

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Manisha Juthani, MD  
Commissioner




Ned Lamont  
Governor  
Susan Bysiewicz  
Lt. Governor

Environmental Health & Drinking Water Branch

### DWS Circular Letter #2021-97

**TO:** Public Water Systems

**FROM:** Lori Mathieu, Public Health Branch Chief, EHDW 

**DATE:** December 29, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Cybersecurity Reminder and upcoming Webinars

In light of persistent and ongoing cyber threats, DPH Drinking water section (DWS) is reminding Public Water Systems (PWS) and Certified Water Operators to review the [self-assessment checklist \(attached revised one\)](#) and take immediate steps to strengthen their computer network defenses against potential cyberattacks.

Implementing the cybersecurity best practices provided in the self-assessment checklist can help guide leaders to strengthen operational resiliency by improving network defenses and rapid response capabilities.

EPA, in conjunction with water sector associations, will hold a webinar on the dates/times listed below to present and discuss the CISA/FBI/NSA joint advisory. The webinar is intended for PWS and operators, along with state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) government officials and private sector organizations that directly support water system operations. DPH Drinking water section (DWS) is requesting public water systems to attend this webinar. The registration links for the webinar are provided below:

**Date 1: Wednesday, December 29, 2021, 2:00 – 3:00 pm EST.**

**Registration Link:**

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8355582904364747792>

**EPA will also host a second broadcast on January 5th at the same time for those who miss the first one.**

**Date 2: Wednesday, January 5, 2022, 2:00 – 3:00 pm EST.**

**Registration Link:**

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5595566826088940559>

In addition, the Department of Public Health (DPH) Drinking Water Section (DWS) reminds Public Water Systems to remain vigilant and evaluate system security. This includes both cybersecurity and physical security of system assets to protect operation of the critical services that the water sector provides. To assist with this, the Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) has developed a new informational guide on a security strategy that provides a flexible framework to align cybersecurity and physical security functions including case studies, which can be accessed at: [Cybersecurity and Physical Security Convergence Guide](#).

**“See Something, Say Something”**

**Department of Public Health  
Drinking Water Section**



**1-860-692-2333**



**Connecticut Intelligence Center (CTIC)**

**TIPS Line: 1-866-HLS-TIPS (1-866-457-8477) Web: [www.ct.gov/sar](http://www.ct.gov/sar)  
Email: [ctic@ct.gov](mailto:ctic@ct.gov) Text: TIPS711 Mobile App: CTSAFE**

WaterISAC also encourages any water utility who has experienced malicious or suspicious activity to email [analyst@waterisac.org](mailto:analyst@waterisac.org), call 866- H2O-ISAC, or use [the online incident reporting form](#)

For additional resources, please visit the [National Critical Functions Supply Water and Manage Wastewater webpage](#), which includes an announcement regarding this Joint Advisory along with additional resources – including two informative infographics – for Cyber Risks and Resources for the Water and Wastewater Sector.



CyberSecurity-Self-Assessment-Checklist\_

Attachment:

c: Deputy Commissioner Heather Aaron, MPH, LNHA, Department of Public Health Local Health Directors Certified Operators