



Connecticut's Public Drinking Water

Impacts *Storms Irene and Alfred*

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ATCAVE

February 29, 2012

Drinking Water Section



Who we are?

DPH – Branch of Regulatory Services Drinking Water Section

- 💧 Drinking Water Section - 46 staff, 7 units
- 💧 Safe, Pure & Adequate Public Drinking Water in CT
- 💧 Primacy Under the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Act
- 💧 Infrastructure Loan Program (DWSRF)
- 💧 Oversight of numerous State statutes
 - 💧 Regional and Individual Planning
 - 💧 100,000 acres of water company owned land
 - 💧 State Permitting
 - 💧 Capacity Development

What are the responsibilities

- 🔥 Regulate 2,585 Public Water Systems with 4,400 sources
- 🔥 2.704 million CT residents served
- 🔥 96 systems serve over 1,000 people
- 🔥 461 systems serve under 1,000 people - small community systems
- 🔥 2,028 non-community systems

Procedures – Boil Water

- 💧 Pre-storm notice –standard SOP
- 💧 During Storm decisions – Governor’s Office
- 💧 Storm Response - messages
 - 💧 Press releases, phone calls, conference calls, EPA assistance
 - 💧 Web-site, emails and Everbridge
- 💧 DWS staff response

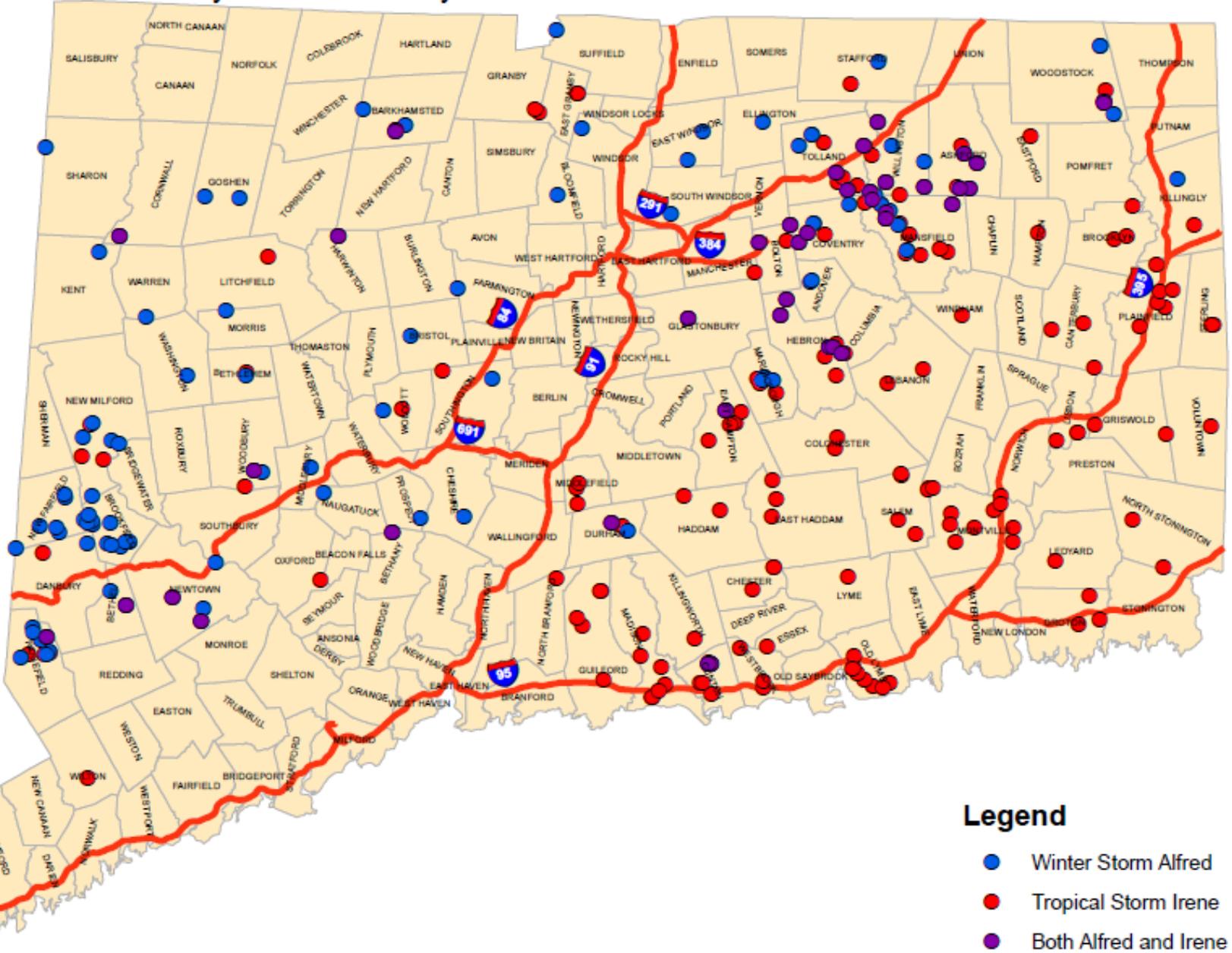
Storm Irene August 2011

- 💧 137 small community public water systems (cpws) on Boil Water Advisory (30% of small cpws)
- 💧 16,624 people affected
- 💧 99% of CT Residents retained their community public water
- 💧 Majority of large cpws on shoreline lost street power, however operations not affected due to emergency power capacity, street power restored in a few days, flooding had little effect

Storm Alfred October 2011

- 💧 121 small community public water systems (cpws) on boil water advisory
- 💧 20,212 people affected
- 💧 98% of CT Residents retained their community public water
- 💧 Majority of large cpws along and north of I-84 lost street power, however operations not affected due to emergency power capacity, street power restored slowly some large cpws without street power for 8 to 9 days

Community Public Water Systems that were on Boil Water Advisories



- ### Legend
- Winter Storm Alfred
 - Tropical Storm Irene
 - Both Alfred and Irene

Lessons Learned

- 💧 Communication –
 - 💧 directly with LHD and PWS early and often
 - 💧 messages prepared, reviewed and sent quickly
- 💧 Organization –
 - 💧 DWS ICS and tracking, requests through EMDs
- 💧 PWS Status and Priorities
 - 💧 WebEOC – Large public water systems
 - 💧 Preparedness of community pws
 - 💧 Require capacity for emergency power
 - 💧 Promote DWSRF Loans for generators
 - 💧 Require emergency plan



Thank You

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