CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT of PUBLIC HEALTH DRINKING WATER SECTION

Welcome to the 2017 Watershed Inspector Training

at

The Metropolitan District Training Center
Lori J. Mathieu
Public Health Section Chief
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Drinking Water Section Responsibilities

Drinking Water Section

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- 50 Staff
- Protect Public Health of CT residents and visitors that consume public drinking water
- Responsible for the purity and adequacy oversight statewide for all public water systems
- Work to proactively prevent impacts to public health

- Regulates 2,550 Public
 Water Systems
- 2.8 Million Connecticut Residents Served
- 550 Community Systems
- 2,000 Non-community Systems
- 150 Reservoir systems
- 4,000 Ground Water Sources





State Planning and Source Water Protection

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State Water Plan 5 Most Important Messages:

- **PLAN FUNCTION:** The Plan is not an answer, but a platform for consistent, informed decision making.
- MAINTAIN HIGHEST QUALITY DRINKING WATER: The Plan reaffirms the state's dedication to the highest standard of drinking water quality in the nation (Class A).
- **BALANCE:** Many river basins in Connecticut cannot satisfy all instream and out-of-stream needs all the time. The Plan offers ideas for understanding and improving this balance.
- CONSERVATION: While Connecticut leads the nation in protections of drinking water quality, the State lags in its water conservation ethic. Outreach that builds on utility initiatives is one of the most important recommendations in this Plan.
- MAINTAIN SCIENTIFIC DATA: The plan advocates for the collection and use of scientific data, as well as centralized access to it.

Water Utility Coordinating Committee

- **WUCC:** Three Regions, Eastern, Central and Western
- **INTENT:** to "maximize efficient and effective development of the state's public water supply systems and to promote public health, safety and welfare."
- MODULE #4 OF COORDINATED PLAN: SOURCE PROTECTION
 - Where You Fit into the Plan
 - Protection for Surface Water Supplies can cover a small area or a very large area spanning multiple jurisdictions
 - Watershed protection for large systems typically includes regular inspections and site walks to check for septic system failures and dumping on watershed land
 - Water Utilities and Councils of Government working together to solve cross-jurisdictional challenges





Watershed Inspectors are the first line of public health protection and have been for nearly 100 years

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