

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



Raul Pino, M.D., M.P.H.  
Commissioner

Dannel P. Malloy  
Governor  
Nancy Wyman  
Lt. Governor

### Drinking Water Section

DWS Circular Letter #2017-09

TO: Chief Operators of Community Public Water Systems (CPWS)

FROM: Lori Mathieu, Public Health Section Chief, Drinking Water Section (DWS)

Handwritten signature of Lori Mathieu in blue ink.

DATE: September 8, 2017

RE: Emergency Preparedness Reminder to Chief Operators

As we witnessed the devastation across Eastern Texas due to Hurricane Harvey and the preparation in the State of Florida for the approaching Hurricane Irma, the Department of Public Health – Drinking Water Section (DWS) encourages Chief Operators of CPWS(s), in preparation of possible storm impact here in Connecticut, to do the following:

- Adhere to the alerts provided by the National Weather Service: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov>;
- Review the emergency response plans, update phone numbers and emergency contact information;
- Be prepared to issue boil water advisories as discussed in the following DWS document “**BOIL WATER ADVISORIES FOR PWS OWNERS/OPERATORS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)**”: [http://www.ct.gov/dph/lib/dph/drinking\\_water/pdf/Boil\\_Water\\_Advisory.pdf](http://www.ct.gov/dph/lib/dph/drinking_water/pdf/Boil_Water_Advisory.pdf);
- Review the DWS’s document entitled “**Flood and Storm Water Advisory for Public Water Systems**”: [http://www.ct.gov/dph/lib/dph/drinking\\_water/pdf/Flood\\_and\\_Storm\\_Water\\_Advisory\\_for\\_Public\\_Water\\_System.pdf](http://www.ct.gov/dph/lib/dph/drinking_water/pdf/Flood_and_Storm_Water_Advisory_for_Public_Water_System.pdf);
- Review helpful documents and other resources available on the following DWS websites: <http://www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3139&q=387336> <http://www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3139&q=387310>
- Test the backup power generators under load and top off associated fuel tanks, and
- Visit and exercise all your emergency interconnections and ensure that all valves and necessary pumps are in good working order.

Also, please check your email for messages from the CT DPH. Depending on the severity of a storm’s impact, this office may request (via email) Chief Operators to summarize the operational status of each of their designated CPWS.

You are reminded to report any and all emergency incidents (loss of pressure, infrastructure failures, flooding, storm damage, facility access problems, etc.) to your local Emergency Management Directors, DEMHS Regional Coordinators and the Department of Public Health as soon as practical and by whatever means available. The Department of Public Health – Drinking Water Section can be reached at 860-509-7333 during normal business hours (8:00AM – 4:30PM) or 860-509-8000 after-hours and holidays.

Cc: Local Health Directors  
Yvonne Addo, DPH Deputy Commissioner



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