

MassDEP / Drinking Water Program

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In The Main - The Drinking Water Updates can be found online at:

mass.gov/lists/communication-to-public-water-suppliers or at the Statehouse Archives at:

https://archives.lib.state.ma.us/handle/2452/826119 which has a searchable database.

#### Errata: Correction of "PFAS Update" article

Kindly disregard MassDEP's entire article in the June 30, 2023 newsletter, under the fourth item with the heading PFAS Update, regarding the 3M Co PFAS litigation. Because the In the Main newsletter is for informational purposes only, MassDEP does not provide, and is not providing, any legal advice, either express or implied. Contact an attorney if you require any legal advice regarding this or any other litigation matter.



Balcony of the Old State House, site of the first reading of the Declaration of Independence in Boston, July 18, 1776 Photo by: Eric Cheung

Are you looking for past issues or topics in our *In the Main* newsletter?

Use the search function in the Statehouse Archives at: https://archives.lib.state.ma.us/handle/2452/826119

This In The Main newsletter has these topics of interest

2023-06-30

- 1. 2023 Annual Notice to Boards of Health
- 2. Getting Ready for the LCRR
- 3. Lead in Schools and Childcare Facilities Drinking Water Update
- 4. PFAS Update
- 5. Training Calendar
- 6. Cybersecurity, Emergency Preparedness, and You!
- 7. Supply Chain Reminders

### 2023 Annual Notice to Boards of Health

The Annual Notice to Boards of Health for 2023 is available from MassDEP at <a href="https://www.mass.gov/lists/drinking-water-information-for-boards-of-health">https://www.mass.gov/lists/drinking-water-information-for-boards-of-health</a>. This notice includes many topics of interest to both BOHs and public water suppliers. Cybersecurity, PFAS, TNCs, Well Driller and Lead Service Line Replacement are just a few of the topics in this year's notice.

### Getting Ready for the LCRR

New Guidance was added to the MassDEP Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) Webpage!

Two new guidance documents were added to our LCRR webpage:

- 1. <u>Guidance about how PWS can make their service line inventories accessible to the public:</u> to be in compliance with the LCRR by October 16th, 2024, all PWS that have any Lead (LSL), Galvanized Requiring Replacement (GRR), or Unknown service lines must make their service line inventories accessible to the public. The guidance describes the requirements for systems that serve more than 50,000 people, 50,000 people or less, or do not have any LSL, GRR, or unknown service lines.
- 2. <u>LCRR requirements for systems with "Lead Status Unknown" in their service line inventories:</u> All Community and Non transient Non-Community PWS service line inventories are due October 16th, 2024! Since service line inventories are coming up soon, the guidance document lists the requirements that your system may trigger if you list any "lead status unknown" service lines in your inventory. All requirements listed are found in EPA's regulation 40 CFR 141, at eCFR: 40 CFR Part 141 Subpart I -- Control of Lead and Copper. Please note: MassDEP will provide templates for all LCRR information and notices.

You can find these documents at <u>Lead and Copper Rule Revisions | Mass.gov.</u>

Outreach Toolkit Updates: Postcard Designs
The Outreach Toolkit for PWS to use has been updated!

Now included in the toolkit is a set of 3 different postcard designs, which can be used by PWS to encourage residents to cooperate and volunteer for water sampling. The postcards have 3 different designs:

- 1. A comic book/superhero design. Bold and colorful, an eye-catching design that may be new for residents.
- 2. A simple, mature design. This design features a basic black and white color scheme with a photo of a kitchen faucet.
- 3. A water themed design. Featuring shades of blue and a water drop design on the front, it is a colorful design which is eye-catching but simple; a compromise of the other 2 designs.

Each design has 2 options for the language included on the postcard. Option A has a summary of why sampling is required and includes a section for PWS contact information for volunteers. Option B also includes the summary and contact information, as well as a section to offer an incentive for residents to volunteer. Postcards are provided in a word document with easy to edit text to add specific PWS information.

The toolkit is located at <a href="https://www.mass.gov/doc/lcrr-service-line-inventory-public-outreach-toolkit/">https://www.mass.gov/doc/lcrr-service-line-inventory-public-outreach-toolkit/</a>.

A few examples of the Postcard designs are included:



#### Also included in the Toolkit are examples of homeowner incentives for LCR sampling!

MassDEP's Drinking Water Program has collected examples of incentives PWS have used nationally and locally to encourage homeowners to participate in their local community lead and copper drinking water program. Some of the listed incentives are:

- A credit towards the homeowner's water bill,
- ♣ A cash reward,
- 4 A prize drawing with a variety of prizes to win,
- A gift card to a well-known business; businesses such as a coffee seller, a fast-food or other restaurant, a home improvement store, an ice cream store, and so on would all be great incentives. Giving a choice between multiple gift card options might entice the most homeowners.
- ♣ Tickets to a local event such as a sporting event, movie theater, a carnival, or a show.

To see what your colleagues are doing in MA, go to page 24 of the toolkit. Do you know of other incentives to add to the incentives list? Please share your example with MassDEP Drinking Water Program at <a href="mailto:program.director-dwp@mass.gov">program.director-dwp@mass.gov</a>.

#### **EPA Released New Guidance for Developing the Service Line Inventories!**

EPA has posted the <u>Small Systems Entity Compliance Guide</u>. The guide is meant to support water systems, particularly small CWS and NTNCWS, in complying with the LCRR initial inventory requirements. EPA also posted a new <u>Fact Sheet for Developing and Maintaining a Service Line Inventory</u>. This fact sheet is meant to help water systems quickly identify LCRR inventory requirements.

If you have any questions on this information, please contact the MassDEP Drinking Water Program at program.director-dwp@mass.gov, Subject "LCRR."

# Lead in Schools and Childcare Facilities Drinking Water Update

#### **Expanded Assistance Program Update**

#### Lead in Drinking Water in Schools and Childcare Facilities Webinar!

MassDEP, with its partners the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and the MA Clean Water Trust will host a webinar on July 26, 2023 to inform schools, childcare providers, and any other interested parties on the issue of lead in drinking water, the Expanded Assistance Program, and the School Water Improvement Grants (SWIG) Program. Please share the registration information below with any interested schools or childcare providers in your service area.

Lead in Drinking Water in Schools and Childcare Facilities Webinar Wednesday, July 26, 2023 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM EDT https://attendee.gototraining.com/r/5505460761066154496

The Expanded Assistance Program for Lead in Schools and Early Education and Care Facilities (EECF) Drinking Water provides free analysis of lead drinking water samples and technical assistance to schools and EECFs by assisting with sampling, results interpretation, and guidance on remediation actions. The program is funded by a nearly \$1.6 million grant from the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act from the U.S. Environmental

Protection Agency. MassDEP also worked with the Clean Water Trust to secure additional funding to expand assistance to private schools.

Currently, 540 schools and EECFs are participating in the program and 338 (63%) of participating facilities are within environmental justice communities. To date, 404 schools and EECFs have completed testing. Of facilities that have tested and received results, 276 (68%) had one or more lead detections.

Do you know of any schools or childcare facilities that could benefit from the Expanded Assistance Program? Please identify and encourage schools and childcares within your service area to participate in the program.

Eligible facilities may apply for assistance at <a href="https://script.google.com/macros/s/AKfycbyr\_U8wEMrA-Q2XifkK4|58x4GDtYrItvpKIKUAhSxpw9pSZtA/exec">https://script.google.com/macros/s/AKfycbyr\_U8wEMrA-Q2XifkK4|58x4GDtYrItvpKIKUAhSxpw9pSZtA/exec</a>

For additional information on the program and all lead testing in schools and childcare facilities see the Story Map at <a href="https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/7f58049174f84073bae7d7bcaa159ca7/">https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/7f58049174f84073bae7d7bcaa159ca7/</a> or contact <a href="mailto:program.director-dwp@mass.gov">program.director-dwp@mass.gov</a>, subject line Lead in Schools Program.

#### Pilot Program for Testing Schools and Childcares for Lead Ahead of the LCRR

Our LCRR Pilot Program is designed to help PWS offer testing to schools and EECFs in their service area prior to the LCRR October 2024 requirements using the existing MassDEP Expanded Assistance Program for Lead in School and EECF Drinking Water. Sampling conducted through the Expanded Assistance Program is comprehensive and exceeds the LCRR requirements for sampling at schools and EECFs. Six PWS are actively participating in this Pilot Program, and to date 30 facilities identified by PWS for testing have been sampled with results.

MassDEP is expanding this Pilot Program to additional Community PWS in towns where few or no EECFs have participated in the assistance program to date, or where there has been a recent lead Action Level exceedance. On 6/8/23 we invited 19 PWS to join this program. As of 6/28/23, four additional PWSs have indicated their interest.

#### What action to take:

- If your PWS meets the criteria, MassDEP will reach out to you with an invitation to participate. If you receive an invitation and are interested in participating, reply to the email indicating your interest.
- If you do not receive an invitation but are interested in participating in this Pilot Program, please contact the Drinking Water Program at <a href="mailto:program.director-dwp@mass.gov">program.director-dwp@mass.gov</a>, subject line LCRR Pilot Program.

### **PFAS Update**

Note: See errata at top of this newsletter.

#### -3M Reaches Tentative \$10 Billion Deal Over US "Forever Chemicals" Claims

On June 22, 2023 3M Co reached a \$10.3 billion settlement with several public water systems to resolve PFAS water pollution claims. The settlement will provide funds over a 13 year period to communities and public water systems to test and treat for PFAS.

Important points for PWS to consider:

1. Systems can still join the PFAS lawsuit. There is no cost to register, and you can always opt out of any settlement or judgement prior to accepting. To sign up follow this link: <a href="https://www.napolilaw.com/nrwa-pfas/">https://www.napolilaw.com/nrwa-pfas/</a>. Note: PWS should consult with the Massachusetts Attorney General's office before joining, as participation in this lawsuit may remove you from the Attorney General's separate pending PFAS lawsuit.

- 2. Any monies paid to systems will be to compensate for additional treatment and testing costs. 3M's settlement is designed to "support PFAS remediation for public water suppliers that detect PFAS at any level or may do so in the future."
- 3. It is crucial for the litigation that systems test all water sources for all 29 UCMR 5 chemicals, including raw water. Note: Sampling and analysis of finished water that Massachusetts PWS conduct for compliance with the PFAS6 MCL is not likely to meet the requirements for participation in this lawsuit. PFAS samples collected for compliance with the PFAS6 MCL must be analyzed by EPA methods 537 or 537.1, which only test for 14 and 18 PFAS chemicals, respectively.

See the settlement Q&A document here: <a href="https://nrwa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/DuPont-Q-and-A.pdf">https://nrwa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/DuPont-Q-and-A.pdf</a> Read more about this historic settlement here:

https://www.reuters.com/legal/3m reaches tentative 103 billion deal over us forever chemicals claims 2023 06 22/

#### Massachusetts PWS and PFAS

Currently there are 1,575 active PWS in the State of which 1,417 were required to test for PFAS (have their own water source).

1,171 PWS (80%) took advantage of the free sampling program which ended June 30, 2022. 95% of the population are drinking water from Community PWS that currently meets the PFAS6 drinking water standard.

170 PWS detected one or more finished water sources above the PFAS6 MCL of 20 ppt. See Tab 3 of the <u>PFAS</u> storymap for details.

A total of 38 new water treatment facilities or additions to existing WTFs have been constructed and activated by our PWS to remove PFAS (temporary and permanent systems). See Tab 6 on the <u>PFAS storymap</u> for details.

Public Water Supplier PFAS testing results are available to the public on the web in the <u>EEA data portal</u>. Search under the chemical name: "PFAS6" or to see all the PFAS chemicals, search under the contaminant group "PFAS".

The MassDEP Bureau of Waste Site Clean-up has issued 123 Release Tracking Numbers (RTNs) related to site investigations of PFAS contamination. 49 of these RTNs are for Public Water Supply source contamination. Documents associated with RTNs are made available to the public on the EEA data portal <a href="https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/portal/#!/search/wastesite">https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/portal/#!/search/wastesite</a>

### **Training Calendar**

When you need training, please look at the training calendar located at: <a href="http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/drinking-water-training-class-schedules.html">http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/drinking-water-training-class-schedules.html</a>.

#### Board of Certification Training Page and List of Approved Courses

You may also want to go to the Board of Certification of Operators of Drinking Water Supply Facilities Operators training page and view the approved education courses to sit for examination. Go to: https://www.mass.gov/doc/drinking-water-board-approved-education-courses-updated-september-2020/download.

Some Newly Added Trainings on the Calendar

Designing Manufactured Treatment Devices (MTDs) with Maintenance in Mind Tuesday, July 11, 2023; 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. ET; webinar

Manufactured Treatment Devices (MTDs), similar to non-proprietary stormwater BMPs, must be maintained to perform as intended. However, majority of effort and focus is placed upon the initial design and construction of stormwater treatment facilities, with little thought as to how these systems will be maintained long-term. The property owner is typically left responsible for the consequences of decisions made by others during the design and construction phases, nearly all of whom have moved on to new projects after the construction phase of the project is concluded. This presentation aims to help engineers better understand how to design MTD's with maintenance in mind, the integration of O&M information into the BMP selection process and the factors that impact MTD maintenance cost. Register now.

#### Designing and Evaluating Effective and Ongoing Drought Communications Webinar

Wednesday, July 12, 2023; 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. ET; webinar

Through a recent TEC funded research project, the Water Conservation Division Planning, Evaluation and Research Committee hired Katz and Associates to research past and ongoing communication strategies to communicate drought and water shortage. A guidebook was developed that integrates results from an extensive review of case studies, research on nationwide water use efficiency and drought campaigns and in-depth interviews with 16 state and regional water agencies. The guidebook presents a menu of best management practices and key communication strategies that can support utility staff build an actionable case for implementation. The goal of the webinar will be to review the findings captured in this guidebook, highlighting 1-2 agencies that participated as case studies, and direct webinar participants to the full guidebook resource for more in-depth information. \$75 Member/\$120 Nonmember. Register now.

#### MassDEP

#### Previous Cybersecurity Trainings now on YouTube:

- Basic Cybersecurity Measures for Water Utilities: <a href="https://youtu.be/78v3eAyf1yE">https://youtu.be/78v3eAyf1yE</a>
- o Ransomware Experiences, Defense, and Response: <a href="https://youtu.be/eisIsdQnXqE">https://youtu.be/eisIsdQnXqE</a>

#### • Environmental Finance Center Network

For a complete list of trainings webinars and in-person trainings please go to: <a href="https://efcnetwork.org/upcoming-events/">https://efcnetwork.org/upcoming-events/</a>

#### EPA

For a complete list of trainings, webinars and in-person trainings, please go to: <a href="https://www.epa.gov/dwreginfo/drinking-water-training">https://www.epa.gov/dwreginfo/drinking-water-training</a>.

#### • Mass Rural Water Association

For a complete list of trainings, webinars and in-person trainings, please go to: <a href="https://www.massrwa.org/p/14/Trainings-Events">https://www.massrwa.org/p/14/Trainings-Events</a>.

#### MWWA

For a complete list of trainings, webinars and in-person trainings, please go to: MWWA Calendar

#### NEWWA

For a complete list of trainings, webinars and in-person trainings, please go to: <a href="https://communityhub.newwa.org/nc">https://communityhub.newwa.org/nc</a> upcomingevents.

#### Water ISAC

For a complete list of trainings, webinars and in-person trainings, please go to: <a href="https://www.waterisac.org/resources">https://www.waterisac.org/resources</a>.

#### RCAP Solutions

For a complete list of trainings, webinars and in-person trainings, please go to: <a href="http://www.rcapsolutions.org/community-resources-events/">http://www.rcapsolutions.org/community-resources-events/</a>.

#### AWWA

For a complete list of trainings, webinars and in-person trainings, please go to: https://www.awwa.org/Events-Education/Events-Calendar?utm\_term=AWWA+Connections+10-8-2021&utm\_content=Connections+10-8-2021&utm\_source=communications&utm\_medium=email&utm\_campaign=connections.

#### **Training Refresher**

If you need a refresher on recently given trainings, you can review several training videos located at: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLJn2AKOcYr7lutGJB-UfDKtQPF\_o\_249m">https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLJn2AKOcYr7lutGJB-UfDKtQPF\_o\_249m</a>

or click here: VouTube

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 <a href="https://www.mass.gov/service-details/safe-drinking-water-act-assessment-advisory-committee-section-70-committee-section-

### Cybersecurity, Emergency Preparedness, and You!

2023-06-30

PLEASE SHARE THIS CYBERSECURITY INFORATION WITH YOUR SCADA & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY STAFF



Be Vigilant!



Report all incidents and anomalous activity to <u>CISA</u> and/or the FBI via your local <u>FBI field office</u> or the FBI's 24/7 CyWatch at 855-292-3937 or <u>CyWatch@fbi.gov</u>



Regularly review CISA'S Shields Up page.



Cybersecurity review is an important part of your sanitary surveys. Have you signed up with USEPA for a free cybersecurity assessment? See <u>EPA Free Cybersecurity Assessment and Technical Assistance</u>

#### **Keep Us Informed**

Have you accessed EPA, CISA or other partners' offers for free cybersecurity vulnerability assessments? If yes, please let us know at <a href="mailto:program.director-dwp@mass.gov">program.director-dwp@mass.gov</a>. Subject Cyber security.



On June 28, 2023, MassDEP DWP reminded all public water systems (PWS) of the <u>EPA directive</u> to states to ensure PWS cybersecurity assessments are reviewed as **part of sanitary surveys or other approved state programs and that PWS must correct identified cybersecurity deficiencies/vulnerabilities/gaps**. See letter/notification at <a href="https://www.mass.gov/doc/important-notice-to-pws-sanitary-surveys-and-cybersecurity-assessments/download">https://www.mass.gov/doc/important-notice-to-pws-sanitary-surveys-and-cybersecurity-assessments/download</a>.

Thank you to several small water systems that have already responded with updates on their system's status as requested in our email.

Following are some of the highlights from the notification/letter:

- PWS, like all other industries and facilities, must routinely and continuously assess their systems to ensure that they are secure from cyber incidents and attacks.
- Cybersecurity is a <u>vital and routine</u> part of Emergency Response Planning and preparedness pursuant to 310 CMR 22.04(13) and expects all PWS to perform a cybersecurity assessment as part of their emergency planning responsibilities.
- MassDEP/DWP is flexible and is allowing and supporting PWS to use a variety of assessment tools including self-evaluation and other free tools. PWSs can evaluate the cybersecurity of PWS using one of the three options:
  - ✓ EPA provided <u>free cybersecurity assessment</u>,
  - ✓ PWS self-assessment or
  - ✓ A third-party assessment using approved EPA alternatives. A free assessment from <u>CISA</u> is included in this option.
- As part of the sanitary survey process, the findings of your cybersecurity assessment including any identified vulnerabilities/gaps/deficiencies will be reviewed to ensure that you are evaluating and addressing your system's cybersecurity needs and responsibilities. These reviews will be conducted by MassDEP/DWP sanitary surveyors and/or cybersecurity technical assistance providers or partners (e.g., Cybersecurity and Infrastructure and Security Agency (CISA)). The review may be conducted on-site or through an alternate secure remote process, prior, during or after a sanitary survey or upon MassDEP/DWP request.
- Please note: no details or sensitive cybersecurity information will be included in the sanitary survey report, the Massachusetts Public Records Law MGL c. 4, § 7(26) contains provisions that exempt certain records from disclosure, see <a href="https://www.sec.state.ma.us/divisions/public-records/download/guide.pdf">https://www.sec.state.ma.us/divisions/public-records/download/guide.pdf</a>. For example, MassDEP/DWP will note the name and date of the PWS cybersecurity assessment report and refer to the page and item number of any unaddressed deficiencies/vulnerabilities or gap.
- To balance DWP workload and resource priorities and to address drinking water safety and security priorities, MassDEP/DWP may perform a cybersecurity <u>review on-site or through an alternate secure remote process</u>, prior, during or after a sanitary survey or upon MassDEP/DWP request. These reviews should be conducted within 180 days of a sanitary survey or as otherwise approved by MassDEP/DWP.
- These reviews will be conducted by MassDEP/DWP sanitary surveyors and/or cybersecurity technical assistance providers or partners (e.g., Cybersecurity and Infrastructure and Security Agency (CISA)).
- Some small systems may not be vulnerable to cyber incidents because the PWS does not have operational technology (hardware or software that detects or causes a change through the direct monitoring or control of physical devices, processes, and events in your system) and if it does, the operational technology is not connected to a computer or to a network that is remotely accessible. If you believe that your system is not vulnerable to cyber incidents please contact MassDEP/DWP at program.director-dwp@mass.gov, Subject: Cybersecurity, at your earliest convenience not to exceed 30 days of receiving notice/letter that was shared on June 28, 2023. MassDEP/DWP will contact you upon receipt of your response.

  MassDEP DWP already got responses from some small PWS, stating that this particular matter is not applicable to them as they do not have operational technology (OT) that is networked, connected to a computer, or remotely accessible and they believe that they are not susceptible to cyberattacks. MassDEP DWP wants to remind such systems that it is important to note if a subsequent evaluation of such PWS (e.g., during an inspection, sanitary survey, or other informational review) indicates a need for a cybersecurity evaluation, then the PWS will be required to conduct a cybersecurity assessment and notify MassDEP/DWP of the completion and availability of the assessment for review within 60 days of DEP/DWP written notification.
- All PWS subject to the America Water and Infrastructure Act (AWIA) Risk and Resiliency Emergency Response Plan requirements have performed cyber assessments and certified as such to EPA. See <a href="https://www.epa.gov/waterresilience/awia-section-2013">https://www.epa.gov/waterresilience/awia-section-2013</a>.

- Using information and training, for more than a year MassDEP/DWP has been reminding PWS to review their systems to eliminate cyber vulnerabilities. See out bi-weekly *In the Main* newsletter. See <a href="https://www.mass.gov/lists/communication-to-public-water-suppliers#newsletters">https://www.mass.gov/lists/communication-to-public-water-suppliers#newsletters</a>.
- MassDEP/DWP have been asking a few leading questions in our sanitary survey to make sure PWSs are aware
  of the issues and working to keep their systems secure.
- MassDEP/DWP has a part time cybersecurity technical assistance (TA) provider on staff and will be adding
  additional TA support in the coming months. We are also able to access technical assistance from EPA and
  CISA.

## If you have not yet completed a cybersecurity assessment for your system, please be aware of the following FREE EPA RESOURCE.

This free EPA resource is completed virtually and is provided on a first come first serve basis so please register as soon as possible.

#### **EPA Free Cybersecurity Evaluation Program:** EPA's free evaluation

EPA's Cybersecurity Evaluation Program will conduct a virtual cybersecurity assessment for PWS. The assessment will follow the checklist in the guidance on Evaluating Cybersecurity in PWS Sanitary Surveys which will then generate a report that will highlight gaps in cybersecurity, including potential significant deficiencies.

How to Apply: Use the following to apply today <a href="https://www.epa.gov/waterriskassessment/forms/epas-water-sector-cybersecurity-evaluation-program">https://www.epa.gov/waterriskassessment/forms/epas-water-sector-cybersecurity-evaluation-program</a>

#### **Other Free Resources:**

#### CISA Cyber Assessment CISA

**How to Apply:** Email at <u>vulnerability@cisa.dhs.gov</u> with the subject line "Requesting Cyber Hygiene Services" to get started. For more details visit <a href="https://www.cisa.gov/topics/cyber-threats-and-advisories/cyber-hygiene-services">https://www.cisa.gov/topics/cyber-threats-and-advisories/cyber-hygiene-services</a>.

#### Other Methods to Complete your Cybersecurity Assessment:

Please be reminded: Systems may arrange for another 3-party assessment or perform a self-assessment using the <u>EPA's checklist/ WCAT tool</u> or any of the following approved EPA alternatives: <u>NIST CSF</u>, <u>ISA 62443</u>, <u>ISO 27001</u>, <u>AWWA</u>, and <u>CISA RRA/CISA Assessment</u>.

If you have any questions on this information, please contact the Drinking Water Program at <a href="mailto:program.director-dwp@mass.gov">program.director-dwp@mass.gov</a>, Subject: Cybersecurity.

#### **NEW Critical Infrastructure Security Updates:**

#### Security Awareness - Cyber Attacks on Critical Infrastructure with Physical Impacts Increasing

- Waterfall Security Solutions and ICSStrive have released their 2023 Threat Report, which highlights a significant increase in cyber-attacks on critical infrastructure.
- The report reveals that there was a 140% surge in cyber-attacks against industrial operations in 2022, resulting in over 150 incidents.
- While most attacks targeted IT systems with ransomware, some attacks also affected operational technology (OT).
- Interestingly, even IT-focused attacks had physical consequences, as compromised IT systems impacted fast-paced operations or led to cautious shutdowns of OT systems.

The report emphasizes the need for increased collaboration and communication between IT and OT teams to effectively respond to such cyber-attacks. Read more <a href="here">here</a>.

Joint Cybersecurity Information Sheet - Defending Continuous Integration/Continuous Delivery Environments

- On June 28, 2023, CISA and the National Security Agency (NSA) published a joint Cybersecurity Information Sheet (CSI), Defending Continuous Integration/Continuous (CI/CD) Delivery Environment, to help organizations improve their defenses in cloud implementations of development, security, and operations.
- Specifically, the guide explains how to integrate security best practices into typical software development and operations CI/CD environments, without regard for the specific tools being adapted. <u>Full article</u>

#### **Upcoming Trainings**

#### Sophos Webinar: The State of Ransomware in 2023

Thursday, July 20, 2023; 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. ET; webinar

In this webinar, experts will provide insights into the reality of ransomware from 3,000 IT professionals working on the frontline. Participants will learn what's changed over the last year, and where the new challenges lie. Topics covered include common root causes of attacks; how often cybercriminals succeed in encrypting data – and how often organizations pay to get it back; ransom payments and ransomware recovery costs: who pays and how much; and how experiences differ based on organization revenue. Register now

#### **MassDEP Cybersecurity Reminders:**

- MassDEP Informational Flyer Comprehensive Cybersecurity Assessment Resources During Sanitary Surveys:
   A Detailed Guide <a href="https://www.mass.gov/doc/comprehensive-cybersecurity-assessment-resources-during-sanitary-surveys-a-detailed-guide/download">https://www.mass.gov/doc/comprehensive-cybersecurity-assessment-resources-during-sanitary-surveys-a-detailed-guide/download</a>
- MassDEP posters with cybersecurity tips to help keep your systems secure <a href="https://www.mass.gov/info-details/public-drinking-water-system-operations#cybersecurity-details/public-drinking-water-system-operations#cybersecurity-details/public-drinking-water-system-operations#cybersecurity-

Public Water Systems may include cybersecurity planning in DWSRF Asset Management Grant applications <a href="https://www.mass.gov/service-details/asset-management-planning-grant-program">https://www.mass.gov/service-details/asset-management-planning-grant-program</a>

### **Supply Chain Reminders**

PWSs are reminded to implement the steps identified by DWP at <a href="https://www.mass.gov/doc/steps-to-prepare-your-public-water-system-for-supply-chain-disruptions/download">https://www.mass.gov/doc/steps-to-prepare-your-public-water-system-for-supply-chain-disruptions/download</a> and keep MassDEP/DWP informed of all Supply Chain issues.

#### **Resources:**

- MassDEP poster on supply chain issues planning and response with steps to prepare PWS for supply chain disruptions. See/download the poster here <a href="https://www.mass.gov/doc/steps-to-prepare-your-public-water-system-for-supply-chain-disruptions/download">https://www.mass.gov/doc/steps-to-prepare-your-public-water-system-for-supply-chain-disruptions/download</a>
- <u>EPA Chemical Supplier and Manufacturer Locator Tool</u>: This tool allows water and wastewater utilities to search for suppliers and manufacturers across the U.S. that may be able to fulfill their chemical supply needs and increase resilience to supply chain disruptions. This tool can be can also be useful for finding alternative chemical suppliers in the case of supply chain shortages.
- Join MassWARN.
- <u>EPA page on supply chain disruptions</u>, includes information on issues impacting availability and price and also provides recommendations utilities can take to respond to shortages and position themselves for the future.
- Water and Wastewater Supply Chain Case Studies
- Water Treatment Chemical Supply Chain Profiles
- Understanding Water Treatment Chemical Supply Chains and the Risk of Disruptions