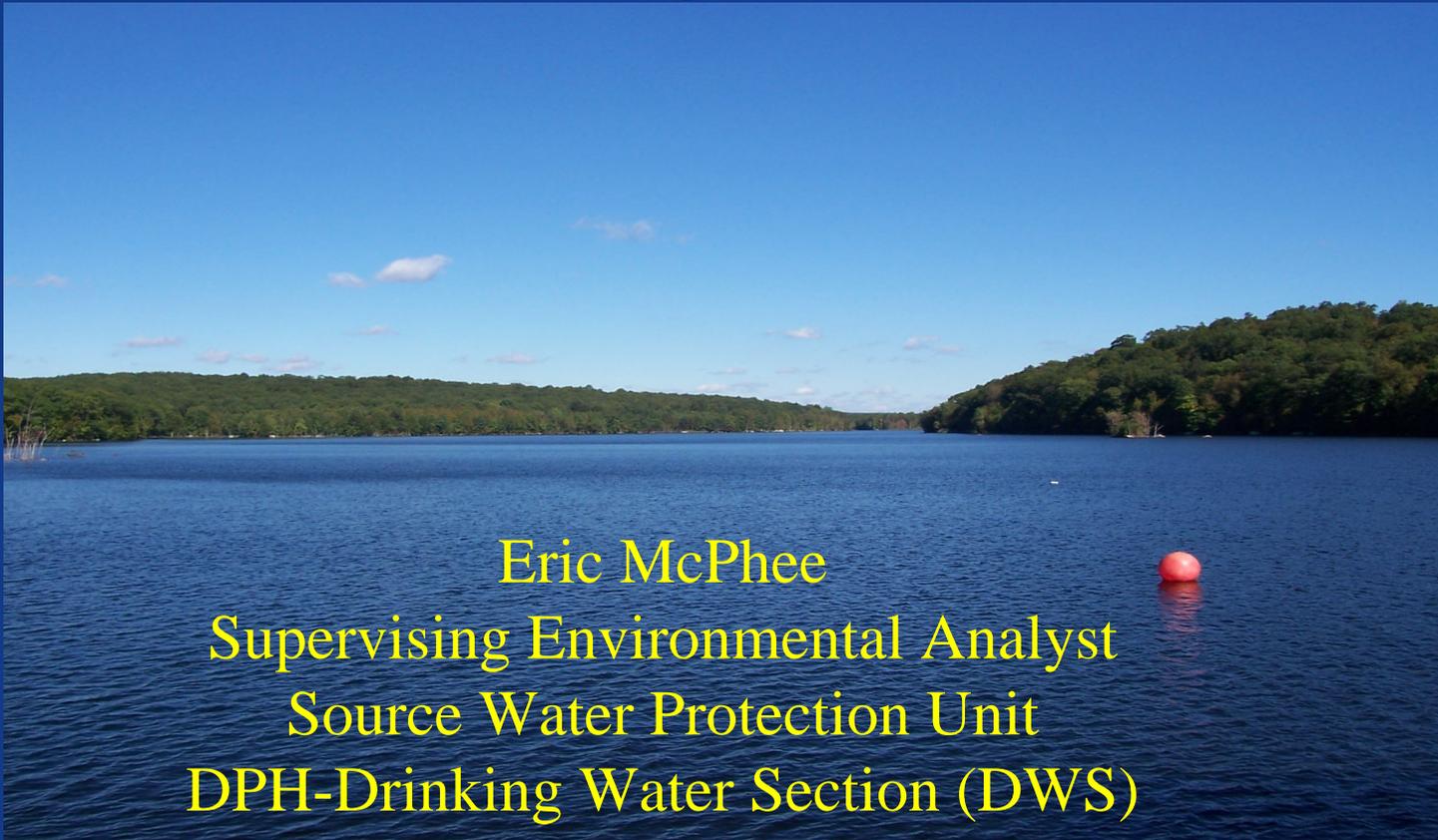


Watershed Inspections: The Importance of Communication and Cooperation between Utilities and Local Health Departments



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DPH-Drinking Water Section (DWS)

Focus

- Renewed DWS emphasis on Watershed Surveys:
 - Cooperation and communication with property owners and local health departments
 - Complete submissions to DPH
 - DWS staff site inspections with water systems on some surveys to provide technical assistance

What is a Watershed Survey?

- RCSA Section 19-13-B102(b): Watershed survey. A public water system using surface water as an active source of supply shall make a sanitary survey of the watershed to the intake at least annually. A report on the survey shall be submitted to the Department by March 1 each year covering the preceding calendar year.
- What elements should the survey include? It starts with.....



RCSA Section 19-13-B32

Sanitation of Public Water Supplies

- Applies to land and watercourses tributary to a public water supply including surface and groundwater sources
- Prohibits:
 - accumulation of animal wastes
 - sewage discharges to surface and groundwater
 - disposal of toxic metals, gasoline, oils & pesticides
- Regulates:
 - stormwater drainage facilities, road salt and fertilizer applications

And.....

Connecticut General Statutes

www.cga.ct.gov/LCO/Statute_Web_Site_LCO.htm

- Sec. 20-341(a-m).....Licensing of Septic System Installers and Pumps
- Sec. 22a-66z Permits for Use of Pesticides in State Waters
- Sec. 22a-417 Discharge of Sewage to Water Supply Impoundment
- Sec. 22a-329 Erosion & Sediment Control Plan
- Sec. 22a-430b General Permit for Construction Activities
- Sec. 22a-423.....Definition of Sewage
- Sec. 25-38 Carcass of Animal in Water Supply
- Sec. 25-43 Bathing In & Pollution of Reservoirs
- Sec. 26-128 Carp & Goldfish
- Sec. 25-51 Utility Inspection Authority

Regulations of State Agencies- Connecticut Public Health Code

www.dir.ct.gov/dph/PHC/browse.asp

- Sec. 19-13-B1..... Constitution of Public Nuisance
- Sec. 19-13-B21..... Manure Storage
- Sec. 19-13-B31..... Stagnant Water
- Sec. 19-13-B32..... Watershed Sanitation
- Sec. 19-13-B102..... Standards for Quality of Public Drinking Water
- Sec. 19-13-B102(a-e)... Subsurface Sewage Disposal Criteria
- Sec. 19-13-B102(b) . Utility Requirement for Watershed Inspection

Regulations of State Agencies- Connecticut Dept. Environmental Protection

www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?a=2704&q=323518

- Sec. 22a-449(d)..... Residential and Nonresidential Underground Storage of Oil & Petroleum Liquids
- Sec. 22a-462-3.....Registration & Labeling of Sewage System Additives



Guidance

- CT Section AWWA Source Water Protection Committee
- New revision currently underway

WATERSHED INSPECTION GUIDELINES

Prepared by
Source Water Protection Committee
Connecticut Section AWWA
[date]

These guidelines have been prepared to assist water utilities in developing a comprehensive watershed inspection program. These are only guidelines and are not meant to serve as rigid standards. Individual water utilities should tailor their inspection program to suit their staff availability and watershed characteristics. The protection of public drinking water supplies from potential pollution is a major concern of water utilities throughout the State. Section 19-13-B102(b) of the State Public Health Code (PHC) requires water utilities to perform an annual sanitary survey of their watershed areas and to submit a report to the Department of Public Health (DPH) by March 1 each year covering the preceding calendar year. Section 25-51 of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) authorizes utilities to enter and inspect premises located within the watershed area. Watershed inspections are an important component of a comprehensive source protection program, which may also include site plan reviews, monitoring, and cooperative efforts with municipal officials and state agencies.



Watershed Survey Report

- Submission to DPH should include all instances of concern within the watershed(s) that occurred in the past year, as well as the status of corrective action.
- Reports are due annually by March 1 of the following year.
- Electronic submission is acceptable.
- Format suggestions are forthcoming, in the interim, contact us with formatting/content questions

Water Utilities ↔ LHDs

- Working together is critical to ensure that all concerns are identified and corrected in a timely manner.
- Share information:
 - Where are the watersheds, what addresses are relevant?
 - What activities are of concern?
 - Who should we contact?
 - Information sharing – inspection list, status of correction, survey report
 - Pool resources – staff, enforcement capabilities





Case Study: When the System Works

- Utility staff identified failed septic near reservoir
- Notification to DPH, LHD
- DPH opens investigation per CGS 25-34
- DOH issues orders to correct failing septic system
- Septic System repaired shortly after identification



DPH Technical Assistance

- DWS will accompany water system staff while they conduct a portion of their watershed survey.
- Why? Technical assistance.
 - Dissemination of useful materials
 - Consistency
 - Stress communication with property owners and LHDs
 - Help facilitate and expedite correction of violations (who to contact – DEP, etc.)
 - Will bring previous year's report, and relay what should be included in current year.
- Goal: All SW PWSs within three years

CLEAN WATER AND YOUR HEALTH

Prepared by
The Source Water Protection Committee
of the Connecticut Section of the
American Water Works Association

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CLEAN WATER AND YOUR HEALTH

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Section</u>	<u>Page Number</u>
Where Does Water Come From.....	2
Septic Systems	3
Pesticides, Herbicides and Fertilizers	4
Oil Pollution.....	5
Oil/Chemical Spills.....	5
Small Pond Management.....	5
Animal Wastes	6
Soil Erosion and Sedimentation	6
Pool Filters and Water Softeners	6
Contacts for More Information.....	7
Clean Water: You Can Make A Difference.....	8
List of State Statutes and Regulations	9
Tank Inspection Record	10

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Home About Us FAQ Contact

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“The guide provides accurate data for decision makers and can be customized for the individual system.”

Robert Morgan, Manager of Environmental Quality
Beaver Water District

Start a local conversation about drinking water protection.

Local officials want clean and plentiful drinking water for their communities. But because watersheds often cross multiple political boundaries, community leaders may not know what they can or should do to protect their water sources. This guide contains quick tips for concrete steps local officials can take to protect source water.

To highlight local water protection options that are both clear and obtainable, the national Source Water Collaborative has created **Your Water. Your Decision.**

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Done



Thanks!

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