

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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Acting Commissioner



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Governor  
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Lt. Governor

### ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND DRINKING WATER BRANCH

DWS Circular Letter# 2020-57

**TO:** Community Public Water Systems  
**FROM:** Lori J. Mathieu, Public Health Branch Chief  
**DATE:** July 31, 2020  
**SUBJECT:** Severe Weather Preparedness Reminder – Hurricane Isaias

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "L. Mathieu" followed by the year "2020".

The National Weather Service forecast track of Hurricane Isaias brings it to the northeastern U.S. early in the work week, possibly Tuesday, along with heavy tropical rains.

**Timing:** Heavy rains expected late Monday to early Wednesday across southern New England.

**Hazards & Impacts:** - 3 to 5 inches of rain expected, with locally heavier amounts  
- River and small stream flooding possible with these predicted rainfall totals

For the latest forecast updates visit <https://www.nhc.noaa.gov>

The Drinking Water Section encourages all community water systems to do the following in preparation for the storm's impacts:

- Test the backup power generators under load and top off associated fuel tanks
- Identify emergency response staff and assign roles and responsibilities
- Draft and prepare messages to be communicated to the media, the public and public officials
- Draft and prepare the template of a boil water advisory, in English & other languages deemed necessary to your service area, so it is ready and available if needed, [Boil-Water-Notices-and-Advisories](#)
- Review the emergency response plans, update phone numbers and emergency contact information
- Identify all of your critical water facilities, critical customers and potential shelters in your service area

You are reminded to report any and all emergency incidents (loss of pressure, infrastructure failures, flooding, storm damage, facility access problems, etc.) through the [WEBEOC](#) and to the Department of Public Health as soon as possible. If your community water system experiences a power outage leading to a low water pressure, then you must alert your customers to boil the water and notify the DPH by contacting our emergency number at 860-692-2333.

c. Deputy Commissioner Heather Aaron, MPH, LNHA, Department of Public Health



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