



# Connecticut Department of Public Health *Drinking Water Section*

## Regulatory Update & Current Initiatives

CT Section AWWA & CWWA  
Annual Conference  
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Drinking Water Section



# Presentation

- DPH Drinking Water Section Overview
- Regulatory & Current Initiatives
- Challenges and Opportunities



# CT DPH Drinking Water Section Responsibilities

- Responsible for Adequacy and Purity of Public Drinking Water Statewide
- Regulate over 2,500 Public Water Systems with 4,400 sources
- 2.8 million CT residents served – 3.5 million total population
- 96 systems serve over 1,000 people
- 460 systems serve under 1,000 people - small community systems; 332 not owned by larger water companies
- 2,000 non-community systems



# Drinking Water Section

- Primacy of Safe Drinking Water Act - EPA
  - system engineering surveys
  - treatment/source review & approval
  - Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund
  - drinking water quality – oversight of monitoring and reporting
  - ground water rule
  - revised total coliform rule
- State Statutory
  - purity and adequacy of public drinking water
  - water company land regulation
  - recreation permitting, sale of excess water, certified operators, enforcement, source water protection
  - water supply planning and regional planning (WUCC)



# New DPH DWS Organization

- Sanitary survey focus - system type (large, small and non-community), use of technology, LEAN/Quality improvement (QI) process implementation, water supply plan integration
- Survey focus on issuing violations quickly, pursuit of corrective action for significant deficiencies
- Capacity Development approach – small system review and large system AWOP
- Work toward regional water supply planning completion
- Protection of Public Drinking Water – recognition and action
- Continue to LEAN/QI & enhance DWSRF program



# SDWA Rules & CT Regulations

- Ground Water Rule
- Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR)
- Emergency Generators & Plans
- Public Health Code 19-13-B46
- Certified Operator Regulations

# RTCR

- Draft Regulation moving forward
- Held informational session in June 2014
- Level 1 & Level 2 assessments
- Upcoming Training - NEWWA December 1, 2014, Crowne Plaza, Cromwell – 9:00am–12:30pm
- Effective Date: April 2016



# Public Acts – 2014 Session

- Public Act 14-163
  - State Water Plan (section 1)
  - 25-32b – focus on water conservation (section 3)
  - General Permit report due July 2015 (section 7)
- Public Act 14-178
  - Water hauling to public water systems
- Public Act 14-98
  - State Bonding DWSRF
  - Asset management and financial plans



# Legislation – concepts

- System Acquisition
- CPCN process
- Fees
- Civil Penalty



# Sanitary Surveys & Enforcement

- Enforcement Targeting Tool (ETT) – tool is used to implement EPA's Enforcement Strategy which focuses on drinking water systems with the most serious or repeated violations
- Focus on significant deficiency correction, quicken the notification to systems by DWS staff
- Work with systems to work toward corrective action, return to compliance
- Small systems - RCAP asset management plan assistance
- Large systems - AWOP

# Public System focus point

## *Flushing*

- 19-13-B102(f)(6) - An annual distribution system flushing program shall be conducted to maintain the distribution system free from excessive accumulation of sediment, organic growths, products of corrosion and erosion, and other extraneous matter. The program shall be made available to the department upon request.
- Sanitary survey staff will asking each PWS for a copy of their flushing program during sanitary surveys.
- Circular letter
- Future development of flushing guidance.
- DPH acknowledges that there is no one size fits all flushing program (i.e. small system with no hydrants vs large system)



# Public System focus point

## *Storage Tanks*

- 19-13-B102(f)(5)(C) - All atmospheric finished water storage tanks, basins and clear wells shall be inspected at a minimum of once every ten years for sanitary conditions and structural integrity. The inspection report shall be retained for reference and submitted to the department upon request.
- Sanitary survey staff ask for tank inspection reports during surveys.
- It is recommended that roof vents, hatches, etc. be inspected annually. Typically cannot be seen/inspected from ground level.



# Reenergizing Capacity Small Systems

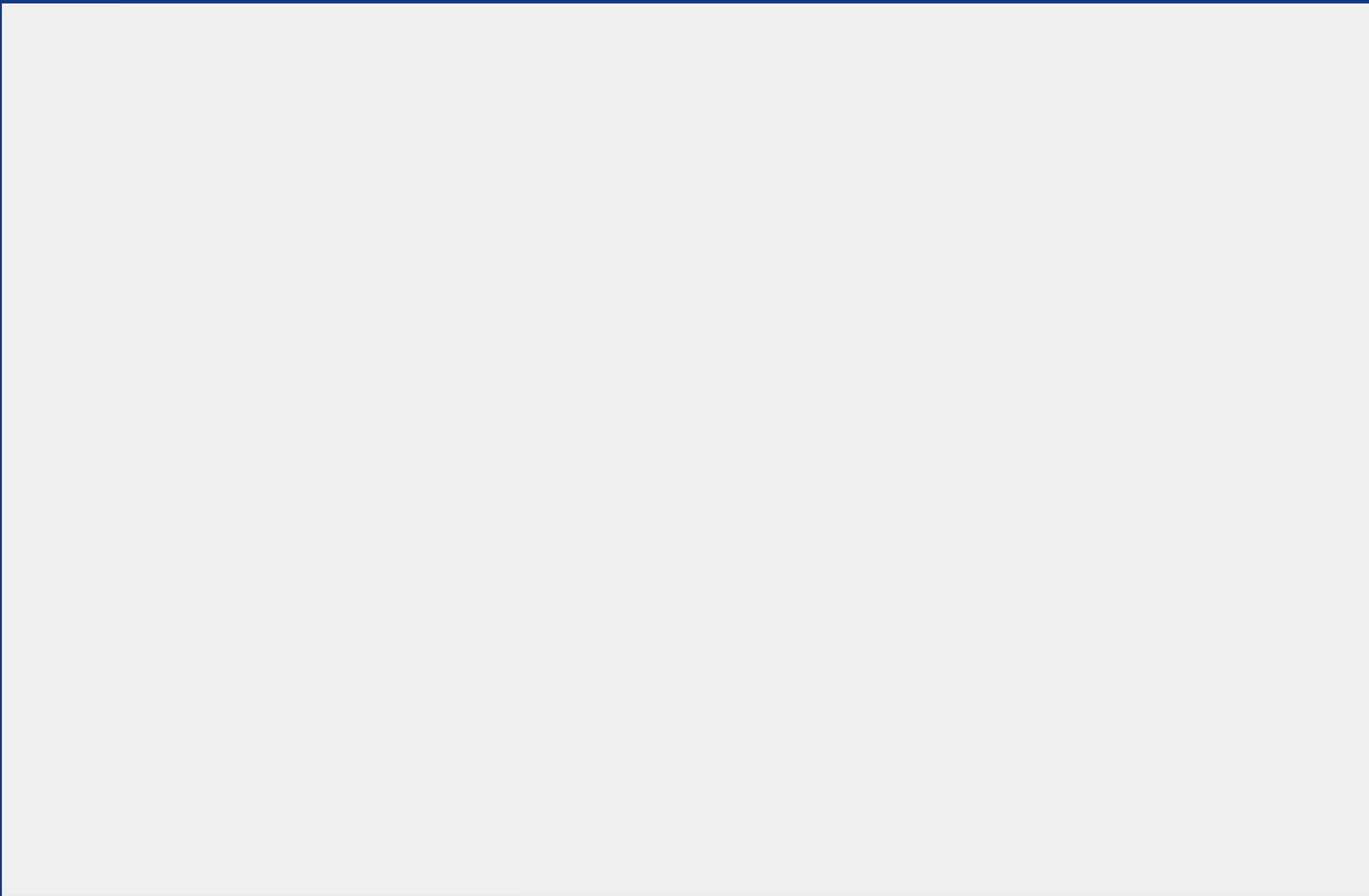
- 332 small community public water systems
- Unregulated rates and lack of planning
- Homeowners and Condo associations, mobile home parks, apartment buildings, etc.
- Voluntary boards and associations or owner's primary interest is not drinking water
- Build capacity – PURA report and DPH initiatives
- Small System Scorecard –asset management



# Next Generation of Water Supply Planning

- 1985 Coordinating Water System Plan legislation
  - Individual water supply plans
  - Water Utility Coordinating Committee “Area wide Supplement” plan
- Individual plans – use of DPH tables, part of survey, updates only
- WUCCs - Boundary modifications & priority areas
- Held three Public Hearings, closed public comment period 7/15/14
- Upcoming DPH Report & Commissioner Approval
- Water supply planning a foundational piece of water plan

# Current Public Water Supply Management Areas





# Information Security

- Freedom of Information Act
- Sharing Information
- Current process under CGS Section 1-210



# DWSRF Program

- Funding more projects – used LEAN and Quality Improvement processes to increase program Pace
- Over \$160 million in current projects expected to be funded
  - At least 8 estimated at \$5 million or greater
- Upcoming Call for Projects – close at end of year
  - Funding during SFY 2016 & 2017
  - Project Readiness – projects that will move
  - Generator program to continue
- PA 14-98 - State Bond funds for eligible applicants
  - Subsidization as loan principal forgiveness
  - Requires State Bond Commission authorization



# Drinking Water Infrastructure 2015 Needs Survey

- Required to be conducted every 4 years – next in 2015
- Opportunity to show Congress what is really needed for infrastructure repair or replacement in Connecticut
- Affects the amount of DWSRF funding allotted to CT
- 6 largest PWS are included and a random sample of ~ 30 PWS which serve more than 3,300 people
- DWS staff will be in contact in the next month with PWS selected to participate



# High Quality Source List

- List of all existing and potential public drinking water sources
- DPH produced initial HQS list in 2011 per Public Act 11-242
- Developed pursuant to Connecticut General Statute Section 25-33q
- DPH to prepare a list designating sources or potential sources of water that require protection so that the highest quality sources of water are available to provide water for human consumption
- Must consider plans produced under CGS 22a-352, 25-32d, 25-33h
- DPH shall keep up to date
- State Plan of Conservation & Development shall consider the HQS list per 16a-27(g)



# Source Water Collaborative

- Highlight public health and drinking water source protection
- Met twice, 2013 and July 2014
- Next meeting 10/24/14 – at DOT Newington
- Working to finalize Charter



# Emergency Preparedness

- WebEOC - Ready for use by large public water systems  
DWS Contact – Tom Reed
- Continue to update DPH when enacting any stage of your emergency contingency plan
- Upcoming Training 12/9/14 at the Buck-Foreman Community Center, Portland – Free Training Opportunity for Public Water System Owners and Operators!
  - **Emergency Response Seminar & Connecticut Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network (CT WARN) Tabletop Exercise**
- Assure DWS has most up to date emergency contact information including email address

# Critical Facilities List

- Thank you for your assistance & attendance at our June 2014 meeting
- Request to large community systems serving over 10,000 people
- Thank you for your response
- List forwarded through DPH Commissioner's Office to DEMHS
- Some information remains incomplete, DWS to reach out to those systems for further information
- Important to keep up to date



# Emergency Notice DPH's 8000 Line

- Report emergencies after hours by calling 860-509-8000 including weekends and holidays
- Ask to speak to Drinking Water Section staff
- Call concerning public water system emergencies as soon as possible
- Call 860-509-7333 during normal business hours



# DWS Education & Outreach Committee

- Formed two years ago
- Focus on promoting public health & public drinking water
- Operator and Educational Awards
- Celebration of SDWA 40 years –
  - Poster Contest through Local Health statewide, web-site and calendar development



# DPH Drinking Water E Alert

- Subscribe using DPH web page
- Receive updates via email from DWS
- Open to anyone
- Announced on DPH DWS web page soon

# Challenges & Opportunities

## *Moving Forward*

- Number and viability of small community systems
- Growth of non-community systems
- Adjust to implementing new SDWA regulations
- Enacting a General Permitting concept
- Moving forward with System Capacity and Asset Management - System sustainability and viability
- Understanding effects of Climate change – flood management and water quality
- Implementing the new generation of WUCCs and Water Supply Planning
- Highlighting the High Quality Source list
- Always being prepared for emergencies
- Moving forward with the EPA 2015 DWSRF Needs Survey
- Continuing to use LEAN and Quality Improvement at DPH
- Addressing DPH DWS staffing needs