



Water Planning Council 2024 Annual Report Fact Sheet

This fact sheet summarizes information presented in the Water Planning Council's 2024 Annual Report to the General Assembly. The Annual Report describes the implementation activities of the workgroups that the WPC oversees and sets the priorities for 2025.

For more information about the Water Planning Council and the State Water Plan, please visit <https://portal.ct.gov/water>.



Workgroup Implementation Activities Completed in 2024

- Merged the Water Planning Council Advisory Group and the State Water Plan Implementation Workgroup
- Released a [report](#) on the status of U.S. Geological Survey surface and groundwater monitoring in Connecticut
- Activated Stage 2 of the Drought Preparedness and Response Plan and continued work to improve drought management practices
- Conducted workshops to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Safe Drinking Water Act and the 20th Anniversary of the Aquifer Protection Act

Ongoing Workgroup Implementation Activities

- Exploring ways to increase participation in State Water Plan activities
- Developing a white paper on the status of Source Water Protection in Connecticut
- Laying the groundwork for a statewide drought tabletop exercise to test the Drought Preparedness and Response Plan

2025 Outreach and Education Theme

- Extreme Weather and Our Watersheds

Water Planning Council 2025 Work Plan Priorities

- Improve communication with the General Assembly through forums and presentations on progress and challenges related to the implementation of the State Water Plan
- Review State Water Plan recommendations under Section 5 of the State Water Plan
- Develop a strategic timeline, ideally synced with the state budget, on State Water Plan implementation
- Identify a legislative advocate to represent the Water Planning Council
- Continue outreach and education of the State Water Plan
- Engage with Regional Councils of Governments
- Review the practicality of low impact development planning
- Research opportunities for partnerships with higher education
- Explore funding opportunities to implement and update the State Water Plan

Water Planning Council Workgroups

Interagency Drought Workgroup

- Authors, updates and implements the Connecticut Drought Preparedness and Response Plan
- Monitors hydrologic conditions to recommend drought declarations and mitigation actions to the Governor

Water Planning Council Advisory Group

- Oversees the activities of topical workgroups
- Distributes information on current issues
- Assists in researching analyzing water resource issues and advises the WPC on consumptive and non-consumptive water interests

Outreach & Education Workgroup

- Facilitates education and awareness of water resource issues affecting the state
- Hosts webinars to educate and inform water resource leaders, stakeholders, and the public
- Promotes participation in water source planning management and protection

Source Water Protection Workgroup

- Reviews the status of source water protection programs and identifies any gaps
- Reviews the roles of the WPC agencies, federal and state programs and regulations

Watershed Lands Workgroup

- Reviews the adequacy of statutes and regulatory provisions to protect water supplies
- Reviews controversial or environmentally sensitive land use proposals that may impact drinking water watersheds

Conservation Pricing & Rate Recovery Analysis Workgroup

- Identifies regulatory, operational, technological, and financial barriers that prevent utilities from utilizing conservation pricing programs with modern rate setting tools

Evaluation of United States Geographical Survey Data Collection Programs Workgroup

- Evaluated how monitoring data supports decision making
- Identified gaps within the monitoring networks
- Reviewed the recommendations of the State Water Plan that might be resolved by expanding data collection
- Identified funding requirements to support data collection efforts

About the Water Planning Council and the State Water Plan

The Connecticut Water Planning Council (WPC) was established in 2001 through [Public Act 01-177 \(CGS Section 25-330\)](#) to address issues involving water companies, water resources, and state policies.

[Public Act 14-163 \(CGS Section 22a-352\)](#) directed the Water Planning Council to develop a State Water Plan and periodically update the Plan. The Plan was developed with considerable stakeholder input.

