

NOTICE TO WATER COMPANIES SERVING 1,000 OR MORE PERSONS OR TWO HUNDRED FIFTY OR MORE CONSUMERS

Consumer Confidence Reporting Requirements

Provisions of the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) rule (Code of Federal Register Sections 141.153 & 154), Department of Public Health, Drinking Water Section's Water Quality Regulations (19-13-B102(i)(10)(J), and CT General Statutes Section 25-32k, state that additional information will be required in reports due July 1, 2005, and thereafter.

For instructions on how to prepare your system's CCR please go to the Drinking Water Section's CCR webpage at <http://www.dph.state.ct.us/BRS/Water/utility/Reports/Reports.htm#CCR>. To view the complete Code of Federal Register CCR document please reference Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) website at <http://www.epa.gov/OGWDW/ccr/ccr-frne.html>. To access EPA's CCR Writer program log onto <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/ccr/ccrwriter.html>.

The following areas are required to be addressed in your system's CCR:

1. Information on health effects and sources of lead and copper
 2. Water supply source protection methods (including methods to reduce contamination)
 3. Source water assessment information
 4. Water conservation
1. Information on health effects and sources of lead and copper; the following statements must be included in your system's CCR:

Lead - Major Sources in Drinking Water: Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

Health Effects Statement: Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

Copper - Major Sources in Drinking Water: Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

Health Effects Statement: Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could, suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.

2. Water supply source protection methods (including methods to reduce contamination):

Systems may choose to use pre-printed materials, e.g., brochures developed by EPA, or water association regarding source water protection methods (including methods to reduce contamination). The material that the system chooses to utilize must be referenced in the CCR including date(s) of anticipated mailing to consumers; or, the system may include this information directly in the CCR. This will fulfill requirements of 25-32k.

An example of information to be included in the CCR:

Source Water Protection: Source water is untreated water from streams, rivers, lakes, or underground aquifers that is used to supply public drinking water. Preventing drinking water contamination at the source makes good public health sense, good economic sense, and good environmental sense. You can be aware of the challenges of keeping drinking water safe and take an active role in protecting drinking water. There are lots of ways that you can get involved in drinking water protection activities to prevent the contamination of the ground water source. Dispose properly of household chemicals, help clean up the watershed that is the source of your community's water, attend public meetings to ensure that the community's need for safe drinking water is considered in making decisions about land use. Contact us at (*water system contact information*) for more information on source water protection, or contact the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at 1.800.426.4791. You may also find information on EPA's website at www.epa.gov/safewater/protect.html.

3. Source water assessment information (all community water systems):

Source water assessment reports have been completed by the DPH and mailed to all public water systems. The CCR must 1) notify customers that this information is available and 2) include a brief summary of the system's susceptibility to potential sources of contamination, using language provided by the State or written by the operator and 3) tell them how to obtain the information.

Example: A water assessment of {pws source name} was recently completed by the Department of Public Health, Drinking Water Section. The updated assessment report can be found on the Department of Public Health's website: http://www.dph.state.ct.us/BRS/Water/Source_Protection/Assessments/Assessments.htm.

The assessment found that this public drinking water source has a {SWAP rating} susceptibility to potential sources of contamination.”

Additional source water assessment Information can be found at the Environmental Protection Agency's website: www.epa.gov/safewater/protect/swap.html.

4. Water conservation:

As noted above, (#2) systems may choose to use pre-printed materials, e.g., brochures developed by EPA, or water association regarding conservation measures. The material that the system chooses to utilize must be referenced in the CCR including date(s) of anticipated mailing to consumers; or, the system may include this information directly in the CCR. This will fulfill requirements of 25-32k.

Information on water conservation may be obtained by accessing EPA's "Water Use Efficiency Program" webpage: <http://www.epa.gov/owm/water-efficiency/index.htm>.

Examples of information that may be included in your CCR:

Water is a limited resource so it is vital that we all work together to maintain it and use it wisely. Here are a few tips you can follow to help conserve:

- Check for leaky toilets (put a drop of food coloring in the tank, let it sit if the water in the bowl turns color, you have a leak). A leaking faucet or toilet can dribble away thousands of gallons of water a year.
- Consider replacing your 5-gallon per flush toilet with an efficient 1.6 gallon per flush unit. This will permanently cut your water consumption by 25%.
- Run only full loads in dishwashers and washing machines. Rinse all hand-washed dishes at once.
- Turn off the faucet while brushing teeth, or shaving.
- Store a jug of ice water in the refrigerator for a cold drink.
- Water lawn and plants in the early morning or evening hours to avoid excess evaporation. Don't water on a windy, rainy or very hot day.
- Water shrubs and gardens using a slow trickle around the roots. A slow soaking encourages deep root growth, reduces leaf burn or mildew and prevents water loss. Select low-water demanding plants that provide an attractive landscape without high water use.
- Apply mulch around flowers, shrubs, vegetables and trees to reduce evaporation, promote plant growth and control weeds. Shrubs and ground covers require less maintenance, less water and provide year-round greenery.
- Be sure that your hose has a shut-off nozzle. Hoses without a nozzle can spout 10 gallons more per minute.
- When washing your car, wet it quickly, turn on the spray, wash it with soapy water from the bucket, rinse quickly.
- Be sure sprinklers water only your lawn, not the pavement.
- Never use the hose to clean debris off your driveway or sidewalk. Use a broom.
- Rinse other items, such as bicycles or trash, on the lawn to give your grass and extra drink.

By July 1, your system's CCR must be distributed to customers and;

You must:

- Submit, three (3) copies of the CCR by July 1, to the Department of Public Health, Drinking Water Section's CCR Coordinator;
- Submit one (1) copy to the Director of Health of each city, town, borough or district served by July 1;
- Submit the DPH/DWS approved "Certification Form" by **August 9** of each year. The certification form states not only that the CCR was distributed to customers by July 1st, but that the information is correct and consistent with compliance monitoring data previously submitted to the Department of Public Health's Drinking Water Section. The form must be signed by the authorized system staff member.

If you have any questions regarding these requirements please contact the Department of Public Health, Drinking Water Section's CCR Coordinator at 860.509.7333.

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