



REGULATORY SERVICES BRANCH DRINKING WATER SECTION

Select Connecticut Statutes and Regulations for the Protection of Public Drinking Water Sources

High Quality Source List: Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) Section 25-33q requires that the commissioner of public health produce a list which designates current and future potential public water supply sources statewide which require protection to ensure that high quality source waters are available for human consumption. The list is published on the Drinking Water Section's website.

Water Company Lands: CGS Section 25-32 requires that a water company receive a permit from the commissioner of public health to sell, lease assign or change the use of any water company land and provides restrictions for the sale of water company land and allowable and prohibited uses of water company land.

Prohibition of Sewage Discharge: Since 1971, CGS Section 22a-417 prohibits sewage discharge within a public water supply watershed area.

Sanitation of Watersheds: The Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA) Section 19-13-B32 et. seq. protects the sanitary quality of public drinking water supply sources by mandating various separating distances from sources of pollution, prohibiting the disposal of certain materials as waste, restricting the application of fertilizers and sodium chloride and providing for special protections for stream quality during construction activities within areas tributary to both surface and ground water sources of public drinking water supply.

Watershed Survey: RCSA Section 19-13-B102(b) requires a water company having an active water source of supply under its control to conduct a sanitary survey of the watershed at least annually and report the results of this survey to the DPH by March 1st each year.

Threat of Pollution: CGS Section 25-34(a) provides DPH with the authority to make orders as it deems necessary to protect public drinking water sources or ice supplies for any pollution or threatened pollution, which, in its judgment is prejudicial to public health.

Orders To Correct Pollution: CGS Section 25-32g allows, after investigation, the issuance of orders in writing to any person to discontinue, abate, alleviate or correct conditions or activities that constitutes an immediate threat to public water supplies.

Injunction against Injury to Water Supply Source: CGS Section 25-51 provides water companies, local health departments and their agents the authority to enter and inspect premises within public water supply source areas.

Watershed Prohibitions, Fishing, Passive Recreation and Penalties for Polluting a Reservoir: CGS Sections 25-43, 25-43c and 43(a) prohibit and regulate specific activities on public water supply reservoirs and associated watersheds and allows passive recreation on both surface and ground water source areas through a permitting process.

Location of Cemeteries: CGS Section 25-41 prohibits the location of cemeteries within one-half mile of a public water supply reservoir.

Permit for New Discharges: CGS Section 22a-430(b) restricts the siting of alternative sewage treatment systems within public water supply watersheds.

Construction or Expansion of a Water Supply System or a Proposed New Source of Water Supply:

CGS Section 25-33(b) requires that a public water system control a proposed new source of water supply's sanitary radius and minimum setback as required by the RCSA and that such ownership or control shall continue to be maintained as specified in such regulation.

Aquifer Protection Area Statutes and Regulations: CGS Sections 22a-354a through bb and RCSA Sections 22a-354i-1 through 10 outline mapping procedures and land use controls to be established in areas tributary to certain ground water sources that serve over 1000 people to minimize potential contamination of the well fields. The regulations restrict development of new land use activities that use, store, handle or dispose of hazardous materials and require existing uses of this type to register with either the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection or the local Aquifer Protection Agency.

Notification to a Water Company and DPH for Projects In A Source Water Area: CGS Section 8-3i requires an applicant to either the municipal planning and zoning commission, zoning board of appeals to notify the water company and the DPH of the proposed development if this proposal is within a water company's public water supply watershed area or aquifer protection area. CGS Section 22a-42f is a similar notification process that applies to projects within public water supply watersheds that are before inland wetlands commissions.

Review of Projects in a Watershed by the DPH: CGS Section 25-32f allows the commissioner of public health to provide testimony to any municipal board or commission on any proposed municipal plan of conservation and development or zoning regulations or proposed development projects within public water supply source water areas.

Local Governmental Consideration of Public Drinking Water Sources: CGS Sections 8-2 and 8-23 require that a municipal plan of conservation and development and zoning regulations are made with consideration for the protection of existing and potential public surface and ground drinking water supplies.

Individual Water Supply Plans: CGS Section 25-32d requires water companies that serve over 1000 people to produce long term water supply plans in which the water company must plan for adequate supply to meet projected demand for the next fifty years including an evaluation of source water protection measures. Plans have a required section on source water protection including providing an update to the 2003 SWAP assessment reports.

Regional Water Supply Plans: CGS Sections 25-33d through 25-33j mandate water supply planning on a regional basis. Regulations detail the creation of the regional water supply plan. Individual water supply plans are a part of this regional process.

Source Abandonment: CGS Sections 25-33k, 25-33l and 25-33m regulate the sale and abandonment of public water supply sources.

For More Information Contact the DPH Drinking Water Section's Source Water Protection Unit

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