

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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DWS Circular Letter #2015-05

To: Surface Public Water Systems

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

Date: May 8, 2015

Subject: Environmental Protection Administration's (EPA) Meeting on Cyanotoxins in Drinking Water for May 11, 2015

The Department of Public Health, Drinking Water Section (DWS), would like to advise all surface public water systems of the EPA's upcoming public meeting/webinar on May 11<sup>th</sup> regarding preparation for and response to Harmful Algal Blooms (HAB's) and related cyanotoxin health risks. This was announced in the federal register's public inspection site dated April 28, 2015:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2015/04/28/2015-09891/meetings-input-on-potential-actions-to-prepare-for-and-respond-to-cyanotoxins-in-drinking-water>

The public meeting and webinar will be held from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Please register for the meeting/webinar at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3350616916099559938>

The DWS is recommending a proactive approach for all surface public water systems for potential HAB occurrences by developing a Standard Operating Procedure for HAB monitoring, assessment and treatment. Focus should be on your individual potential risks, such as shortage of monitoring ability and treatment available that would best maintain your system. Please refer to guidance from the American Water Works Association (AWWA) - Water Utility Manager's Guide to Cyanotoxins.

<http://www.waterrf.org/PublicReportLibrary/4548a.pdf>

In summary, EPA plans to have guidance and information on HABs available for all stakeholders in advance of the up and coming HAB season. Information to be disseminated includes health advisories (HAs) for some cyanotoxins, various analytical methods and the efficacy of various treatment technologies.

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