

# 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# 2023-11

**TO:** Community Public Water Systems

**FROM:** Lori J. Mathieu, Public Health Branch Chief *Lori J. Mathieu*

**DATE:** March 13, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Severe Weather Alert and Preparedness Reminder

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Current weather forecast indicates that Connecticut is projected to experience rain, snow, wind and possible power outage. Due to this forecast of severe weather, the Drinking Water Section encourages all community public water systems to be prepared.

The Drinking Water Section encourages all community water systems to conduct the following in preparation for the storm's impacts:

- Test 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 for possible use the template of a boil water advisory, in English & other languages deemed necessary to your service area, [Boil-Water-Notices-and-Advisories](#)
- Review emergency response plans, update phone numbers and emergency contact information
- Identify all 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 Lisa Morrissey, MPH - Department of Public Health  
Local Health Directors



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