

February 17, 2023

Chairpersons and Ranking Members of the Energy and Technology Committee
Chairpersons and Ranking Members of the Environment Committee
Chairpersons and Ranking Members of the Planning and Development Committee
Chairpersons and Ranking Members of the Public Health Committee

Subject: Report on Water Planning Council Activities and Work Plan for 2023

Dear Chairs and Ranking Members:

Attached please find the Water Planning Council's (WPC's) report on the status of the development and implementation of the Connecticut State Water Plan pursuant to Section 22a-352(g) of the Connecticut General Statutes.

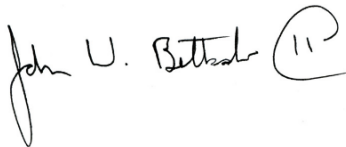
On June 5, 2019, the Connecticut General Assembly passed [House Joint Resolution No. 171](#) approving Connecticut's first State Water Plan. The Plan aims to balance the needs of public water supply, economic development, recreation, and ecological health.

This report, prepared in accordance with section 11-4a of the Connecticut General Statutes, describes the status of the implementation of the Plan; the WPC's recommendations for critical actions to achieve continued successful implementation of the Plan; ongoing actions of the WPC workgroups' activities since Plan adoption and adoption of the Plan; and sets priority actions and objectives for 2023 and beyond.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Vice Chairman Betkoski at the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority at 860.827.2803

Sincerely,

The Connecticut Water Planning Council



John W. Betkoski III, Vice Chairman
Public Utilities Regulatory Authority

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State of Connecticut

Water Planning Council

Report on the Status of the Implementation of the State Water Plan and Planned Updates

February 17, 2023



*Department of
Public Health*

*Department of
Energy &
Environmental
Protection*

*Public Utility
Regulatory
Authority*

*Office of Policy
and Management*



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Executive Summary

Pursuant to [Section 22a-352](#) and [Section 25-33o](#) of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Water Planning Council (WPC), composed of key leaders of the Department of Public Health (DPH), Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP), the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA), and the Office of Policy and Management (OPM), is tasked with addressing issues involving water companies, water resources and state policies regarding the future of the state's drinking water supply. The WPC is also charged with the preparation and periodic updating of a state water plan that balances public water supply, economic development, recreation, and ecological health needs.

Implementation Initiatives

Following the successful development and adoption of the first State Water Plan (Plan), the WPC has focused considerable effort on implementing the Plan's recommendations to best position the state to meet all its water needs into the future. To aid in Plan implementation, the WPC is assisted by a legislatively established Water Planning Council Advisory Group (WPCAG) and a representative stakeholder Implementation Workgroup (IWG). While numerous state agency programs support objectives identified in the Plan, this report summarizes specific initiatives of the WPC, IWG and the WPCAG.

WPC Initiatives

Initiatives of the IWG

- Completed review and provided recommendations to improve Connecticut's Drought Plan
- Reviewed management of domestic water supply well records and provided recommendations to address outstanding needs.
- Completed review on water quality testing of private and semipublic drinking water wells and made recommendations that led to adoption of Public Act 22-58.
- Established an Outreach and Education Committee that conducted multiple seminars on various water related topics, and that continues as an ongoing educational resource.
- Evaluated existing state laws pertaining to water use efficiency and conservation and provided recommendations for updates to statutes and regulations.
- Developed a Water Planning Chief position description.
- Developed a plan to track Plan implementation and facilitate reporting on such efforts.
- Currently evaluating U.S. Geological Survey data collection programs to support the Plan.

Initiatives of the WPCAG

- Researching and analyzing water resource issues
- Monitoring and providing input on issues concerning water resources such as:
 - Conveyance of state-owned land
 - Solar installation on watersheds
 - Land near water public drinking water sources

Actions Items on State Water Plan Implementation

Critical Actions to Achieve Successful Implementation

Hire a Water Planning Chief and administrative support: To date, workgroups have relied on multiple state agency employees and numerous volunteers who have contributed vast amounts of time. It has become increasingly evident that full time staff is necessary if Plan implementation is to continue. The Plan itself anticipated that necessity and recommends hiring a ‘*Water Planning Chief*’ to oversee and coordinate Plan implementation. Funding for the position and administrative support are being sought by the WPC in the upcoming biennial budget.

Update to the State Water Plan: Issues surrounding water are constantly changing. The Plan acknowledges the need for periodic updating to keep it relevant and to guide future policy decisions. The Plan is now five years old and funding for the necessary update is being sought by the WPC. Since the June 5, 2019 approval of the State Water Plan, significant statewide plans have been developed and finalized, including the PFAS Action Plan dated November 2019 and the Governor’s Council on Climate Change GC3 Phase 1 Report dated January 2021. Additionally, updates to the State Drought Plan were adopted in 2018 and 2022. Incorporating these plans and others into an updated State Water Plan is important for the future management of the water resources of the state.

Ongoing Actions to ensure continued support for successful implementation of the Plan

Included in the report are activities of an ongoing nature such as those regularly undertaken by the WPC, the IWG and WPCAG, and the Outreach and Education Workgroup.

Priority Future Actions

Finally, the report identifies actions for 2023 and beyond that require further effort to implement, as well as specific Plan recommendations that are viewed as priorities by the WPC. These include:

- Establishing a regularly updated webpage with dedicated staff resources
- Continuing the assessment and adoption of Drought Plan recommendations
- Evaluating an update to CT’s Water Fixture Standards to align with EPA WaterSense standards
- Establishing a permanent methodology to track Plan implementation
- Continuing efforts to encourage water conservation and evaluating legislative changes to promote conservation such as with outdoor irrigation practices
- Coordinating Plan implementation with activities identified in the Governor’s Council on Climate Change
- Identifying and addressing emerging contaminants such as PFAS
- Addressing aging infrastructure

Overview of the Water Planning Council, the State Water Plan and its Implementation

The Water Planning Council



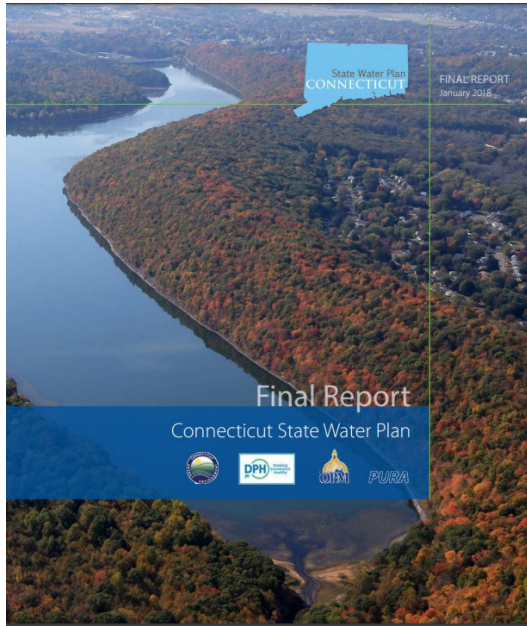
The Water Planning Council (WPC) was established pursuant to [Public Act 01-177](#) “to address issues involving the water companies, water resources and state policies regarding the future of the state’s drinking water supply”. The WPC comprises the commissioners, or designees, of the Department of Public Health (DPH) and Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP), the chairperson, or designee, of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA); and secretary, or designee, of the Office of Policy and Management (OPM). The WPC is advised by a legislatively established Water Planning Council Advisory Group (WPCAG) composed of representatives from water utilities, various other business and industry interests, various environmental and recreation interests, agricultural interests, regional councils of government and public health districts.

[Public Act 14-163](#) added new requirements for the WPC to prepare a state water plan that balanced the needs of public water supply, economic development, recreation, and ecological health. Following a comprehensive and inclusive analysis of current conditions and current and future water needs, CT’s inaugural [State Water Plan](#) (Plan) was approved by the General Assembly on June 5, 2019. Following Plan adoption, the WPC has focused considerable effort on implementing the Plan’s recommendations in order to best position the state to meet all of its water needs into the future. This report serves as an update of all actions conducted since the Plan was approved.

This first water plan was a milestone for the State of Connecticut. While the state has typically enjoyed adequate, high-quality water to meet its various public and private needs, periodic drought, competing demand, and climate change highlighted the need for a comprehensive assessment of the state’s water resources and a roadmap to guide future policy decisions. The Plan achieved these goals. Moving forward, remaining tasks include continuing to implement the Plan’s numerous recommendations and providing for periodic updates to keep the Plan relevant with changing conditions.

The CT State Water Plan

As the Plan was being developed, its overarching goal was defined early in the process to ‘balance the use of water to meet all needs.’ As the Plan succinctly notes, this means that *“the Plan aims to protect water quantity and quality for all of its current and future uses when regulations, climate, and economic conditions are changing. To do so, it provides technical information and policy recommendations to help inform legislative and regulatory decisions.”*



Upon adoption of the Plan, the WPC has been working with available resources to implement Plan recommendations in a prioritized manner, including establishing a representative stakeholder workgroup to assist with Plan implementation. At the direction of the WPC, this Implementation Workgroup (IWG) and the WPCAG have formed a number of ad hoc work groups, open to all who are interested in a group's area of focus. This has proven effective in bringing together stakeholders interested in supporting ongoing efforts to implement the Plan.

The IWG and WPCAG assist the WPC in developing stakeholder-derived consensus solutions, consistent with the Plan's tenets. A brief description of these various workgroup initiatives follows. Additional

information on each activity, including links to final reports and supporting documentation is contained in Attachment B.

The Implementation Workgroup

Initiatives of the IWG

- Recommending improvements to Connecticut's Drought Preparedness and Response Plan
- Management of domestic water supply well records
- Water quality testing of private and semipublic drinking water wells
- Outreach and Education
- Evaluation of existing state laws and regulations pertaining to water use efficiency and conservation
- Developing and Water Planning Chief position description
- Developing a plan to track and report Plan implementation
- Evaluating U.S. Geological Survey data collection programs to support recommendation of the Plan

Drought: An ad hoc workgroup was formed in September 2019 as a result of a specific recommendation made in the State Water Plan to identify and recommend improvements to CT's [Drought Preparedness and Response Plan](#). The workgroup subsequently assessed the state's experience during the 2016 – 2017 drought. Recommendations from this assessment were reviewed by the state's Interagency Drought Workgroup (IDW) – the entity responsible for actively monitoring water conditions and recommending drought declarations and mitigation actions to the Office of the Governor and state agency commissioners.

Notably, the IDW adopted some recommendations prior to the 2022 drought, which served to enhance the state's overall response. Additional recommendations continue to be actively pursued by the IDW.

Private wells: Nearly a quarter of the state's population is served by private residential wells. While private wells are tested for basic quality parameters when first constructed, there are no subsequent testing requirements and no available mapping of their locations. The Plan recommended these data gaps be addressed and workgroups were established to address both the lack of locational and quality data.

- a) **Management of domestic water supply well records:** A workgroup formed in 2019 reviewed the paper record keeping system for private domestic well-completion reports drilled over prior decades. Recommendations looked at redressing the inability to map these domestic well locations in the state. The Department of Consumer Protection recently created a database that will catalogue all new wells; existing wells, however, are not in this database and remain unmapped.
- b) **Water quality testing of private and semipublic drinking water wells:** A 2020 workgroup explored the potential for developing and implementing a regular water quality testing and reporting program for private domestic wells. The WPC endorsed the workgroup's key testing and reporting recommendations, which were later introduced during the 2022 Regular Legislative Session under HB-5500. Codified in [Public Act 22-58](#), these revisions expand the list of potential contaminants property owners are required to test for in newly constructed private or semipublic wells; require laboratories to report water quality test results to DPH and local health departments; require prospective homebuyers and renters to be given educational materials on well testing; and expand the list of contaminants local health departments can test wells for when they suspect groundwater contamination.

Outreach and Education: Formed in 2020, the ongoing Outreach and Education workgroup functions to increase stakeholder and public awareness of the Plan and participation in water resource planning, management, and protection in the state. The group develops print and workshop materials and assists the WPC in providing a critical public facing role informing and educating water resource leaders, stakeholders, and the general public on the content of the Plan, including how the Plan is being implemented and what agencies, stakeholders, and the public can do to protect and enhance CT's water resources. Key program accomplishments include establishing an annual educational theme with related programming and annual plan of work.

Alliance for Water Efficiency: The Alliance for Water Efficiency (AWE) is a nationally recognized non-profit organization dedicated to the efficient and sustainable use of water. Retained in 2020 to assist the WPC effect water conservation-related recommendations identified in the Plan, AWE serves as an advocate for water-efficient products and programs as well as providing information and assistance on water conservation efforts.

Working with the IWG, AWE subsequently provided the WPC with an evaluation of existing state laws and regulations pertaining to water use efficiency and conservation, relative to national standards. This analysis included recommendations to better align CT's water fixture minimum standards with EPA's WaterSense targets adopted by peer states. Such a revision to the state's plumbing efficiency standards would result in significant water and energy savings and the WPC continues to evaluate appropriate legislative and regulatory changes.

AWE also reviewed the water utility revenue loss issues arising from conservation programs and recommended solutions for addressing this problem, culminating in a Rates and Revenue Stability Workshop. The event addressed the issue of how to promote water conservation while minimizing the impact from reduced revenues and was widely attended by water utilities and various stakeholders.

Water Planning Chief Position Description: Active in late 2021 and early 2022, a workgroup developed a position description and list of job duties for a Water Planning Chief – a key position directly recommended by the Plan. Such an individual would provide oversight of Plan implementation and coordinate the same between the WPC, IWG, and WPCAG, and across state agencies.

While this Report describes progress in Plan implementation made by existing agency staff and volunteers over the past several years, it has become increasingly evident additional resources are needed to assist in implementation and directly support the WPC's efforts to meet CT's water management goals. Accordingly, the WPC is proposing funding in the next biennium budget for such a position, believing it crucial to advancing the Plan's goals and its underpinning legislative intent.

State Water Plan Implementation Tracking & Reporting: In recognition of the need to track disparate efforts to implement the Plan's numerous recommendations, a workgroup was formed in November, 2021 to look at developing a framework and methodology for tracking and annual reporting on implementation efforts. The workgroup identified several near-term recommendations, as well as those that require further action, including developing a workplan to create and transition to a permanent tracking system.

Evaluation of United States Geological Survey Data Collection Programs to support the recommendations of the State Water Plan: A recently formed workgroup has begun to evaluate the status of the current USGS streamflow, water quality and groundwater monitoring program in the state; determine those Plan recommendations that could be facilitated by an expanded data collection program; and identify any funding needs in support of current or expanded data collection efforts. A final report is expected in late 2023.

The Water Planning Council Advisory Group

Protection of Class I & II-like Lands Not Owned by Water

Companies: A workgroup reviewed current statutory and regulatory provisions designed to protect public water supplies by maintaining water company-owned watershed and aquifer lands, as well as the adequacy of protection afforded comparable watershed and aquifer lands not owned by water companies.

Siting of Solar Renewable-Energy Projects on Source-Water

Lands: Following an analysis of DPH's criteria and decision-making process for siting solar facilities on critical water company lands, a workgroup developed recommendations to minimize water resource impacts caused by large, commercial solar installations on Class I and Class II-like lands.

Initiatives of the WPCAG

- Researching and analyzing water resource issues
- Monitoring and providing input on issues concerning water resource such as:
 - Conveyance of state-owned land
 - Solar installation on watersheds
 - Land near public drinking water sources

State Land Conveyance and Water Resource Protection: A workgroup reviewed the legislative land conveyance process to ensure that critical information about high quality water resources on conveyed land is properly disclosed, developing a proposed conveyance questionnaire in the process. This group is ongoing and continues to monitor the land conveyance process to ensure that water resource information is made available.

Water Planning, 2023 and Beyond

The preparation and adoption of a state water plan was a critical first step toward the more effective management of the state's water resources and Plan implementation has been steady. Continued progress, however, will require additional work and resources. These future efforts are categorized here as Critical Actions, Ongoing Actions, and Priority Future Actions.

Critical Actions are considered essential to the continued successful implementation of the Plan. Chief among these are sustainable funding and staffing and initiating a Plan update.

Staffing: Historically, the WPC has been forced to rely upon multiple "borrowed" state employees and numerous volunteers. Prior to development of the Plan, this arrangement was arguably sufficient to support the WPC's day-to-day functioning. Since adoption of the Plan in 2019, however, it has become increasingly evident that full time staff is necessary if Plan implementation is to continue. The Plan itself anticipated that necessity and recommends the WPC consider hiring a '*Water Planning Chief*'.

As noted in this Report, a dedicated workgroup has developed a position description and list of job duties for such a Water Planning Chief. This individual will be tasked with oversight and coordination of Plan implementation and further support communication between the WPC and various stakeholders, while serving as a point of contact for water planning efforts across the State. Funding for the position and administrative support are being sought by the WPC.

Plan Update: Issues surrounding water are constantly changing and another critical need identified by the WPC is an update to the Plan. In addition to tracking progress, the Plan acknowledges the need for periodic updating in order to keep it relevant with changing conditions and to supplement the Plan with newer datasets. Many states revisit their water plans every 5 years. While CT's water plan was adopted in June of 2019, it was completed more than a year prior to that using historical data and conditions from even earlier years.

Critical Actions

- Hiring a Water Planning Chief and providing appropriate, dedicated administration staff
- Plan Update

An update to the Plan will incorporate more current condition data as well as information not available during development of the initial Plan. For example, significant statewide plans such as the PFAS Action Plan (November 2019) and Governor's Council on Climate Change GC3 Phase 1 Report (January 2021) have been developed since Plan approval. Incorporating these plans and others into an updated State Water Plan will ensure continued implementation efforts and future policy decisions are guided by valid and timely information. Funding for an update to the state water plan is being sought by the WPC.

Ongoing Actions are primarily actions which ensure successful implementation of the Plan with no specific end date. They include those actions regularly undertaken by the WPC, the IWG and WPCAG, and the Outreach and Education Workgroup.

Ongoing Actions

- Routine actions of the WPC, the IWG and WPCAG, and the Outreach and Education Workgroup

Priority Future Actions are actions intended to further implement specific Plan recommendations that are viewed as priorities by the WPC, as well as those recommendations made by the IWG and WPCAG workgroups requiring further action.

Priority Future Actions for 2023 and beyond include, but are not limited to:

Establishing a regularly updated webpage with dedicated staff resources;

Continuing the assessment and adoption of recommendations to CT's *Drought Preparedness and Response Plan*;

Evaluating an update to CT's Water Fixture Standards to align with EPA WaterSense standards;

Establishing a permanent methodology to Track Plan Implementation progress and facilitate reporting on the same;

Continuing efforts to encourage water conservation and identifying legislative changes that promote conservation, such as with outdoor irrigation practices;

Coordinating Plan implementation with activities identified in the Governor's Council on Climate Change;

Identifying and addressing emerging contaminants such as PFAS; and

Addressing aging Infrastructure.

Priority Future Actions

- Updated webpage
- Continued assessment and adoption of Drought Plan recommendations
- Evaluating an update to CT's Water Fixture Standards
- Establishing a permanent methodology to Track Plan Implementation
- Water conservation
- Coordination with GC3
- Emerging contaminants
- Aging Infrastructure

Alignment with Statutory Plan Requirements

[Public Act 14-163](#), "An Act Concerning the Responsibilities of the Water Planning Council," directs the WPC to develop a State Water Plan in accordance with seventeen specific requirements. The Plan addressed each of the requirements by developing information and specific consensus recommendations where feasible, and guiding principles and a framework with which to further resolve remaining issues. Figures 1 and 2 indicate how the various WPC initiatives undertaken to date by the IWG and WPCAG align with the statutory Plan requirements.

Figure 1. Implementation Workgroup Topical Groups

[C, complete; A, active; O, ongoing (no end date)]

STATE WATER PLAN ACTIVITIES								
IMPLEMENTATION WORKGROUP TOPICAL SUB-WORKGROUPS								
	Drought workgroup	State Water Plan Implementation Tracking & Reporting	Private well workgroup (management of domestic water supply well records in CT)	Recommendations for water quality testing of private and semipublic drinking water wells	Evaluation of United States Geological Survey Data Collection Programs to support the recommendations of the	Water Planning Chief Position Description	Outreach and Education	Alliance for Water Efficiency
1) Identify the quantities and qualities of water available					A			
2) Identify present and projected demands for water								
3) Recommend utilization of water resources to balance public water supply, economic development, recreation and ecological health						C		
4) Recommend steps to increase the climate resiliency of existing water resources and infrastructure	C							
5) Recommend technology and infrastructure upgrades, interconnections and/or major engineering works					A			
6) Recommend land use and other measures to ensure the desired quality and abundance and promote development in concert with available water resources								
7) Take into account desired ecological, recreational, agricultural, industrial and commercial use of water bodies								
8) Inform state residents on the importance of water resource stewardship and conservation						C	O	
9) Establish conservation guidelines and incentives for water conservation with energy efficiency consideration								C
10) Develop a water reuse policy with incentives for matching the water quality to the use								
11) Meet data collection and analysis needs to provide for data driven decisions	C		C	C	A			
12) Account for the ecological, environmental, public health and safety and economic impact that implementation will have on the state								C
13) Include short and long-range objectives and strategies to communicate and implement the plan		C				C	O	
14) Incorporate regional and local plans and programs for water use and management								
15) Promote intra-regional solutions and sharing of water resources								
16) Develop and recommend strategies to address climate resiliency								
17) Identify modifications to laws and regulations necessary in order to implement recommendations	C			C				C

Figure 2. Water Planning Council Advisory Group Topical Groups

[C, complete; A, active; O, ongoing (no end date)]

STATE WATER PLAN ACTIVITIES					
WPC ADVISORY GROUP WORKGROUPS					
	Protection of Class I&II like lands not owned by water companies	Siting of Solar Renewable-Energy Projects on Source-Water Lands	State Land Conveyance and Water Resource Protection	Education and Knowledge Sharing	
1) Identify the quantities and qualities of water available					
2) Identify present and projected demands for water					
3) Recommend utilization of water resources to balance public water supply, economic development, recreation and ecological health		C	A	O	
4) Recommend steps to increase the climate resiliency of existing water resources and infrastructure					
5) Recommend technology and infrastructure upgrades, interconnections and/or major engineering works					
6) Recommend land use and other measures to ensure the desired quality and abundance and promote development in concert with available water resources	O	C	A		
7) Take into account desired ecological, recreational, agricultural, industrial and commercial use of water bodies					
8) Inform state residents on the importance of water resource stewardship and conservation				O	
9) Establish conservation guidelines and incentives for water conservation with energy efficiency consideration					
10) Develop a water reuse policy with incentives for matching the water quality to the use					
11) Meet data collection and analysis needs to provide for data driven decisions					
12) Account for the ecological, environmental, public health and safety and economic impact that implementation will have on the state				O	
13) Include short and long-range objectives and strategies to communicate and implement the plan					
14) Incorporate regional and local plans and programs for water use and management					
15) Promote intra-regional solutions and sharing of water resources					
16) Develop and recommend strategies to address climate resiliency					
17) Identify modifications to laws and regulations necessary in order to implement recommendations					

Attachment A: WPC, WPCAG and IWG Members

Note: The Water Planning Council, Advisory Group and Implementation Workgroup memberships have occasionally changed over the years covered by this report. While prior members' contributions are significant, only current members are listed.

Water Planning Council Members

John W. Betkoski III, Vice Chairman, Public Utilities Regulatory Authority

Graham J. Stevens, Bureau Chief, Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse, Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

Lori Mathieu, Public Health Branch Chief, Environmental Health & Drinking Water Branch, Department of Public Health

Martin L. Heft, Undersecretary, Intergovernmental Policy and Planning Division, Office of Policy and Management

Implementation Workgroup Members

Agency Representatives	Dan Aubin (DPH) Ally Ayotte (PURA) Chris Bellucci (DEEP) Bruce Wittchen (OPM)
Out-of-stream	Janice Erlemeyer (River COG/Ag) David Radka (CT Water, retired) Co-chair
In-stream	Anne Hulick (Clean Water Action) Denise Savageau (Conservation Districts)
WPCAG Representatives	Virginia de Lima (USGS, ret.) Co-chair Tom Tyler (MDC)
Subject-matter expert	Mike Dietz (UCONN) Steve Rupar (WSP)

Water Planning Council Advisory Group Members

Business & Industry	Darryl Newman, CT Nursery and Landscaping Association
River Protection	Margaret Miner, Rivers Alliance of Connecticut
Recreation	Eric Hammerling, CT Forest & Park Association
Academia, Public Health, Ecology	Jon Morrison, US Geological Survey
Regional Water Utility (large)	Steve Vitko, South Central CT Regional Water Authority
Lakes and Ponds	Sean Hayden, Lake Waramaug Task Force
Conservation	Denise Savageau, CT Association of Conservation Districts
Land Protection	Karen Burnaska, Save the Sound
CBIA	Joe Violette, Waterbury Chamber of Commerce

Consumer	Brenda Watson, Operation Fuel
Small Water Utility	Josh Cansler, SE CT Water Authority
Water Resources Protection	Carol Haskins, Pomperaug River Watershed Coalition
Wastewater	Tom Tyler, Metropolitan District
Public health (local)	David Knauf, Darien Health Department
Investor-owned Water Utility (lg)	Dan Lawrence, Aquarion Water Company (Co-chair)
Municipal Water Utility	Patrick Kearney, Town of Manchester Water Department
Electric Power	Fred Klein, Pullman & Comley, LLC
Fisheries	Alicea Charamut, Fisheries Advisory Council (Co-chair)
Regional Councils of Government	Aaron Budris, Naugatuck Valley COG

Attachment B

State Water Plan

<https://portal.ct.gov/Water/Water-Planning-Council/State-Water-Plan>

Drought Preparedness and Response Plan

<https://portal.ct.gov/Water/Drought/State-Drought-Plan>

IWG Reports

Drought Workgroup Report

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Water/WPC-2021/Drought-Sub-Working-Group-Report-7-13-31.pdf>

Management of Domestic Water Supply Well Records White Paper

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Water/IWG_2020/Private-Well-Database-White-Paper.pdf

Water Quality Testing of Private and Semipublic Drinking Water Wells Report

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Water/WPC-2021/Private-Well-Water-Quality-Workgroup---Final-recommendations-June-2021.pdf>

Water Planning Chief Position Description Report

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Water/IWG_2022/Water_Chief_Final_Report_Feb-2022.pdf

State Water Plan Implementation Tracking & Reporting report

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Water/WPC-2022/StateWaterPlanTrackingReportingReport062022.pdf>

Outreach and Education World Wetlands Day Webinar

https://ctvideo.ct.gov/opm/WPC_WWD_2022-02-02_video.mp4

WPCAG Reports

2020 Watershed Lands Conveyance Questionnaire

<https://egov.ct.gov/PMC/Agenda/DownloadHistory/1133>

Siting of Renewable Energy Projects on Source Water Lands, Primary Focus: Solar Facilities

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Water/WPCAG_2021/2021-01-18_Final_Draft_WPCAG_Green_Energy_Project_Siting.pdf

Alliance for Water Efficiency

Water Laws Summary

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Water/WPC-2020/AWE-Water-Laws-Summary-2020-09-08.xlsx>

CT Plumbing Standards Savings Memo

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Water/WPC-2021/CT-Plumbing-Standard-Savings-Memo.pdf>

Financing Sustainable Water Workshop Agenda

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Water/WPCAG_2020/Financing-Sustainable-Water-Workshop-Agenda.pdf

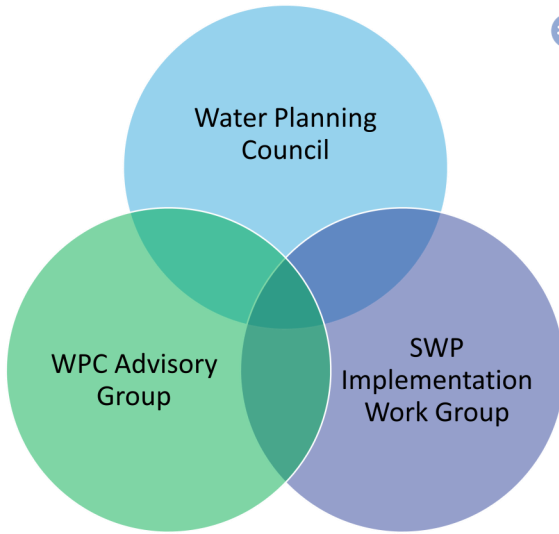
2018 Sustainability Workshop

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eSDIOJNy_5s

2020 Sustainability Workshop (Zoom)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PuAl3ev71QQ>

2022 Annual Report Factsheet



History: In 2014, Public Act 14-163, “An Act Concerning the Responsibilities of the Water Planning Council,” became effective. The Act directed the Water Planning Council (WPC) to develop a State Water Plan and periodically update the Plan. Such a Plan was developed with considerable stakeholder input, submitted to the General Assembly, and approved on June 5, 2019.

The WPC is advised by a legislatively established Water Planning Council Advisory Group (WPCAG) composed of representatives from water utilities, various business and industry interests, environmental and recreation interests, agricultural interests, regional councils of government and public health districts.

Upon adoption of the Plan, the WPC has been working with available resources to implement Plan recommendations in a prioritized manner, including establishing a representative stakeholder workgroup to assist with Plan implementation. At the direction of the WPC, this Implementation Workgroup (IWG) and the WPCAG have formed a number of ad hoc work groups, open to all who are interested in a group's area of focus. This has proven effective in bringing together stakeholders interested in supporting ongoing efforts to implement the Plan.

Implementation Workgroup Activities

- Drought
- Private wells
- Outreach and Education
- Water Planning Chief Position Description
- State Water Plan Implementation Tracking & Reporting
- Evaluation of United States Geological Survey Data Collection Programs

Water Planning Council Advisory Group Activities

- Protection of Class I & II-like Lands Not Owned by Water Companies
- Siting of Solar Renewable-Energy Projects on Source-Water Lands
- State Land Conveyance and Water Resource Protection

Critical Actions Needed to Achieve Successful Implementation

- Hire a Water Planning Chief and providing appropriate, dedicated administration staff
- Update to the State Water Plan

Priority Actions for 2023 and Beyond

- Establishing a regularly updated webpage with dedicated staff resources
- Continued assessment and adoption of Drought Plan recommendations
- Evaluating an update of CT's Water Fixture Standards to align with EPA WaterSense standards"
- Establishing a permanent methodology to track plan implementation progress and facilitate reporting
- Continuing efforts to encourage water conservation and identify legislative changes that promote conservation, where feasible, such as with outdoor irrigation practices
- Aligning Plan with Governor's Council on Climate Change initiatives
- Identifying and addressing emerging contaminants such as PFAS
- Addressing aging Infrastructure

Ongoing Actions

- Actions regularly undertaken by the WPC, the IWG and WPCAG, and the Outreach and Education Workgroup
- USGS monitoring program analysis