

Introduction to the Transient Non-Community Program

If you own a restaurant, gas station, convenience store, youth camp, other year round or seasonal business on well water that serves the public, or, you frequent these establishments...

You should know about Connecticut's "Transient Non-Community Public Water Systems"

What is a Public Water System?

The Connecticut Department of Public Health, (CTDPH) Drinking Water Section (DWS), regulates Public Water Systems. A Public Water System means any water company supplying water to 25 or more persons, daily at least 60 days of the year. The two Public Water System types are Community and Non-Community Public Water Systems.

Non-Community systems are broken down into two subcategories referred to as either Non-Transient or Transient systems.

Non-Transient, Non-Community systems are non-residential water systems that regularly serve 25 or more of the same people on a daily basis for at least 6 months per year such as schools, day care centers, and businesses employing more than 25 persons. Transient, Non-Community systems are non-residential water systems that serve 25 or more people, not necessarily the same people, on a daily basis for at least 60 days per year such as food service establishments, gas stations, highway rest areas, state parks, youth camps, and private campgrounds.

Working Cooperatively

The DWS is currently focusing attention on the transient, non-community systems. This focus involves assistance and cooperation from other state agencies, local health departments, town offices, transient, non-community property owners and often, the public that consumes water, or beverages made from water served at these establishments. Connecticut has an inventory exceeding 1,500 establishments.

The DWS also provides information regarding regulatory responsibilities to all Transient, Non-Community systems in our inventory. This information includes water quality monitoring and reporting requirements.

Why Test the Water?

A major element in providing protection to the public is testing of drinking water quality. Water quality testing must be performed by a state approved testing laboratory. For a list of approved laboratories please contact the

CTDPH, Laboratory Certification Program, at 860- 509-7389 or the DWS at 860-509-7333.

The DWS works closely with Public Water Systems to ensure that proper testing of the drinking water is performed on a regular basis:

Tests	How Often?
Total coliform bacteria	Every 3 months
pH, color, odor,	Every 3 months
Nitrate nitrogen	Once a year
Nitrite nitrogen	Once a year

For Your Protection

A Transient, Non-Community system’s historical water quality, vulnerability to contamination, and compliance with well construction regulations, play a factor in monitoring requirements. This helps to ensure the drinking water they provide to you is safe. Tests are performed for a variety of contaminants.

Failure to monitor and/or report these test results is a violation of the Public Health Code. In addition, Transient, Non-Community systems are required to report serious violations to the DWS after they have been notified of the violation by their testing laboratory. Also, the public must be notified of these acute violations.

Compliance with the monitoring requirements for a Public Water System is the responsibility of the owner of the water system. If a Public Water System owner rents or leases space to other businesses, the owner is still legally responsible to ensure the safety of the drinking water.

A Continued Commitment

The DWS staff maintains a commitment to work with all public water systems to provide information, and assistance regarding regulatory responsibilities. The DWS staff strives to ensure the water you drink is plentiful and of good quality, making Connecticut’s drinking water one of the safest in the Nation!

Any questions regarding Transient, Non-Community public drinking water regulations may be referred to the Drinking Water Section at (860) 509-7333.

Staff can provide you with answers regarding any of our programs, as well as provide water supply technical assistance. Contact one of the DWS Engineers, Planners, or Administrative Office for information. If you need to contact the CTDPH from 4:30 p.m.-8:30 a.m., we can be reached at 860-509-8000. Information can also be accessed at www.ct.gov/dphpublicdrinkingwater

To contact the Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791; or www.epa.gov; to learn more about the Safe Drinking Water Act, you can log on to EPA’s Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water at www.epa.gov/safewater/sdwa/sdwa.html.