



Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection



Managing Your Chemicals Can Help You Weather the Storm

CT DEEP Tools to Prevent Chemical Pollution from Increased Flooding

October 21, 2020

Society for Women Environmental Professionals

Connie Mendolia, CT DEEP Pollution Prevention program

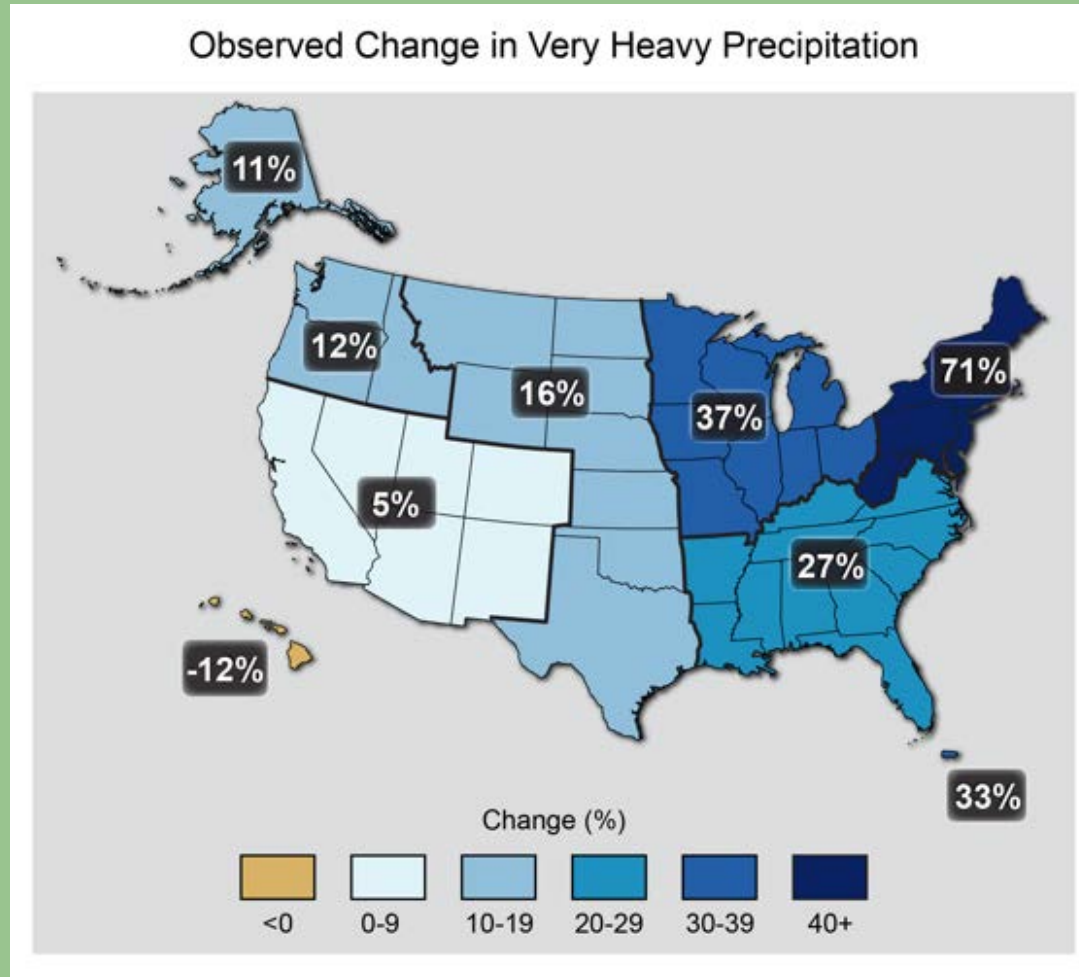
Diane Duva, CT DEEP State Emergency Response program



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Increase in Extreme Precipitation Events

(% change in last 50 years)



From National Climate Assessment and CIRCA website

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How Natural Hazards Impact Businesses

- According to FEMA: 40% of businesses affected by a disaster never reopen; 25% that do reopen fail.
- Other studies found: 90+% of businesses fail within 2 years of being struck by a disaster.
- Lessons Learned from Hurricane Harvey, TX 2017



CT DEEP P2 project overview

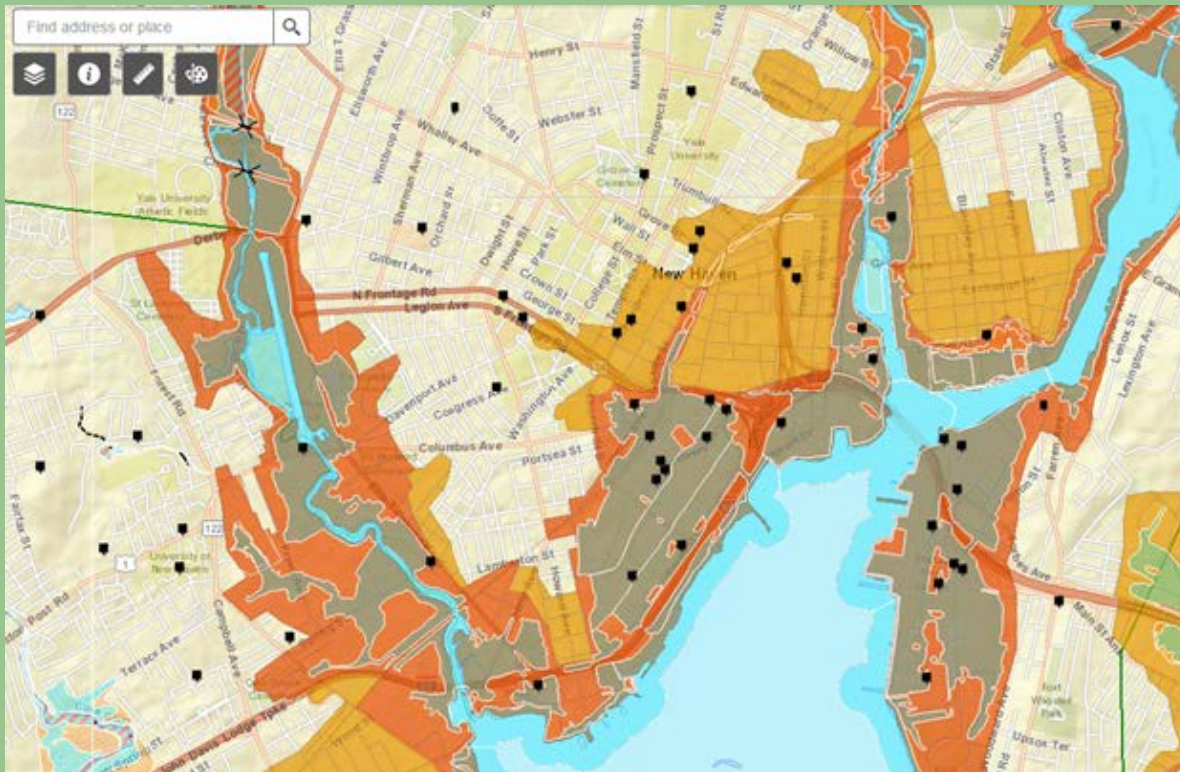
Goal:

- Help businesses be resilient to natural hazards and reduce the risk of on-site chemicals that could cause pollution.
- Accidental releases of toxic chemicals have also put communities and emergency responders at risk.
- **DEEP has developed a variety of guidance materials for business**
- US EPA Pollution Prevention Grant



CT Toxics Users & Climate Risk Viewer

Locate address on the map and find out if facility is in flood prone area



- EPCRA Tier II
- TRI
- RCRA
- National Flood Zones
- CT Hurricane Evacuation Zone
- Sea Level Rise

ct.gov/deep/CTToxicUsersMap



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DEEP's Outreach Materials for Businesses



THE RESILIENT 21ST CENTURY BUSINESS:

How Managing Chemicals Can Help Your Business Weather the Storm

Did you know?

40% of disaster-struck businesses **NEVER REOPEN**

25% of disaster-struck businesses that reopen eventually **FAIL**

90% of businesses without a plan **FAIL within 2 YEARS** post-disaster



The average National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) non-residential flood claim is almost \$90,000. Photo courtesy of The New London Day.

Do you have **hazardous materials, chemicals, or wastes** on site?

If so, then you may already be subject to regulatory requirements.

Extreme weather could put your business, employees, & local community at risk.

That's why it's important to **make your business resilient** in the face of natural disaster.

Here are some tools to help!

\$1 spent on hazard mitigation = \$6 saved on future disaster costs
National Institute of Building Sciences

Building your business was a big investment. Here's what you can do to protect it:

- 1 Understand the risks to your business & community.
 - 2 Know which chemicals your business has on site.
 - 3 "Floodproof" your storage of chemicals, & train employees on managing on-site chemical risks.
- Become a disaster-resilient, prepared business.**



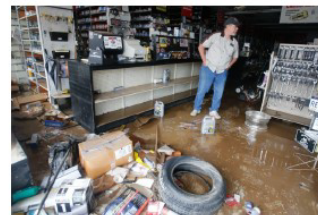
THE RESILIENT 21ST CENTURY BUSINESS:

How **Retailers & Service Providers** Can Manage Chemical Products to Weather the Storm

You may not realize that some products on your shelves or in your storage areas are **toxic** to humans & can **pollute** the environment.

Extreme weather could put your business & community **at risk**.

Here's how you can make your business **resilient** in the face of natural disaster.



The average National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) non-residential flood claim is almost \$90,000. Photo courtesy of CNN.

- 1 Understand the risks to your business, employees, customers, & community.
 - 2 Know which products you sell or use that contain chemicals.
 - 3 "Floodproof" your storage of those products.
- Become a disaster-resilient, prepared business.**

Consider the chemical products your business uses, stocks, or sells, such as:

- ◆ **Dry Cleaners & Laundromats**
 - Solvents & detergents
 - Spot cleaners
- ◆ **Beauty & Nail Salons**
 - Plasticizers
 - Solvents
 - Pigments & dyes
- ◆ **Hardware Stores**
 - Lawn & garden chemicals
 - Glues & adhesives
 - Road salt & de-icers
 - Paints & stains
 - Lubricants & degreasers
 - Propane tanks
 - Solvents
 - Pesticides
 - Cleaning products
- ◆ **Funeral Homes**
 - Preservative chemicals (formaldehyde, disinfectants, & dyes)
- ◆ **Gyms & Hotels**
 - Pool chemicals
 - Cleaning supplies
 - Winter de-icing chemicals
- ◆ **Landscaping & Pest Control**
 - Lawn chemicals
 - Fertilizers
 - Pesticides
- ◆ **Pharmacies**
 - Pharmaceuticals
 - First Aid items
 - Cleaning supplies
 - Lighter fluid
 - Hair dyes
 - Nail polish & remover

And many more!



Videos with Information from CT Businesses

Site-visits showing what changes they are making towards becoming disaster resilient.

- [U.S. Naval Subbase, Groton, CT, Disaster Resiliency - *Can Your Facility Weather the Storm?*](#)

Actions include elevating equipment and materials, using floodgates and having a plan of action.

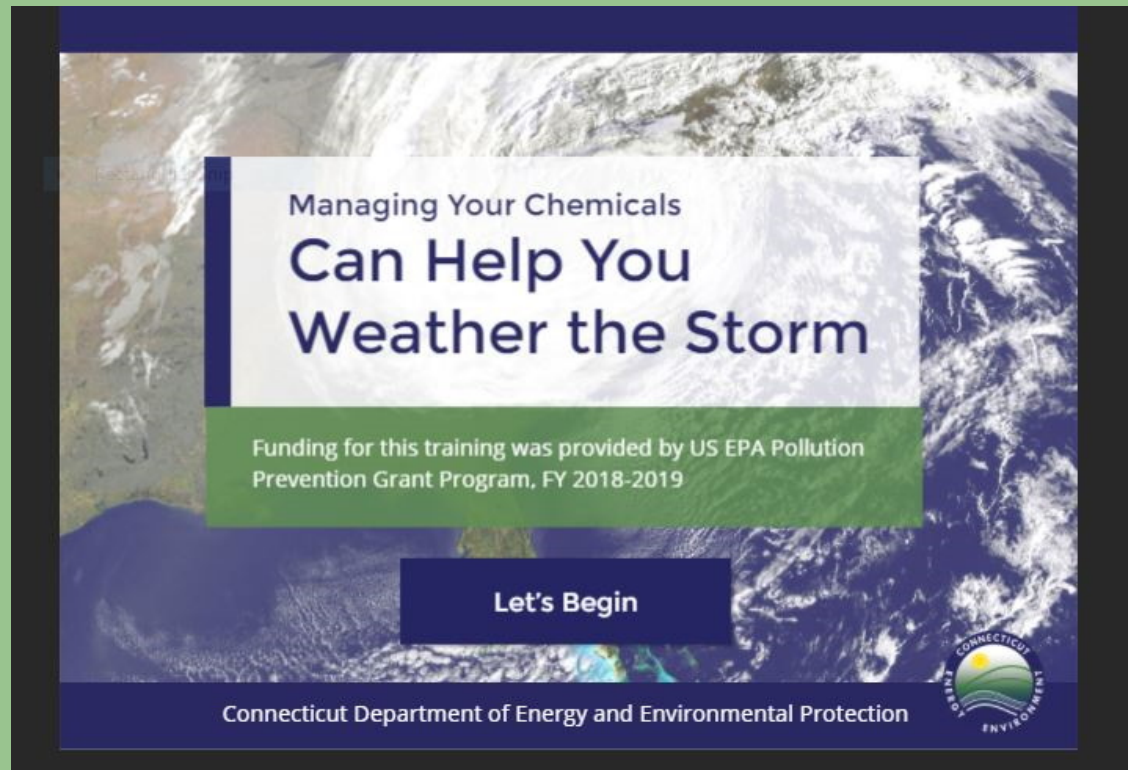
- [Marina and boat repair business located along CT's coast - *Can Your Business Weather the Storm?*](#)

Actions include a daily walk-through, connecting with local emergency responders and more.



Chemical Management & Climate Resilience Training

Free, online training – launched Sept 2020

A graphic for a training sign-up page. The background is a satellite image of Earth showing a storm system. Overlaid on this is a white box with the text "Managing Your Chemicals Can Help You Weather the Storm". Below this is a green box with the text "Funding for this training was provided by US EPA Pollution Prevention Grant Program, FY 2018-2019". At the bottom center is a dark blue button with the text "Let's Begin". At the bottom left is the text "Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection". At the bottom right is the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection logo, which features a sun, a green hill, and a blue wave, with the text "CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION" around it.

Managing Your Chemicals
Can Help You
Weather the Storm

Funding for this training was provided by US EPA Pollution
Prevention Grant Program, FY 2018-2019

Let's Begin

Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

[Link to the Training sign up page](#)



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CT DEEP Webpage

Chemical Management and Climate Resilience

The screenshot shows the DEEP website header with the logo and navigation options. A yellow banner contains a COVID-19 update. The main content area features a sidebar menu on the left and a central article titled "Chemical Management and Climate Resilience". The article includes a sub-header "TAKE ACTION • BECOME A DISASTER-RESILIENT, PREPARED BUSINESS" and three icons: a globe, a circular arrow, and a checkmark. The text discusses the importance of business resilience to natural hazards and provides a link to free on-line training.

Connecticut's Official State Website

Search Connecticut Government...

Language + Settings

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DEEP is continuing to carry out its mission and provide services while keeping both the public and our workforce safe during the COVID-19 pandemic. Click here for the latest updates on DEEP's response to COVID-19. [DEEP COVID-19 Response](#)

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by Keyword

Chemical Management and Climate Resilience

TAKE ACTION • BECOME A DISASTER-RESILIENT, PREPARED BUSINESS

CT's businesses can be prepared to "weather the storm"

Connecticut was hit with at least 5 major storms plus lesser weather events since 2010. It is important to make your business and property resilient to natural hazards and reduce the risk of on-site chemicals causing pollution. Storm events can result in property damage, loss of inventory, and environmental contamination and liability. Accidental releases of toxic chemicals have also put communities and emergency responders at risk. Working together, businesses and local emergency officials can increase awareness and take steps to reduce risk and protect human health and safety. Use the resources below to be better prepared.

1. Take CT DEEP's Free on-line Training

[The 21st Century Resilient Business: How Managing Chemicals Can Help Your Business Weather the Storm](#) - Use Key Name: **DEEP Resilience** to sign in.
Designed to help a variety of businesses, especially those in flood prone areas that use chemicals in

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/P2/Chemical-Management-and-Climate-Resilience/Chemical-Management-and-Climate-Resilience>



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Questions?

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P2 Chemical Management & Climate Resilience webpage:

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/P2/Chemical-Management-and-Climate-Resilience/Chemical-Management-and-Climate-Resilience>

