

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Manisha Juthani, MD
Commissioner



Ned Lamont
Governor
Susan Bysiewicz
Lt. Governor

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND DRINKING WATER BRANCH

DWS Circular Letter# 2022-77

TO: Community Public Water Systems
Certified Operators

FROM: Lori J. Mathieu, Public Health Branch Chief

Handwritten signature of Lori J. Mathieu, dated '22.

DATE: December 22, 2022

SUBJECT: Severe Weather Alert and Preparedness Reminder

Current weather forecast indicates that Connecticut is projected to experience high winds along with this afternoon's rain event with then a forecast of below-zero wind chills over the weekend. Due to this forecast of severe weather, the Drinking Water Section encourages all community public water systems to be prepared. To note, the state has enacted its severe cold weather protocol beginning at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, December 23, 2022, and remaining in effect through 12:00 p.m. on Monday, December 26, 2022.

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

- Test 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 for possible use the template of a boil water advisory, in English & other languages deemed necessary to your service area, [Boil-Water-Notices-and-Advisories](#)
- Review emergency response plans, update phone numbers and emergency contact information
- Identify all 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
Local Health Directors



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