

The Connecticut Division of Emergency Management & Homeland Security

Extreme Hot Weather Emergency Management Protocol



September 19, 2022





Emergency Management Mission: Coordinate, Collaborate, Integrate



- Connecticut operates under the State Response Framework:

Local

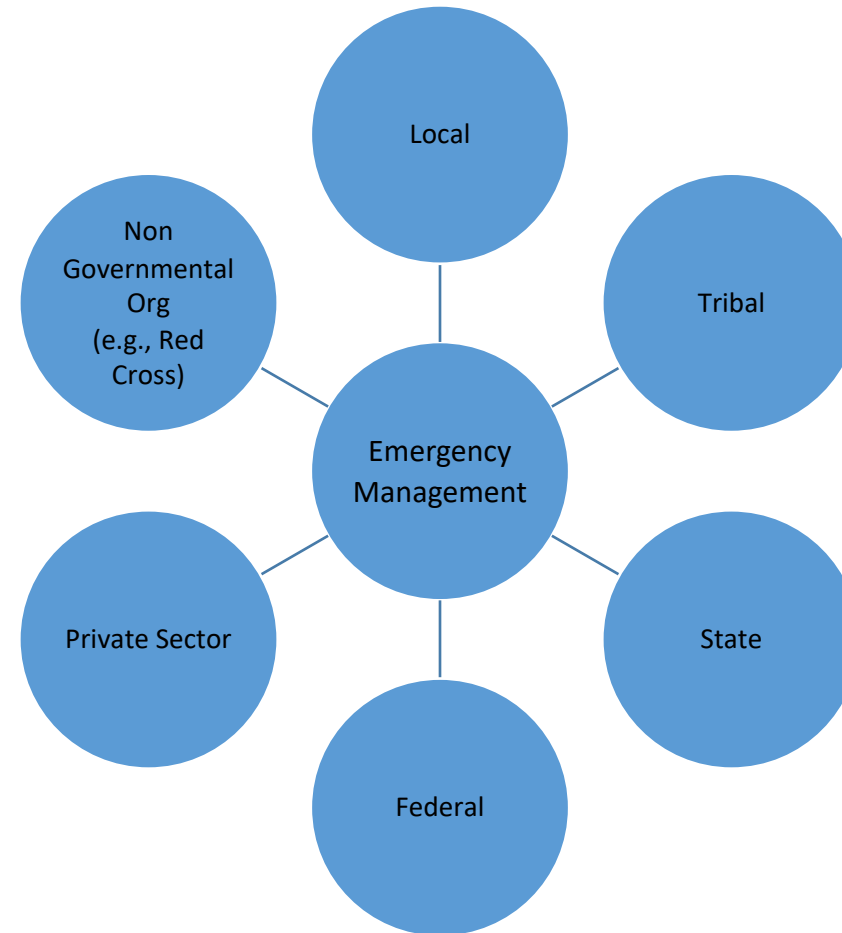
State

Tribal

Private Sector

Non Governmental

Federal





CT Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security



- Division of CT Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection
- Deputy Commissioner
- State Emergency Management Director
- State Fusion Center Director
- Units include:
 - Community Preparedness, Strategic Planning and Grants
 - Recovery
 - Hazard Mitigation and Resiliency
 - Training and Exercise
 - Operations and Logistics
 - Radiological Emergency Preparedness
 - CT Intelligence Center



State Response Framework

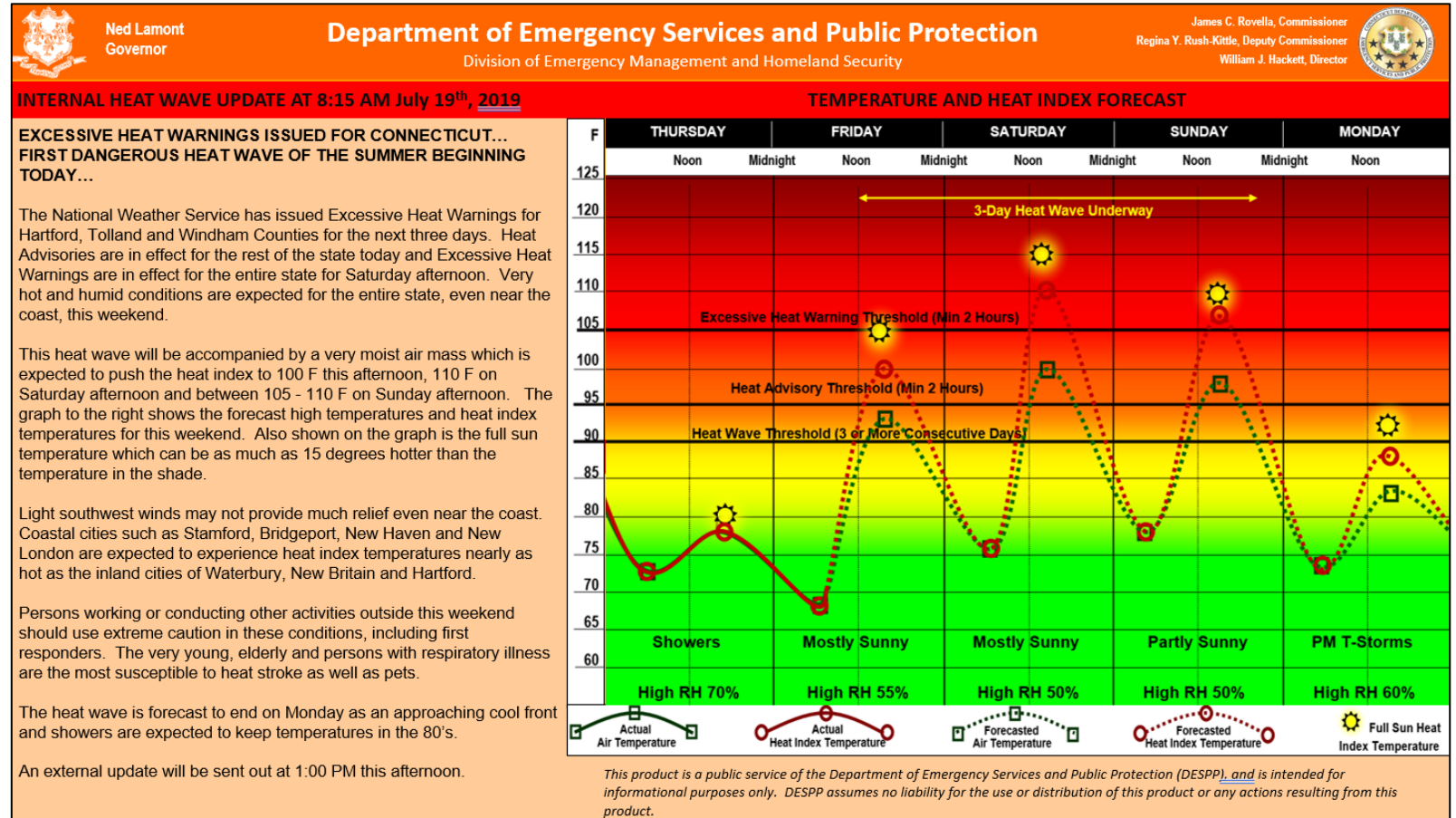
- Enhances coordination of emergency management partners through the development of an umbrella, all-hazards, structure--
- Version 4.2 July 2019 includes:
 - Functional Roles and Responsibilities of Federal, State, Tribal, Local, Regional, Non-Governmental, and Private Sector Partners
 - Governor's Emergency Operations Center Standard Operating Procedures
 - All-Hazards Preparedness Checklist
 - EOC Liaisons
 - Annexes, Appendices, and Emergency Support Function Plans



Extreme Heat Updates Issued By DEMHS



The Heat Wave Update shown to the right is sent out internally and then externally when a heat wave is forecast by the National Weather Service. The update contains a temperature and heat index graphical forecast along with a summary of the expected conditions. The update also mentions any warnings issued by the NWS.





Extreme Cold Weather and Extreme Hot Weather Protocols



- Standardization of the process used to help protect residents from extreme weather
- Extreme Cold Weather Protocol was developed in 2011, to “write down” a process that was already in place
- Cold Weather Protocol partners have include United Way 211, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Department of Social Services, Department of Housing, CT Coalition to End Homelessness, Municipalities....



Extreme Hot Weather Emergency Management Protocol

- Developed in 2021 in response to growing number of health-threatening heat waves
- DEMHS follows the State Response Framework and also follows the basic structure of the Severe Cold Weather Protocol, although some of the services that become available with the Cold Weather Protocol are not activated for heat.
- Whenever the forecasts show the potential for a heat wave (three consecutive days with highs above 90 F), he prepares an internal update for DEMHS. If the heat wave looks significant and Heat Advisories are issued by the NWS, he also prepares an external update that goes to most state agencies, the Governor's office as well as most towns. Once the planner sends out a forecast, DEMHS reviews for additional actions, which may include:
 - Governor's office notified of DEMHS recommendation to follow Extreme Heat Protocol;
 - Governor's office does press release



Extreme Hot Weather Emergency Management Protocol (cont'd)

- DEMHS sends email to towns;
- DEMHS requests that towns submit their cooling center information into WebEOC;
- PIO sends out social media alerts and also disseminates information to the ESF 15 Diverse Communities group to share with their contact lists;
- DEMHS contacts 211 to be ready to respond to calls re cooling centers;
- DEMHS Regional Coordinators and duty officer monitor WebEOC in order to respond to any requests from municipalities for assistance;
- DEMHS receives reports and updates from the energy utilities.