

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH
Acting Commissioner

Ned Lamont
Governor
Susan Bysiewicz
Lt. Governor

Environmental Health & Drinking Water Branch

DWS Circular Letter #2021-09

TO: Community Public Water Systems, Certified Operators

FROM: Lori Mathieu, Public Health Branch Chief

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lori J. Mathieu '21".

DATE: February 1, 2021

SUBJECT: Severe Weather Preparedness Reminder – Winter Storm

A major winter storm is expected to impact Connecticut Monday into Tuesday morning with heavy snow and high wind gusts. As a result, the DPH Drinking Water Section encourages all community public water systems to implement the following in preparation for storm impact:

- 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 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 emergency response plans, update phone numbers and emergency contact information
- Identify all critical water facilities, critical customers, and potential shelters in your service area
- Prepare to promptly communicate any service interruption to effected customers with special attention to critical health care facilities

You are reminded to report 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 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



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