



MassDEP

Drinking Water Program

One Winter Street – 5th Floor; Boston, MA 02108

Program.Director-DWP@mass.gov or 617-292-5770

The Drinking Water Updates can be found on-line at:

mass.gov/lists/communication-to-public-water-suppliers

or at the Statehouse Archives at: <https://archives.lib.state.ma.us/handle/2452/826119>



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Drinking Water Program Updates

2020-12-18

This week's program director email has these topics of interest:

1. **MassDEP COVID-19 Information**

-CURRENT STATE: Phase III, Step 1 (as of December 13, 2020)

****Important update from Governor Baker as of 12-13-2020****

MassDEP Public Water Supply Information

MassDEP COVID-19 Conference Calls

EPA COVID-19 Information

2. **COVID-19 Vaccine for Essential Workers**

3. **CYBER INCIDENT: Updated Alert**

4. **Grants: PFAS Treatment Planning and Design**

5. **PFAS Reminders for PWSs**

Teflon Tubing

Free PFAS Sampling is still available

PFAS Design Grants

6. **PFAS Training**

7. **SDWA Assessment (Section 70) Bills for FY21**

8. **Lead and Copper 90th Percentiles Update**

9. **Lead Reminders**

Free Lead Water Testing For Family Childcare Facilities

Informational Lead in Drinking Water Magnet

10. Wellhead Protection Status Update

11. NFWF Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Grant Program

12. Operator Survey on Upcoming Training Topics

13. Cyanobacteria and Surface Water Supplies PWS Guidance Update

14. Economic Burden of Waterborne Infectious Diseases

15. America Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA)

Free Training – Registration Now Open!

16. Training

17. Spam

MassDEP COVID-19 Information

For all information go to <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-state-of-emergency>.

Sign-up for the state messaging tool called “AlertsMA” which sends real-time notifications of COVID-19 alerts. To subscribe to these real-time notifications text the keyword **COVIDMA** to **888-777**. After signing up, you will receive short messages and links to information on your cell phone or other mobile device.

Masks and Face Coverings: On May 1, Governor Baker issued an order requiring the use of masks or face coverings in public situations when appropriate social distancing measures are not possible. Order | Guidance

-CURRENT STATE: Phase III, Step 1 (as of December 13, 2020)

Until a treatment or vaccine for COVID-19 is available, life will not return to normal. We each have a collective responsibility to ensure that reopening proceeds smoothly and safely. Everyone must follow public health directives and use common sense to protect yourself, your family, your neighbors, and vulnerable populations across the Commonwealth.

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/reopening-massachusetts>.

****Important update from Governor Baker as of 12-13-2020****

Governor Baker Announces New Restrictions Statewide for Capacity, Mask Compliance, and Distancing Due to Increased Cases and Hospitalizations

MA is rolling back to Phase 3, Step 1 on 12/13

- Stronger mask rules for offices including:
 - In offices, employees must wear masks at their place of work when not in their own workspace and alone
 - Employers are strongly encouraged to close or limit the use of seating in common area break rooms
- Capacity reductions for businesses

- New mask, table capacity, time limit rules for restaurants

[Read More About New Restrictions.](#)

MassDEP Public Water Supply Information

MassDEP is coordinating with the water supply industries, agencies, and organizations to provide information about the impacts of COVID-19 in Massachusetts.

- Recorded weekly meetings with Commissioner Suuberg: [Water Suppliers Meetings on COVID-19](#)
- Questions from drinking water operators answered by MassDEP [Water Supplier FAQs](#) Updated 10/5/2020
- [Bacteria sampling at outside taps/spigots/hose bibs](#) (PDF 97 KB)
- [Bacteria sampling at hydrants using hydrant sampler](#) (PDF 87 KB)
- [Mitigating lead and copper levels in facilities after school closure due to COVID-19](#) (PDF 115 KB)
- Emergency Certification for Public Water System Temporary Closure (Non-Operational Status) For Non-Community (TNC/NTNC) public water suppliers ([Word 40KB](#)) ([PDF 149 KB](#))
- Drinking Water Operator license Extension Guidance during the public health emergency <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/guidance-regarding-the-orders-by-the-governor-extending-certain-occupational-and>
- MassDEP Building Flushing Information <https://www.mass.gov/doc/massdep-building-flushing-information>
- Form to document non-compliance related to COVID-19 <https://www.mass.gov/doc/documentation-for-failure-to-comply-with-a-requirement-as-a-result-of-the-covid-19-emergency>
- Information on Training for Public Water Suppliers <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/drinking-water-training>

Reminder: Please note that during the COVID-19 pandemic that MassDEP staff are generally working remotely. MassDEP-DWP cannot guarantee that posted hardcopy submittals will be delivered or received as expected. Therefore, we strongly encourage you to use eDEP, if available, for water quality monitoring reporting or if you mail in reports to also submit a PDF copy of the report by email to Program.Director-DWP@mass.gov. The subject line should include the PWSID, City/Town and type of report (e.g., 3035000 Boston Bacteria Report). Continue to mail the official hardcopy to the appropriate MassDEP Regional office but indicate on the cover letter or similar enclosure that the report(s) was sent in via email and include the date of the email.

MassDEP COVID-19 Conference Calls

MassDEP's Commissioner Suuberg is now holding monthly Zoom conference calls to all operators and interested parties. Here is a link to MassDEP's webpage, where recordings of Commissioner Suuberg's calls with the operators as well as FAQs for both water supply and wastewater are

published: <https://www.mass.gov/lists/covid-19-information-for-drinking-water-and-wastewater-operators>. MassDEP will continue to populate this webpage with other relevant information related to the COVID-19 crisis.

These calls are now on a monthly schedule.

The next call with Commissioner Suuberg is scheduled for Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at 2 PM. Please email all drinking water questions to MassDEP at program.director-dwp@mass.gov.

Zoom Meeting Information

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Weekly: https://zoom.us/meeting/uJEtf-isqzstGhSf_beAtiSdfHxEEd-69rQ/ics?icsToken=98tyKuytrjMrHtGVt1z9d7lvW4X-b-HyllZGmaVinhREfYlgZgXeLsdGf-QmAumB

Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/550814507> Meeting ID: 550 814 507

One tap mobile

+19294362866,,550814507# US (New York)

+13126266799,,550814507# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 301 715 8592 US

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US

Meeting ID: 550 814 507

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/anAJCjR7G>

EPA COVID-19 Information

EPA COVID-19 <https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus>

COVID-19 Vaccine for Essential Workers

AWWA 12-15-2020

As you have likely seen in the news, distribution of COVID-19 vaccines has started. In a [memo distributed to U.S. water and wastewater utilities](#), The Water Sector Coordinating Council (WSCC), which consists of representatives from the national water and wastewater organizations, is urging drinking water and wastewater utilities across the country to contact their state and local public

health agencies to ensure their staff members are included in Phase 1-B of their communities' COVID-19 vaccine distribution.

In the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [COVID-19 Vaccination Program Interim Playbook for Jurisdiction Operations](#), water and wastewater utility employees are eligible to be included in Phase 1-B since they have the [federal designation](#) of “essential workers.”

The memo states the importance of contacting local government officials saying, “Local engagement is critical because, while the federal government has issued recommendations for vaccine prioritization, the final decisions related to planning and distribution will occur at the state and local levels. In a December 7 email to Water and Wastewater Sector partners, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Water Security Division recognized the CDC’s interim playbook ‘recommends non-health care essential workers, which include water utility staff, receive priority in Phase 1-B’ and stated it ‘recommends water utilities coordinate with their state and local governments and health departments regarding vaccination distribution planning.’”

AWWA and other water sector associations have drafted a [template letter](#) for utilities to use when contacting their state and local health authorities.

Questions can be directed to [Kevin Morley](#), AWWA’s federal relations manager.

CYBER INCIDENT: Updated Alert

Water Sector Coordinating Council and Government Coordinating Council:

The DHS Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency (CISA) has issued an **updated alert for widespread cyber exploitation of the SolarWinds software platform**. This intrusion achieves broad penetration and long-term undetected presence in victim networks, allowing for exfiltration of victim data.

Please note: CISA has recently determined that the SolarWinds Orion supply chain compromise is not the only initial infection vector being leveraged.

EPA wants to ensure that all members of the Water and Wastewater Systems sector are aware of this alert so that they can execute the recommended mitigation procedures. Consequently, EPA requests that all members of the WSCC and GCC distribute the attached CISA alert and URL below to their membership:

<https://us-cert.cisa.gov/ncas/alerts/aa20-352a>

If you suspect your infrastructure has been compromised, please contact the CISA Cyber Liaison (cyberliaison@cisa.dhs.gov) immediately. CISA is advising entities not to disclose any details regarding a suspected compromise when contacting them via email. Upon receiving email correspondence, CISA will work with the reporting entity to establish out-of-band communication to discuss further.

Grants: PFAS Treatment Planning and Design

MassDEP Official Responses to Questions Regarding the November 13, 2020, Round 2 PFAS Treatment Grant Opportunity: Grants for Reimbursement or New Costs for Planning and Design of PFAS Treatment Systems in PFAS-Impacted Communities

On May 20, 2020, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) offered an initial grant and cost reimbursement opportunity to support the planning and design of systems for treatment of drinking water in PFAS-impacted communities (known as the “Round 1 PFAS Treatment Grant”). On November 13, 2020, MassDEP posted a second grant and cost reimbursement opportunity for PFAS-impacted communities, known as the “Round 2 PFAS Treatment Grant.”

MassDEP accepted questions by email regarding the Round 2 PFAS Treatment Grant through November 25, 2020. The following three questions were received by that deadline. MassDEP’s official responses are provided below each question.

- 1. Is an airport, that is not a public water supplier, an eligible entity to apply for this funding opportunity, or is funding strictly limited to existing public water systems?**

MassDEP Response: No; an airport that is not a public water supplier (PWS) is not eligible for the Round 2 PFAS Treatment Grant. Eligibility for the Round 2 PFAS Treatment Grants is limited to PWS entities that are currently on the MassDEP list of registered PWSs (see <https://www.mass.gov/doc/public-water-suppliers-contact-spreadsheet-rev-dec-2020/download>), specifically: “Community and Non-transient Non-community (NTNC) MassDEP approved public water systems as defined in 310 CMR 22.02, under public or private ownership.” See Round 2 PFAS Treatment Grant, “Eligible Entities” section, at page 3.

- 2. The airport is designing a water main extension and water service connections that would become municipal water infrastructure upon completion. Is this design project eligible for funding as a “Planning and design project to replace PFAS-6 contaminated drinking water sources” or other eligibility vehicle?**

MassDEP Response: The proposed work activities are not eligible for Round 2 PFAS Treatment Grant funding. The potential to become part of the infrastructure of a registered

PWS in the future does not meet the eligibility criteria stated above and in the Grant Opportunity document.

3. **Under the funding section there is a line labeled, *Amount of Match Provided (optional)*; and my question is, can the match represent in-kind hours or does the match have to be actual funding?**

MassDEP Response: The estimated actual dollar value of in-kind match is acceptable for Round 2 PFAS Treatment Grants. This could include volunteer services, professional assistance, or the donated use of equipment for testing, surveys, mapping, or other project-related work.

PFAS Reminders for PWSs

Teflon Tubing

Special care must be taken when sampling for PFAS to avoid cross-contamination. Something you may not have thought of is long lines of Teflon tubing going from a sample tap to your in-house lab; also of concern is Teflon tape on your sampling taps.

Teflon tubing has been shown to leach PFAS when water is sitting stagnant in the tubing. See this presentation:

https://www.biaofnh.com/uploads/5/9/9/2/59921097/session_a_-_programmatic_sessions.pdf

“PFAS Leachability from Sampling Materials: Results of a Recent Study - September 11, 2019 2019 - New Hampshire Hazardous Waste & Contaminated Sites Conference” Elizabeth Denly, ASQ CMQ/OE Program Director – TRC’s PFAS Group

Also, see the MassDEP Field Sampling Guide: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/field-sampling-guide-for-pfas/download>

Free PFAS Sampling is still available

Visit <https://www.mass.gov/forms/pfas-free-sampling-initiative-notice-of-interest-form-for-public-water-systems> to sign up for the Free PFAS Lab Analyses Program, or send a request with the information described in the survey (e.g., PWS name, PWS ID#, number of sources already tested, number of sources to be tested, and system population) to program.director-dwp@mass.gov, Subject: “Free PFAS Lab Analyses Program - Sampling questions.”

PFAS Design Grants

PFAS Treatment Planning and Design Grants Round 2 is available. More information and the grant application are available at <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/water-resources-grants-financial->

[assistance#pfas-treatment-grant-](#) . **Deadline to submit your grant application: Wednesday, December 30, 2020.**

PFAS Training

Save the date: PFAS in Drinking Water and the New Massachusetts Drinking Water Regulations
A web training by MassDEP, hosted by RCAP

Wednesday, January 27th

9am-12 noon

Attendance restricted to those who did not attend the Dec 10 training.

Three TCHs available.

More info on this training will be announced soon.

Video of the Dec 10 training is available on the MassDEP Youtube Channel at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rENXb6PFH54&pbjreload=101>

SDWA Assessment (Section 70) Bills for FY21

The Safe Drinking Water Act Assessment (Section 70) bills for FY21 were mailed to all public water systems this week. These bills are based on water use reported on the Annual Statistical Report for calendar year 2018. If you have any questions when you receive your bill, please email program.director-dwp@mass.gov (subject line: bill).

The Assessment helps support MassDEP's implementation of over 50 federal Safe Drinking Water Act programs and allows MassDEP's Drinking Water Program to provide no-cost technical and compliance assistance and training to PWS. Training topics are determined based on needs articulated by PWS and/or by surveying deficiencies identified during sanitary surveys. No-cost training contact hours (TCHs) to maintain state drinking water operator licenses are provided.

The Safe Drinking Water Act Assessment (Section 70) Advisory Committee monitors and provides advice on the Assessment Program and recommends the rate structure. More information about the Committee is posted at <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/safe-drinking-water-act-assessment-advisory-committee-section-70-committee>.

Lead and Copper 90th Percentiles Update

It is that time again!

MassDEP Drinking Water Program routinely posts 90th percentile results for the Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) on our web page. This posting occurs 3 times per year after each round of LCR monitoring (March 1, September 1 and December 1). Please see the latest update at <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/public-water-systems-90th-percentile-lead-sampling-results>

Lead Reminders

Free Lead Water Testing For Family Childcare Facilities

Massachusetts Expanded Assistance Program for lead in school and childcare drinking water facilities is making free lead testing available, free technical assistance, and free outreach materials to eligible facilities. Please see attached flyer. Apply online at: <http://www.mass.gov/assistance-program-for-lead-in-school-drinking-water> Email: <mailto:lccadep@umass.edu> or program.director-dwp@mass.gov Funding provided in part by a US Environmental Protection Agency grant.

Informational Lead in Drinking Water Magnet

MassDEP, working with our partners at UMass-Amherst, recently designed and distributed to all childcare facilities an informational magnet about lead in drinking water. If you are interested in receiving a magnet(s) for distribution to other locations in your community, please email program.director-dwp@mass.gov with Magnet in the subject line. Depending on the level of interest, we may be able to print more of them. Information about our Expanded Assistance Program for Lead in Drinking Water at Schools and Early Education and Care Facilities can be found at: <https://www.mass.gov/assistance-program-for-lead-in-school-drinking-water>.

Wellhead Protection Status Update

The Drinking Water Program is providing water suppliers with an update of their wellhead protection status. This update effort is focusing on water systems whose wells have a MassDEP approved Zone II. Since 1990, 175 water systems have achieved compliance with MassDEP's wellhead protection requirements. However, many water suppliers are not aware of their current wellhead protection status. This update effort is to ensure water suppliers know what the current protection status is for all of their wells, and to provide them with information for pursuing additional protection measures if needed. In 2020 the Drinking Water Program issued 55 wellhead protection update letters. Information provided to public water suppliers included the following:

- A review of municipal controls to determine if they prohibit the uses and activities cited in the *Wellhead Protection Regulations* 310 CMR 22.21(2)
- A review of local protection maps to determine if the Zone II is fully covered
- For Zone IIs in adjacent communities, a review of those community's protection controls to determine if the Zone II is fully protected, **or** if the water supplier will be subject to further compliance with the *Best Effort Requirement* 310 CMR 22.21(1)
- A statement of wellhead protection compliance or comments for amending local controls or the protection map
- A review of the Zone I to determine if activities are limited to water supply operation activities
- A review of the local protection status for any (municipal or water district) wells with an Interim Wellhead Protection Area

Of significance, it should be noted that wellhead protection compliance is required for monitoring waiver eligibility and certain water supply related grant and loan opportunities. Note that it is the PWSs responsibility to stay aware of the local wellhead protection regulations and let MassDEP know of any changes. All water suppliers, as described above, will be receiving a wellhead protection update letter over the next year. Any water suppliers wishing to know their wellhead protection status, ahead of receiving their update letter, or have questions about wellhead protection, may contact the Drinking Water Program at: dwp@mass.gov subject: WHP update.

NFWF Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Grant Program

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and the Wildlife Habitat Council (WHC), in cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), USDA Forest Service (USFS), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), FedEx, Southern Company and BNSF Railway are soliciting proposals for the Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration grant program. Local water quality, water quality monitoring, and source water protection plans are specifically mentioned, among other activities and priorities relevant to source water protection.

Full Proposal Due Date: January 28, 2021 by 11:59 pm (Eastern Time). Eligible applicants include non-profit 501(c) organizations, state government agencies, local governments, municipal governments, Indian tribes and educational institutions. Grant program priorities include:

1. On-the-Ground Restoration
2. Environmental Outreach, Education, and Training
3. Community Partnerships
4. Measurable Results
5. Sustainability

Approximately \$1,500,000 is available nationwide for projects meeting program priorities. There is one round of full proposals annually for this program. Awards range from \$20,000 to \$50,000 with an average size of \$35,000 and 40-50 grants awarded per year. Grants should span 12 to 18 months with a start date in late summer/early fall 2021. [More details can be found here.](#)

Operator Survey on Upcoming Training Topics

MassDEP is working with UMass-Amherst, Rural Community Assistance Partnership (RCAP), New England Water Works Association (NEWWA), and EPA Region 1 to provide a number of FREE (1-3 Hour) online trainings (w/TCHs) for operators between January 1, 2021-June 30, 2021. Please complete the poll below to identify topics that we should prioritize. If you have additional training topics that are not listed or have participated in an informative and enriching training, please add them to the comment box at the bottom of the page or email them to us. Any and all ideas are welcome. Please respond by Friday, January 8th. If you have any questions or suggestions, please email them to program.director-dwp@mass.gov with Training Survey in the subject line.

https://doodle.com/poll/a74xh5c7wabshpwd?utm_source=poll&utm_medium=link

Cyanobacteria and Surface Water Supplies PWS Guidance Update

In October 2020, MassDEP provided multiple documents regarding cyanobacteria to PWS with surface water supplies to assist with updating source water protection and emergency response plans in preparation for potential cyanobacterial harmful algal bloom (CyanoHAB) events in 2021. The information and documents included the following, which can all be found on MassDEP's cyanobacteria web page at: <https://www.mass.gov/guides/cyanobacterial-harmful-algal-blooms-cyanohabs-water>

- *Cyanobacteria Guidance for PWSs* (includes updated language regarding DPH criteria for recommended advisories at recreational waterbodies that PWSs may wish to share with local health agents)
- *Cyanobacteria and Public Drinking Water Supplies in Massachusetts* Fact Sheet
- *PWS Bloom Tracking Form* (a technical assistance tool for voluntary use)
- *Notification of Copper Algaecide Application* (NEW - <https://www.mass.gov/lists/source-water-protection-forms-and-templates>)

- *Updated cyanobacteria/cyanotoxins services list* now available online, along with a form that labs may fill out to get on the list, at <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/cyanobacteria-and-or-cyanotoxins-contract-services-list>.

Please contact us if you have any questions on the material above at: program.director-dwp@mass.gov, subject: cyanobacteria

Economic Burden of Waterborne Infectious Diseases

This week, [Emerging Infectious Diseases \(EID\) journal](https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/27/1/19-0676_article) published CDC's first estimate of the burden and healthcare costs of waterborne infectious diseases in the US; an effort that has been years in the making. You can read the paper at:

https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/27/1/19-0676_article.

Below are some of the key findings that underscore the impact these illnesses are having each year:

- At least 1 in 44 Americans gets sick from a waterborne infection.
- 17 waterborne pathogens cause approximately 7.2 million illnesses, 601,000 emergency department visits, 118,000 hospitalizations, and 6,630 deaths.
- Waterborne diseases incur over \$3.3 billion in direct health care costs for hospitalizations and emergency department visits.
- While common diseases like otitis externa (swimmer's ear), norovirus infection, giardiasis, and cryptosporidiosis account for 95% of all waterborne illnesses, 94% of all deaths are caused by diseases from pathogens that live in biofilm (e.g., nontuberculous mycobacterial infection [NTM], Legionnaires' disease, *Pseudomonas pneumonia*, and *Pseudomonas septicemia*).
- Biofilm-related pathogens are also responsible for over 75% of the \$3.3 billion in direct healthcare costs.

The data shows us that most of the fatal and costly waterborne disease challenges we currently face is related to pathogens living inside the millions of miles of plumbing and water distribution systems. As we know, our water infrastructure requires ongoing investment to ensure the continued public health benefits of safe water. The CDC is hopeful that this publication will spur more attention to these issues and encourage future investments in infrastructure improvements.

For more information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention go to:

<https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/surveillance/burden/findings.html>.

America Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) Free Training – Registration Now Open!

EPA Region I will be providing free virtual training on America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) for small systems in early February 2021. Please see the attached flyer for dates and registration details.

1. **FINAL REMINDER! PWSs serving 50,000 to 99,999** should be in the process of performing their RRA in time to submit certification of its completion by **DECEMBER 31, 2020**. Certification to EPA of your updated ERP is required by JUNE 30, 2021.
2. **PWSs serving 3,301 to 49,999** should also be in the RRA planning process to submit certification of its completion to EPA by **JUNE 30, 2021**. Certification to EPA of your updated ERP is required by DECEMBER 31, 2021.

If you're unable to attend the live February trainings, you can also access recordings of EPA's 4-part AWIA Risk Assessment and Emergency Response Plan Training 101 at:

<https://www.epa.gov/waterresiliencetraining/register-water-utility-resilience-workshops-and-webinars-now>

Training

When you need training please look at the training calendar located at:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/drinking-water-training-class-schedules.html> for upcoming trainings.

Some newly added trainings on the calendar are:

- RCAP/AWWA Workshop: Achieve and Maintain Compliance with the SDWA, January 11 & 13, 2021 – [More Info](#)

If you need a refresher on recently given trainings, you can review several training videos located at:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLJn2AKOcYr7lutGJB-UfDKtQPF_o_249m

or click here:  **YouTube**

Spam

Remember, if you receive an email from the state the email address will be in the firstname.lastname@mass.gov format. If it is not, do not open or click on any links as it most probably is spam.

MassDEP is sending this important drinking water information to all PWS responsible persons who are listed on the state database. If you are no longer the correct responsible person for the PWS please reply with the correct contact information. MassDEP needs one responsible contact person from each PWS.

Operators, consultants, and others who are interested in Drinking Water Program updates are encouraged to request to be subscribed to this email list. You may also request to be unsubscribed by replying to this email.

This MassDEP Program Director technical assistance email is funded by the Safe Drinking Water Act Assessment (Section 70) Program. The Assessment is paid by all consumers of public water in Massachusetts and is collected by public water systems. For more information about the Assessment Program, go to <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/news/advisory-committees/safe-drinking-water-act-assessment-advisory-committee.html>.



America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) Virtual Multi-Modular Workshop for EPA Region 1 February 2nd, 3rd, & 4th, 2021

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is sponsoring a *free* virtual workshop to help community (drinking) water systems (CWSs) learn about the requirements of America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA). On October 23, 2018, AWIA was signed into law. AWIA Section 2013 requires CWSs serving more than 3,300 people to develop or update risk and resilience assessments (RRAs) and emergency response plans (ERPs). The law specifies the components that the RRAs and ERPs must address and establishes deadlines by which water systems must certify to EPA completion of the RRA and ERP.

This workshop contains 3 modules that participants may register for individually:

- ❖ Module 1 - Section 2013 Requirements, Certification, & Section 2018 Basics
- ❖ Module 2 - Risk and Resilience Assessments: Malevolent Acts, Natural Hazards, and the Small Systems Checklist
- ❖ Module 3 - Emergency Response Plan Template and Guidance

Who Should Attend: This virtual workshop is designed for CWSs serving 3,301-99,999 people. However, all CWSs, as well as vendors and consultants, especially those who are assisting CWSs in achieving AWIA requirements, are welcome to attend.

We also invite those who would like to lead a version of this AWIA workshop (e.g. technical assistance providers) to attend in a "Train-the-Trainer" capacity. In this role you can observe the workshop and receive presentation materials with speaker's notes. At the end of Module 3, we will host a 30-minute Train-the-Trainer session to answer questions about using the materials provided to host your own trainings.

EPA is in the process of obtaining state approvals for 1.5 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) per module. Please note, you are not guaranteed credits for attending while we wait for state approvals.

Date	Workshop Module	Time	Registration Links
2/2/21	Module 1	1:00pm-2:30pm EST	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2472938401848352527
2/3/21	Module 2	1:00pm-2:30pm EST	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6706663999703177744
2/4/21	Module 3	1:00pm-3:00pm EST*	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/601752130304089871

*If you are attending as a trainer, please plan for a 30-minute Q&A session at the end of Module 3.

For more information, please contact us at dwresilience@epa.gov.