

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



Dannel P. Malloy  
Governor  
Nancy Wyman  
Lt. Governor

Raul Pino, M.D., M.P.H.  
Commissioner

Drinking Water Section

### DWS Circular Letter #2017-01

TO: Community Public Water Systems, Related State Agencies, Councils of Governments,  
Western WUCC, Central Corridor WUCC, Eastern WUCC

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

DATE: December 28, 2016

RE: 2016 Commissioner of Public Health's High Quality Source (HQS) List

Connecticut General Statute (CGS) Section 25-33q requires that *"the Commissioner of Public Health shall prepare a list designating sources or potential sources of water that require protection so that the highest quality waters are available to provide water for human consumption ... and update the list annually"*. The legislative intent of the High Quality Source (HQS) List is to delineate existing public water supply sources and potential future public water supply sources that require protection to ensure that the highest quality source waters are available for human consumption now and for the future.

The Department urges public water systems, state agencies and councils of governments to very carefully review, and if appropriate, propose changes to this critical list. The ongoing Water Utility Coordinating Committee (WUCC) planning efforts, the ongoing development of the state water plan, and the upcoming update to the state Plan of Conservation and Development will all rely on this list. Accuracy is vitally important. Changes could consist of proposed additions to existing or potential future sources, or geographic improvements to potential future sources.

The Western, Central Corridor and Eastern WUCCs have each completed Water Supply Assessments. Contained within the Assessments are much of the same data as is in the HQS list: source data, future potential source data, and interconnection data. The Department is changing the presentation of this update to the HQS in an effort to maintain continuity between these two planning efforts:

- All current community public water supply sources (groundwater and surface water) are individually identified in the HQS list; The WUCC Water Supply Assessments do not provide specific references to sources.
- All future potential water supplies are identified in the HQS list; the WUCC Water Supply Assessments reference some, but not all, future potential sources.



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- All current interconnections are listed separately by WUCC. This data is also being analyzed by all three WUCCs and is included in the WUCC Water Supply Assessments; the WUCC Water Supply Assessments are available at:

Western WUCC:

Central Corridor WUCC

Eastern WUCC

<http://ct.gov/dph/westernwucc>

<http://ct.gov/dph/centralwucc>

<http://ct.gov/dph/easternwucc>

The 2016 HQS List is available at: <http://www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3139&Q=514858> .

This year, the list of present sources is presented twice, in these formats: 1) sorted by WUCC, then sorted by the primary town the public water system serves, as was done in previous years, and 2) sorted by WUCC, then by the town(s) in which the source is located.

The list of potential future sources is sorted by WUCC and then by the town(s) in which the source is located.

Please submit any materials to be considered in the Department's review process for preparing the 2017 update to the HQS List by February 15, 2017 to [dph.sourceprotection@ct.gov](mailto:dph.sourceprotection@ct.gov). This could include errors or omissions in the current list. Submission of digital GIS data is encouraged.

cc: Yvonne Addo, Deputy Commissioner;  
Town Chief Elected Officials;  
Local Health Directors;  
Rivers Alliance of Connecticut;  
Farmington River Watershed Association;  
Connecticut Fund for the Environment;  
Trust for Public Land;  
Willimantic River Alliance;  
CTCOG;