quality during the storm. Many smaller Public Water Systems without emergency power that have experienced service interruptions due to the storm have not been able to report their status to the State Department of Public Health. These include rural water systems serving condominium complexes, mobile home parks, apartment complexes, etc. All customers of water systems that have experienced service interruptions or low pressure should not drink their tap water unless it is boiled for one minute or use bottled water, as recommended in the DWS Boil Water Advisory template:

http://www.ct.gov/dph/lib/dph/drinking_water/pdf/Boil_Water_Advisory.pdf