



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

M. JODI RELL  
GOVERNOR

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## **Governor Rell Directs DEMHS, DEP Officials to Check Rivers, Streams and Dams for Flood Threats**

Governor M. Jodi Rell today directed district coordinators from the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security and inspectors from the Department of Environmental Protection to fan out across the state to inspect rivers, streams and dams for potential flooding threats.

“We have been on alert all week for the threat of flooding, and with this steady, day-after-day rain I want to be sure we know about any potential trouble spots before the situation becomes critical,” Governor Rell said. “As of this morning, for example, the National Weather Service reported that Connecticut River was below flood stage – but the rain keeps falling and there is every possibility the water will rise again.

“The coordinators and inspectors will be checking areas where flooding has already been reported or is possible, and looking at dams and other structures to make sure they are not compromised or at risk of overflow,” the Governor said.

“The good news is that a break in the weather seems likely by the weekend – and, if the forecasts hold up, we could be in for a largely dry spell that runs through the middle of next week,” Governor Rell said. “That will certainly give the waterways a chance to settle down and allow some of the water now in the ground to penetrate a little deeper. Right now the ground is so wet that any additional rainfall is simply running off – which does nothing to help the overall near-drought situation and, even worse, just adds to the flow in streams and rivers that are already running high.”

DEP operates a flood warning system on a number of Connecticut waterways, monitors the National Weather Service and coordinates with DEMHS. State agencies, working with municipalities, watch water levels and are prepared to notify the public in areas where flooding is possible.

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