DWS Circular Letter #2019-01

To: Small Community Water Systems  
From: Lori Mathieu, Public Health Section Chief, Drinking Water Section  
Date: January 16, 2019

Subject: New Fiscal and Asset Management Plan Requirements for Small CWS Including Prioritized Hydropneumatic Tank Assessment

As a result of the recent passing of Bill 5163 (Public Act No. 18-168 §61), all small community public water systems (i.e., water companies that regularly serves at least twenty-five, but not more than one thousand, year-round residents), except those either “(1) regulated by the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, (2) subject to the requirements set forth in section 25-32d of the general statutes, or (3) a state agency”, shall complete a fiscal and asset management plan for all capital assets by no later than January 1, 2021. This asset and fiscal plan must then be updated annually and be made available on request by the department.

Public Act No. 18-168 §61 also requires that each small community water system shall make the assessment of its hydropneumatic pressure tanks (excluding bladder type pressure tanks) its initial priority in its preparation of the fiscal and asset management plan. A small community water system that maintains a hydropneumatic storage tank as part of their water system must complete a fiscal and asset management assessment review for its hydropneumatic tank by no later than May 2, 2019 using the Hydropneumatic Tank Fiscal and Asset Assessment Form developed by the Department. This form, and more information including links to a series of webinars presented in partnership with the Environmental Finance Center Network, Inc., to help educate water systems about the new requirements, can be found on the new Drinking Water Section Capacity Development webpage.

Community public water systems are eligible to apply for and receive a loan from the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) for the replacement or elimination of an existing hydropneumatic tank. Within the DWSRF, a Small Loan Program is available for obtaining loans under $100,000 with streamlined procedures for projects that eliminate hydropneumatic tanks and replace them with variable frequency drive pumping systems. For more information on this loan program please visit the DWSRF website or contact a representative from the DWSRF Program at (860) 509-7333.