

# Connecticut H<sub>2</sub>O Operator

A Newsletter for Certified Operators

The Connecticut Department of Public Health Drinking Water Section

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By Rachel Nowek, M.P.H., C.H.E.S., Health Program Associate, Capacity Development Unit

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) was signed into law on February 17, 2009. The Department of Public Health (DPH) received approximately \$19.5 million under Title VII: State and Tribal Assistance Grants of the ARRA to provide financial assistance in the form of subsidized loans for “shovel ready” public drinking water infrastructure projects. Approximately \$16.9 million of these funds will be made available to public water systems that meet existing Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) eligibility requirements.



The Drinking Water Section (DWS) received a total of 165 eligibility applications for approximately \$324 million in drinking water infrastructure projects. The ARRA requires that priority be given to projects that will be ready to proceed to actual construction within 12 months of the February 17, 2009 date of enactment. Preference shall also be given to activities that can be started and completed expeditiously, including a goal of using at least 50% of the funds for activities that can be initiated not later than 120 days after enactment of the ARRA. The DWS ranked and prioritized the ARRA eligibility applications consistent with criteria established for DPH’s base DWSRF Program in combination with construction readiness and green project goals established under the ARRA. The key criteria used in the ranking process were:

### To Report a Water-Related Emergency...

**CALL (860) 509-7333**

(M-F 8:30a.m.-4:30p.m.)

OR...

**CALL (860) 509-8000**

(After Hours)



- ◆ Construction readiness
- ◆ Meeting green project goals
- ◆ Enhancing public health protection
- ◆ Achieving compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act
- ◆ Addressing economic need and infrastructure sustainability.

Visit the DWS webpage at [www.ct.gov/dph/publicdrinkingwater](http://www.ct.gov/dph/publicdrinkingwater) for more information on ARRA public drinking water infrastructure project requirements and to view the finalized ARRA Priority List.



## Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule

By: Christopher Roy, Supervising Sanitary Engineer, Information Systems Unit

The Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts (DBP) Rule (Stage 2) applies to community water systems and non-transient non-community water systems that either add a primary or residual disinfectant other than ultraviolet light, or deliver water that has been treated with a primary or residual disinfectant other than ultraviolet light. Systems are required to complete an Initial Distribution System Evaluation to characterize DBP levels in their distribution systems and identify locations to monitor DBPs for Stage 2 compliance. The following table indicates the important milestones and due dates during the upcoming year and beyond:

Schedule	Systems Serving:	Complete IDSE SM or SSS By:	Submit IDSE Report (only SM or SSS) by:
1	≥ 100,000	Sept. 30, 2008	Jan. 1, 2009
2	50,000–99,999	Mar. 31, 2009	July 1, 2009
3	10,000–49,999	Sept. 30, 2009	Jan. 1, 2010
4	< 10,000 (CWS)	Mar. 31, 2010	July 1, 2010

Schedule for systems in a combined distribution system is based on that of the largest system in the combined distribution system.

More information on the Stage 2 Disinfectants and DBP Rule and required reporting forms can be found on the Drinking Water Section's web site at [www.ct.gov/dph/publicdrinkingwater](http://www.ct.gov/dph/publicdrinkingwater). If you have any questions regarding these requirements please contact Christopher Roy of the Information Systems Unit at 860-509-7333.



## An Invitation to Join CtWARN!

By: Thomas Chaplik, CtWARN Steering Committee

On behalf of your utility, please consider this article as an invitation to join the CT Water & Wastewater Agency Response Network (CtWARN). As utility managers, our job responsibility requires us to provide high quality and reliable public water and wastewater services which are vital to our communities within the state. The mission of the CtWARN is to support and promote statewide emergency preparedness, disaster response, and mutual assistance matters for public and private water and wastewater utilities.

CtWARN has been in existence since January 2008 and currently has fourteen member utilities. They are:

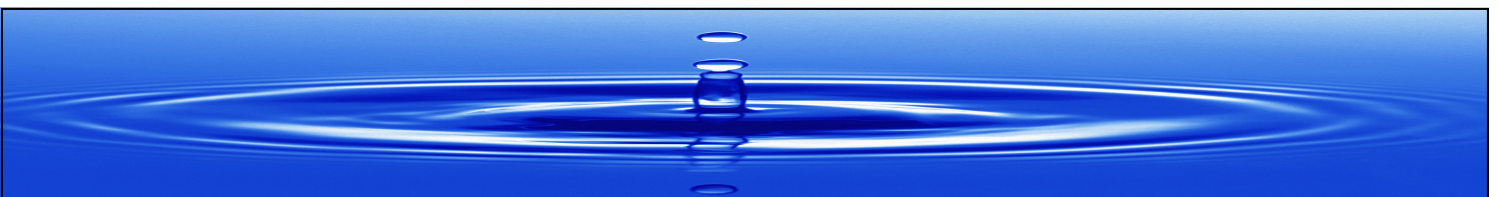
1. Aquarion Water Company of Connecticut
2. Candlewood Shores Water District
3. Colchester Sewer and Water Commission
4. Connecticut Correctional Institute
5. Connecticut Water Company
6. Greater New Haven Water Pollution Control Authority
7. Montville Correctional Complex
8. Norwich Public Utilities
9. Portland Water Department
10. South Central CT Regional Water Authority
11. Simsbury Water Pollution Control Facility
12. Southington Water Department
13. Wallingford Department of Public Utilities
14. Windham Water Pollution Control Facility



The tools used to sustain the CtWARN include (1) the Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement which provides the structure for each member utility to address administrative issues prior to the occurrence of an incident requiring mutual assistance and (2) the Web Site which provides the resource information database that the member utility will be able to use to match its emergency need for equipment or experienced personnel with the resources available from responding members.

An example of the ongoing effort to strengthen CtWARN, the member utilities will be participating in a tabletop exercise later in 2009. The exercise involves a hypothetical earthquake that affects geographically contiguous CT utility members. Other activities are also being planned by the CtWARN Steering Committee and this effort is consistent with the nation-wide coordination of mutual aid and assistance where there are now thirty-six state WARNs with official recognition.

If you need a CtWARN presentation for your governing board or general manager, please contact Pam Monahan ([ctawwa@snet.net](mailto:ctawwa@snet.net) or 203-757-1855), Rachel Nowek ([Rachel.Nowek@ct.gov](mailto:Rachel.Nowek@ct.gov) or 860-509-7333), or Tom Chaplik ([tchaplik@rwater.com](mailto:tchaplik@rwater.com) or 203-562-4020). You can also visit [CtWARN.org](http://CtWARN.org) on the internet to obtain a better understanding of how your utility can participate in and benefit from **this free and voluntary network**, which helps us serve our communities.



## New Water Operator Responsibility Guidance Documents

By: Bill Sullivan, Sanitary Engineer 2, Enforcement and Certification Unit

The DWS, which administers the certification of water system operators, routinely receives requests from water systems regarding the responsibilities of certified operators. To respond to these requests the DWS has completed the revision and development of the operator responsibility guidance documents for each of the following water operator certification types and class levels: Small Water System Operator, Class I & II Treatment Operator, Class II & III Treatment Operator and Class I, II & III Distribution System Operator. These documents are now located on the DWS web page: [www.ct.gov/dph/publicdrinkingwater](http://www.ct.gov/dph/publicdrinkingwater). A work group made up of both water industry and regulatory officials developed these documents with the intent of assisting water system owners and operators in the completion of all necessary tasks to ensure compliance with the RCSA and safe operation of public water systems. These lists reflect the minimum level of technical expertise required to operate and maintain public water systems safely.

### PICTURE QUIZ:

#### Question:

**What does Public Health Code Section 19-13-B102(f)(5)(A) require in regards to overflows?**

#### Answer:

**In relevant part, it states: "Finished water storage tanks, basins and clearwells shall be properly constructed in a sanitary manner to prevent stormwater and precipitation from entering; and vents and overflows shall be provided and suitably protected and screened to prevent entry of insects, birds or other foreign matter. Overflow pipes shall not be directly connected to sanitary sewers or to storm drainage systems."**

**One way that overflows can be protected in with the use of "duckbill" type valves as shown in the photo. The purpose of overflows is to prevent structural damage to tank if altitude valve, pump-off control, etc. fails. Overflows should be sized properly.**



## Training Registration Information

All training registrations must be completed on the Training Finder Real-time Affiliate Integrated Network (TRAIN). TRAIN is a training resource for professionals who protect the public's health. Visit the TRAIN web site <https://ct.train.org/DesktopShell.aspx> to create a free user account and view upcoming certified operator events.

Be sure to check out the DWS's web site, [www.ct.gov/dph/publicdrinkingwater](http://www.ct.gov/dph/publicdrinkingwater) for the latest information on trainings, events, and more! If you have any questions or would like to contribute to the newsletter, please contact Vicky Carrier via email at [vicky.carrier@ct.gov](mailto:vicky.carrier@ct.gov).

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