

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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Acting Commissioner



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Governor  
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Lt. Governor

### ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND DRINKING WATER BRANCH

#### DWS Circular Letter# 2020-87

**TO:** Community Public Water Systems  
**FROM:** Lori J. Mathieu, Public Health Branch Chief  
**DATE:** December 16, 2020  
**SUBJECT:** Severe Weather Preparedness Reminder – Winter Storm

Handwritten signature of Lori J. Mathieu, dated 2020.

As you may have heard, a major winter storm is expected to impact Connecticut Wednesday night into Thursday morning and for the latest forecast updates visit <https://www.spc.noaa.gov/>. As a result, the Drinking Water Section encourages all community water systems to do the following in preparation for the storm's impacts:

- Test the 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 the emergency response plans, update phone numbers and emergency contact information
- Identify all of your critical water facilities, critical customers and potential shelters in your service area

You are reminded to report any and 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 a 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



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