

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Manisha Juthani, MD
Commissioner



Ned Lamont
Governor
Susan Bysiewicz
Lt. Governor

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND DRINKING WATER BRANCH

DWS Circular Letter# 2023-41

TO: Community Public Water Systems and Certified Water Operators

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

DATE: September 12, 2023

SUBJECT: Severe Weather Alert and Preparedness Reminder

As September moves into the peak of hurricane season, the Drinking Water Section encourages all community public water systems to assess their preparedness for emergencies.

The Drinking Water Section encourages all community water systems to conduct the following in preparation for potential storm 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.

cc. Deputy Commissioner Lisa Morrissey, Department of Public Health
Local Health Directors



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