

Welcome to the 2018 CT Private Well Conference!

CT Department of Public Health
Environmental Health Section

Opening Remarks & Private Well Program Overview



Connecticut Department of Public Health
Keeping Connecticut Healthy



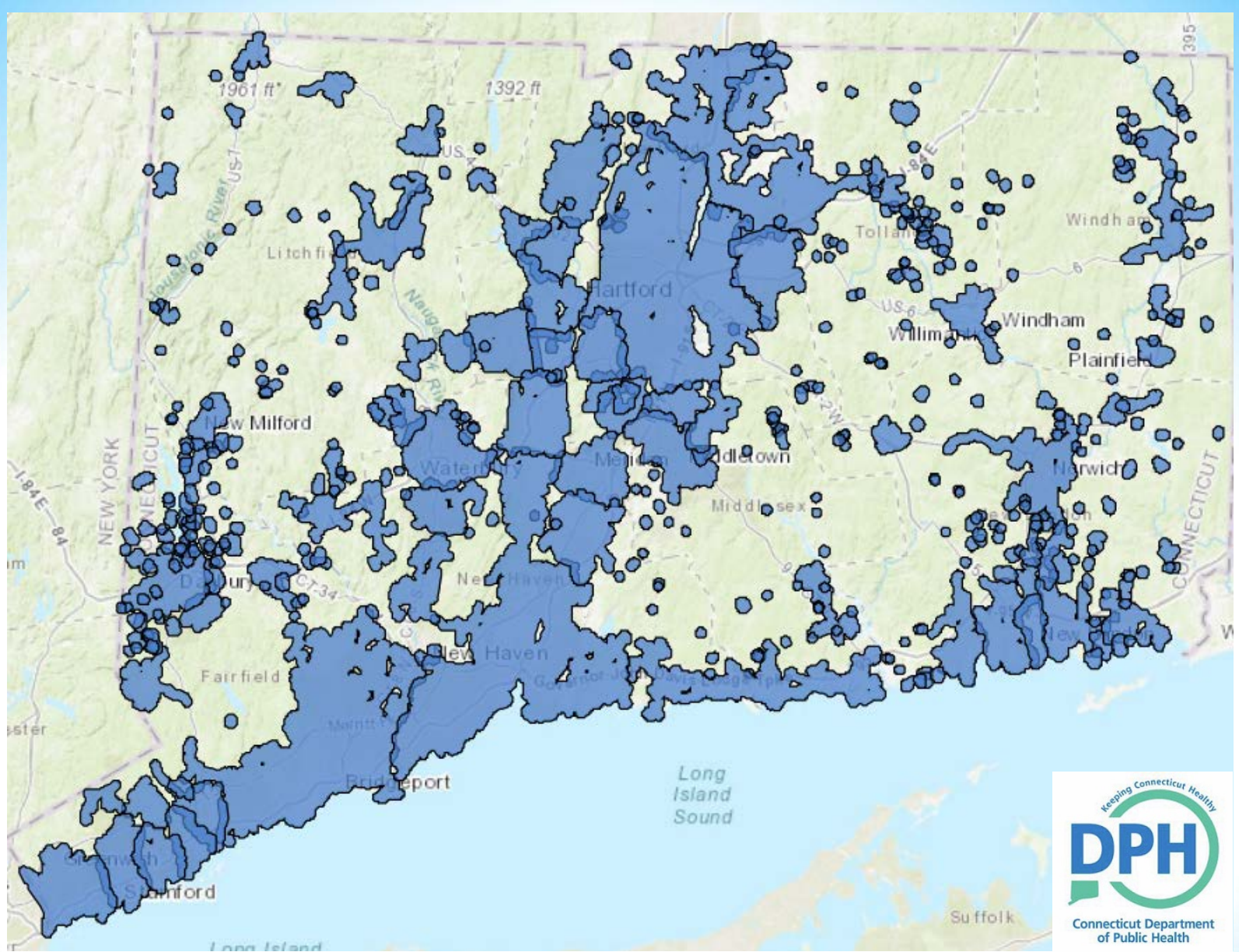
Welcome to the 2018 CT Private Well Conference!

Brought To You By:

- ✓ CT Private Well Task Force
- ✓ CT DPH, Environmental Health (Private Well Program)
- ✓ Funded in part by an agreement with the National Center for Environmental Health, U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) **to reduce drinking water exposures for unregulated water supplies (*private wells*)**

A special **THANK YOU** to the CT WATER WELL ASSOCIATION (*a task force member*) for graciously providing lunch today!



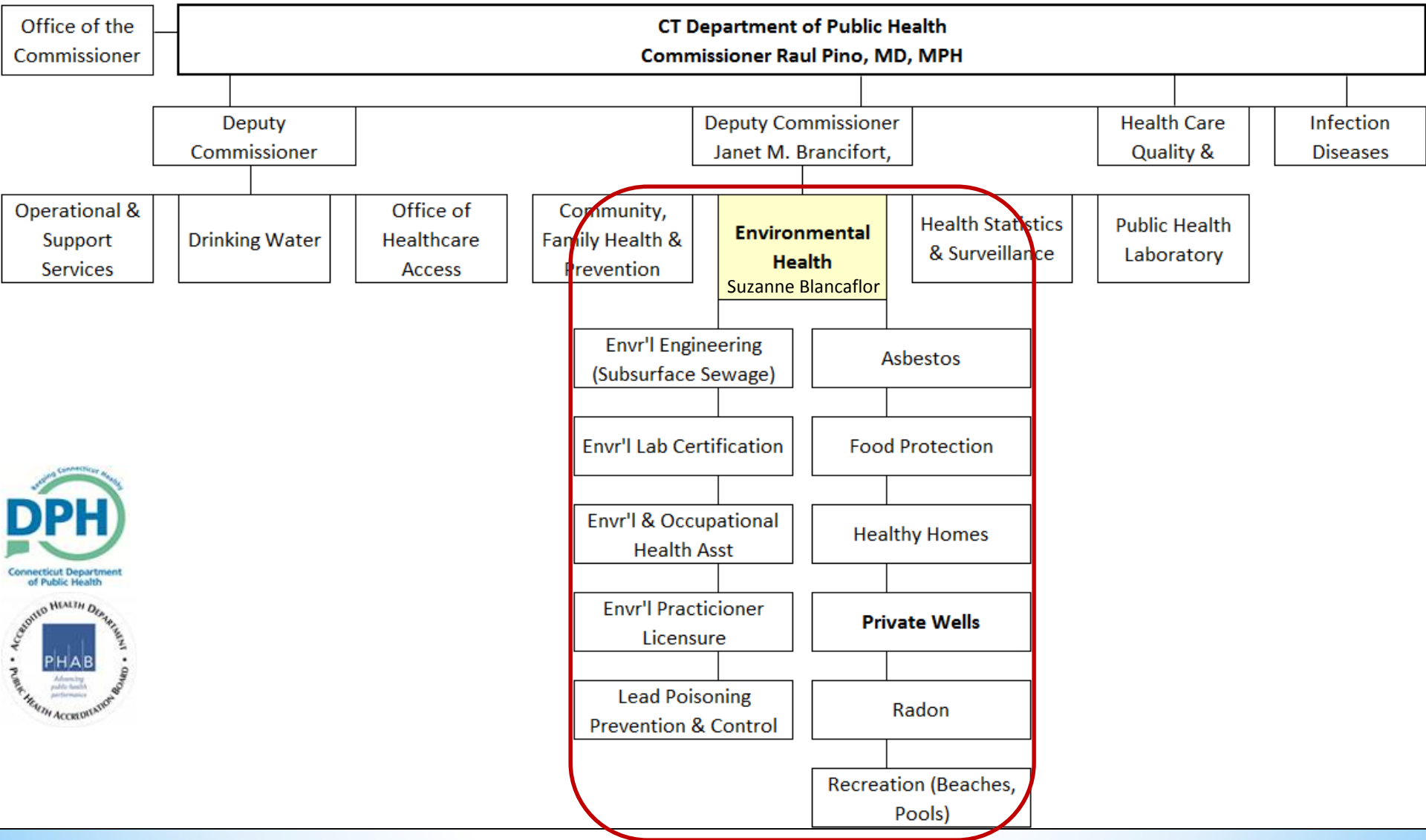


Approximately 23% of Connecticut's population is supplied by a private well

- ✓ Unshaded locations indicate where private wells are



Overview of the Private Well Program: CT DPH – Environmental Health Section





Overview of the Private Well Program: What We Do – CDC Private Well Grant

Environmental Health Services Support for Public Health Drinking Water Programs to Reduce Drinking Water Exposures

- ◆ Cooperative Agreement September 2015 – September 2020
- ◆ Focused on **unregulated** water supplies, private wells

Major Activities:

- ◆ Private Well Water Fair Events in coordination with CT Local Health Departments, targeted to specific private well areas of the State
- ◆ Working with USGS to map collected study data on arsenic & uranium
- ◆ CT Private Well Task Force
- ◆ Training, Outreach, Publications, Fact Sheets, Research...





CT Private Well Task Force

- ✓ Created in 2016 by the CT DPH, Private Well Program (*CDC grant initiative*)
- ✓ First meeting held in March 2016
- ✓ Collaborate on matters related to private wells: laws, regs, policies, treatment, construction, outreach & education, training needs for professionals, etc.
- ✓ Intent: to improve communication, education & outreach among the organizations, private well owners and users
- ✓ Comprised of 14 associations and programs that work with private wells in different capacities in CT
- ✓ The first CT private well conference was held last year, as an outcome of the Task Force's work

Overview of the Private Well Program: What Do We Do?

Provide technical assistance to private well owners; local health professional, private well industry professionals and others like real estate professionals.

Technical assistance topics may include:

- ✓ Applicable private well related sections of the Public Health Code (B51, B101...) and CT General Statutes
- ✓ Interpretation of water quality results 
- ✓ Appropriate action to take when there is a problem
- ✓ Treatment options for different contaminants
- ✓ Water quantity issues 





Overview of the Private Well Program: What Do We Do?

Outreach and Education: targeted at both private well owners & users, and professionals working in a private well related field.

Outreach may include:

- ✓ Events for private well owners & users; to promote testing, general maintenance of private wells, etc.
- ✓ Training events for professionals: treatment, contaminants, well construction, how to handle potential problems (the Protocol), etc.
- ✓ We partner with CT DPH, EOHA to cover more in depth health affects when needed

Overview of the Private Well Program: What Do We Do?

Create and make available educational materials use by private well owners and users, and private well water professionals

Educational materials include:

- ✓ Publication #24: Private Well Water Testing
- ✓ Private Well Water Systems: Best Management Practice Checklist
- ✓ Private Well Water Treatment: How to Get Started and Helpful Resources

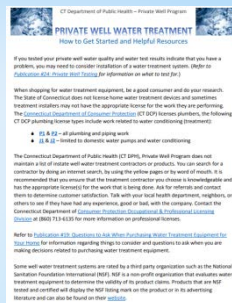
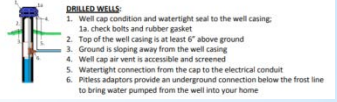


Private Well Water Systems in Connecticut: Best Management Practice Checklist

Connecticut, there are currently no maintenance requirements for private well water systems. Private well owners are responsible for the quality of their private well water and maintenance of their well water systems. Poorly maintained well water systems can act as a conduit for pollutants to enter your home drinking water.

Proper maintenance and operation of your well water system is an essential component to obtaining the water quality supplied by your well. Even with proper maintenance, well water system equipment will eventually need repair or replacement. Consider performing the following items to be proactive in promoting the health and longevity of your well water supply system:

- Test the quality of your well water; refer to [Publication #24, Private Well Testing](#)
- Keep the area around your well accessible
- Limit activities around your well that may contaminate your water supply, such as over applying fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides and store these products in watertight containers or in secondary containment
- Keep hazardous chemicals, such as paint, lawn chemicals, or other chemicals away from your well and store these products in watertight containers or in secondary containment
- Be aware of local land use activities that may affect your well water quality
- At least annually, inspect the exposed well casing and the area around it:
 - ✓ Is the exposed well steel casing in good shape?
 - Look for cracks, holes or signs of corrosion
 - ✓ Is the well cap watertight?
 - Check bolts, rubber gasket, seals
 - ✓ If there is an electrical conduit at the well cap, is it watertight?
 - ✓ Is the top of your well casing at least six inches above the ground?
 - ✓ Does the ground around the well casing slope away from the casing?



Overview of the Private Well Program: What Do We Do?

Partner and work with those in the private well field

- ✓ Facilitation of the Private Well Task Force, meets on a quarterly basis
- ✓ Work with CT DEEP and Local Health Departments when specific problems are identified or are probable
- ✓ Work with the well water industry and local and state agencies to help identify problems and work toward possible changes to regulations and statutes



Overview of the Private Well Program



NEW Private Well Program Phone Number:

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