

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH  
Acting Commissioner

Ned Lamont  
Governor  
Susan Bysiewicz  
Lt. Governor

Drinking Water Section

### DWS Circular Letter #2021-66

**TO:** Community Public Water Systems (serving >1000)  
**FROM:** Lori Mathieu, Public Health Branch Chief, EHDW *Lori J. Mathieu '21*  
**DATE:** August 26, 2021  
**SUBJECT:** Free Drought Response and Water Loss Workshop for Water Utilities

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On Thursday, September 23, 2021, a free 3.5-hour webinar will be held for medium to large public water utilities. This workshop is an opportunity for Connecticut's medium and large water utilities to share challenges, solutions, and lessons learned in drought response and water loss control. The workshop provides tools and resources that utilities can use to assess and control water loss and mitigate against drought impacts on water supply.

When: **Thursday, September 23, 2021**      **8:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

#### This workshop will specifically include:

- An overview of the U.S. Drought Monitor Map and how it relates to water systems
- An introduction to requirements of the Connecticut State Water Plan
- Examples of conservation strategies utilities from across the country are using
- Lessons learned illustrating drought response strategies implemented by Connecticut water utilities
- Water loss, water loss management and water audit basics

#### Who should attend?

- Medium and large drinking water utility operators and managers
- Technical assistance providers
- Water sector associations

Register online at:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/9187702095296252173>

See attached flyer and agenda

### SPONSORS

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- CT Department of Public Health
- CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
- Office of Policy and Management
- Water Planning Council



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If you have any question regarding this letter, please contact Steven Harkey of my staff at [Steven.Harkey@ct.gov](mailto:Steven.Harkey@ct.gov).

Thank you.

Cc: Heather Aaron, MPH, LNHA, Deputy Commissioner, DPH  
Certified Water Operators



## DROUGHT RESPONSE AND WATER LOSS WORKSHOP FOR WATER UTILITIES

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

**Attention:  
MEDIUM & LARGE  
WATER UTILITIES**

### **FREE DROUGHT WORKSHOP** for Connecticut's Medium & Large Water Utilities

**3.5-Hour Webinar • Thursday, September 23, 2021**

Connecticut suffered a brutal 46-week drought, spanning 2016 and 2017. At its worst, almost 70 percent of the state's drought condition was listed as extreme or severe, with the balance in a moderate drought. This workshop will provide medium and large water utilities with guidance, information, and lessons learned to enhance their ability to respond to future droughts affecting the state.

**0.35 CEUs will  
be available for  
participation**

#### **Workshop Overview**

This workshop is an opportunity for Connecticut's medium and large water utilities to share challenges, solutions and lessons learned in drought response and water loss control. The workshop provides tools and resources that utilities can use to assess and control water loss and mitigate against drought impacts on water supply. This workshop will specifically include:

- An overview of the U.S. Drought Monitor Map and how it relates to water systems
- An introduction to requirements of the Connecticut State Water Plan
- Examples of conservation strategies utilities from across the country are using
- Lessons learned illustrating drought response strategies implemented by Connecticut water utilities
- Water loss, water loss management and water audit basics

#### **Who Should Attend?**

- Medium and large drinking water utility operators and managers
- Technical assistance providers
- Water sector associations
- Local, state, and federal government agencies



**Credit hours** for water treatment and distribution may be available for participation (application pending)

#### **AGENDA**

Sign in to GoToWebinar	8:15 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.
Workshop	8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Optional – AWWA Water Audit Software Session	12:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

*Sponsored by Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH), Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), Connecticut Office of Policy and Management (OPM), Connecticut Water Planning Council, Atlantic States Rural Water & Wastewater Association (ASRWVA) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).*

**Register online at:**

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/9187702095296252173>.

If you have questions or need more information, please contact Alfredo Lagos (GDIT) [alfredo.lagos@gdit.com](mailto:alfredo.lagos@gdit.com)



## DROUGHT RESPONSE AND WATER LOSS WORKSHOP FOR WATER UTILITIES

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

### DROUGHT WORKSHOP for Connecticut's Medium and Large Water Utilities

Date: September 23, 2021

0.35 CEUs will be  
available for  
participation

#### Workshop Objectives

- Share challenges, solutions and lessons learned in drought and water loss control.
- Provide tools and resources that utilities can use to assess and control water loss and mitigate against drought impacts on water supply.
- Identify practical actions utilities can take to advance mitigation of drought impacts and water loss control in their communities.

#### Agenda

TIME	TOPIC
8:15 a.m.	<b>Participants Join GoToWebinar</b>
8:30 a.m.	<b>Virtual Workshop Logistics</b> <b>Alfredo Lagos, GDIT</b> Review of webinar logistics.
8:40 a.m.	<b>Opening Remarks and Workshop Overview</b> <b>Lori Mathieu, CT Department of Public Health (DPH)</b> <b>Jack Betkoski, Vice-Chairman, CT Public Utilities Regulatory Authority</b> <b>Dawn Ison, EPA</b> Welcome, opening remarks, and an overview of the virtual workshop objectives and agenda.
8:45 a.m.	<b>The U.S. Drought Monitor Map – What does it mean for public water systems?</b> <b>Jessica Spaccio, Climatologist - Northeast Regional Climate Center</b> An overview of what criteria are used to make the U.S. Drought Monitor Map and how it relates to public water systems.  <b>CT Drought Monitoring</b> <b>Eric Lindquist, Connecticut Office of Policy and Management</b> An overview of what criteria are used to establish CT drought stages.
9:15 a.m.	<b>Connecticut State Water Plan</b> <b>Lori Mathieu, DPH</b> Important requirements of the CT State Water Plan.

## DROUGHT RESPONSE AND WATER LOSS WORKSHOP FOR WATER UTILITIES

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

TIME	TOPIC
9:35 a.m.	<b>Irrigation Restrictions – Lessons Learned by a Connecticut Utility</b> <b>Jeff Ulrich, Aquarion Water Company</b> Overview of the conservation strategies conducted at the Aquarion Water Company.
9:55 a.m.	<b>Modeling Drought Resilience in a Connecticut Reservoir System - Lessons Learned by a Connecticut Utility</b> <b>John Hudak, Regional Water Authority and Casey Caldwell, Hazen and Sawyer</b> Overview of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority's use of a hydrologic model to assess impacts of upcoming Connecticut stream flow standards on safe yield and drought resiliency.
10:15 a.m.	<b>Break</b>
10:30 a.m.	<b>Understanding Water Loss</b> <b>Susan Butler, Jacobs</b> Introduction to water loss control and the use of water audits in identifying and controlling water losses in public water systems (e.g., leak detection).
11:20 a.m.	<b>How to Conduct a Water Audit</b> <b>Susan Butler, Jacobs</b> Presentation on how to gather appropriate data for conducting a water audit followed by a demonstration of the American Water Works Association (AWWA) Water Audit Tool using hypothetical system data.
11:50 a.m.	<b>Workshop Wrap-Up and Transition to Optional Large Group Session</b> <b>Dawn Ison, EPA</b> Review highlights from the day and participants can share thoughts about actions they can take to advance implementation of water loss control in their communities.
12:00 p.m.	<b>Optional Large Group Session with AWWA's Water Audit Tool</b> <b>Susan Butler, Jacobs</b> Interested participants can receive technical assistance on using AWWA's Water Audit Tool.
12:30 p.m.	<b>Adjourn</b>