



MassDEP / Drinking Water Program

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

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.



Fourth of July, Boston, Photo by: iStock

This *In The Main* newsletter has these topics of interest

2024-07-11

1. Extreme Heat Alert from MassDPH Bureau of Climate and Environmental Health
2. Small, Underserved, and Disadvantaged Communities Grant Funds for Compliance
3. Getting Ready for the LCRR
4. Lead in Schools and Childcare Facilities Drinking Water Update
5. PFAS Update
6. Training Calendar
7. Cybersecurity, Emergency Preparedness, and You!
8. Supply Chain Reminders



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>

Extreme Heat Alert from MassDPH Bureau of Climate and Environmental Health

States across the country, including Massachusetts, have experienced extreme heat events during the past few weeks. Extreme heat is a prolonged period of very hot weather, which may include high humidity. In Massachusetts, a “heat wave” is usually defined as a period of three or more consecutive days above 90 °F.

Extreme heat can be dangerous and even life-threatening if proper precautions are not taken. Most heat-related illnesses occur because the victim has been over-exposed to heat or has over-exercised for their age and physical condition. Although anyone can suffer from a heat-related illness, some people are at greater risk than others. Those at greater risk include older adults, young children, and those with chronic medical conditions.

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MassDPH) [Bureau of Climate and Environmental Health \(BCEH\)](#) has compiled resources and tools for communities to prepare for and respond to extreme heat emergencies.

- The **Heat Education and Alert Tools (HEAT)** response initiative was started to increase awareness of climate change and extreme heat, enhance preparedness for extreme heat events, and improve the collective response to these health hazards. Read more about the initiative and access HEAT resources at <https://www.mass.gov/news/bceh-announces-new-heat-education-and-alert-tools-heat-response-initiative>.
 - The HEAT initiative uses the new CDC/NOAA [NWS HeatRisk Tool](https://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/heatrisk/) [https://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/heatrisk/] to provide timely and accurate extreme heat forecast information. The NWS HeatRisk Tool combines health, heat, socio-demographic, and natural/built environment data to forecast community health risk.
- Extreme Heat and Poor Air Quality: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/extreme-heat-and-poor-air-quality>
- Extreme Heat Safety Tips: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/extreme-heat-safety-tips>
- Preparing for Extreme Heat: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/preparing-for-extreme-heat>

Additionally, MassDEP/DWP has the following resources regarding extreme heat and emergency response.

- MassDEP Emergency Response for Public Water Systems: <https://www.mass.gov/lists/emergency-response-for-public-water-systems>
- USEPA Incident Action Checklist – Extreme Heat: https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2021-10/incident-action-checklist-extremeheat_508c-final.pdf
- USEPA Incident Action Checklist – Power Outages: https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2019-11/documents/191126-incidentactionchecklist-po-form_508c.pdf
- Water Main Flushing Factsheet for Consumers <https://www.mass.gov/doc/water-main-flushing-fact-sheet-faq-for-consumers-o/download#:~:text=In%20the%20event%20customers%20draw,after%20three%20to%20four%20hours%3F>
- *Safety Tips and Resources for PWS Regarding Extreme Heat* – article from *In the Main* 2024-06-28: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/in-the-main-drinking-water-program-updates-06-28-2024/download>

Small, Underserved, and Disadvantaged Communities Grant Funds for Compliance

MassDEP’s Drinking Water Program (DWP) is working with small, underserved, and disadvantaged Public Water Systems (PWS) in providing grant funds through the Emerging Contaminants in Small or Disadvantaged Communities (EC-SDC) and Small, Underserved, and Disadvantaged Communities (SUDC) Grant Programs. Contracts for these projects are lengthy and complex but convey important legal requirements of both parties. If your PWS has been granted funds through these grants and any other DWP grants, please remember to review

contract conditions carefully and reach out to the contract manager identified on the Standard Form should you have any questions.

It's also very important to obtain all necessary permits prior to conducting the work. Reach out to your MassDEP regional office with any questions you may have regarding permits.

Compliance with contract conditions, permits, state and local laws and regulations as well as state code are key for a successful project. Keep in mind that in most instances, costs related to compliance can be covered with grant funds. For example, a recent change to the 248 CMR 10.00: Uniform State Plumbing Code requires Unoccupied Structures (Pumping, Equipment, Sub-Station, and Similar Facilities) to have one Accessible unisex/gender-neutral restroom within the facility. Grant funds may be utilized to meet this requirement.

Please reach out to program.director-dwp@mass.gov, Subject: EC-SDC Grant, with any questions.

Getting Ready for the LCRR

Coming Soon! In-person Open House sessions in regional offices. More information on this technical assistance opportunity will be available soon.

Did you Receive a LCRR related mailing from MassDEP?

On June 12, 2024, MassDEP sent out a mailing to all NTNC and COM PWS regarding important information related to the LCRR, and the required Service Line Inventories that PWS must submit by October 16, 2024. PWS are **strongly encouraged** to read the entirety of this mailing and its attachments, as it contains important information regarding your SLI.

A copy of the mailings are available on the Drinking Water Program webpage [here](https://www.mass.gov/lists/communication-to-public-water-suppliers#emails-and-direct-mail):
<https://www.mass.gov/lists/communication-to-public-water-suppliers#emails-and-direct-mail>.

What Service Line Inventory Documentation is Required for PWS, and When Should you Submit it?

Service Line Inventory: October 16, 2024

Your SLI must be submitted as a CSV file using the [SLI workbook instructions](#)

LCRR Certification of Non-Lead Service Lines and Request for Approval ([LCRR-NONLSL Cert Form](#)): October 16, 2024

A publicly accessible SLI or [No-Lead Statement](#): October 16, 2024

MassDEP recommends that PWS that have no Lead, GRR, or UNK service lines submit their SLI and NON-LSL Certification form **prior to October 16, 2024**, to receive approval for your SLI prior to October 16, 2024. However, PWS **MUST** make their SLI publicly accessible or post a No-Lead statement in a publicly accessible location **by October 16th**.

Service Line Inventory Certification Form: October 30, 2024

The SLI Certification Form is provided upon the submission of your SLI. This document is only available upon the submission of the SLI and is **not available online**.

Have You Started Your Service Line Inventory? Get Assistance to Meet the October 16, 2024, Deadline!

Request help from the MassDEP / UMass Amherst Free Small Systems SLI / LSLRP Technical Assistance Program to catch up with the LCRR requirements.

Need help creating or finishing your Service Line Inventory? Remember that the Free Technical Assistance Program is available to help all NTNCs and small COMs complete both the SLI and the Lead Service Line Replacement Plan (LSLRP) if needed.

Let's clear something up: All public water systems, even those without lead service lines, are required to submit a complete initial service line inventory (SLI) by October 16, 2024.

How does it work: The Free Technical Assistance Program will help you identify, compile, and review service line records, create a customer outreach plan, and complete the service line inventory before the **October 16, 2024**, deadline.

We strongly recommend that all eligible public water systems [apply for the free assistance by completing the application survey](#), or emailing sls@umass.edu with the subject, Requesting assistance for the SLI.

SLI Do It Yourself Resources

- Lead and Copper Rule Requirements Trainings: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/lead-and-copper-rule-revisions#massdep-past-trainings> or <https://youtu.be/L5FJ8PV9p1w?si=aEYMdIQon7RMBUrW>
- [Check out the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions webpage for various guidance's including the following topics:](#)
 - [Predictive Modeling and Statistical Analysis](#)
 - [Electrical Resistance Testing](#)
 - [The LCRR Requirements that having Unknown Service Lines in your SLI Trigger](#)
 - [The Service Line Identification Guidance](#)
 - [A NTNC and Small COM Service Line Identification Guidance](#)
 - And more!
- Through the [Lead & Copper Forms and Templates webpage](#) you can access the following:
 - [Service Line Inventory Excel Workbook for Systems with Split Ownership \(Version 1.0.3\)](#)
 - This template is for a PWS, such as a fire district or municipality, that serves multiple buildings and owns the distribution system and part of the service lines serving individual buildings, i.e. split ownership of service lines. **This template is the same as the previous workbook titled "Service Line Inventory Excel Workbook", newly titled to differentiate it from the new Systems Without Split Ownership workbook. This Workbook has NOT changed.**
 - [Instructions: Service Line Inventory Excel Workbook for Version 1.0.3.](#)
 - Once the SLI is complete it needs to be exported to a CSV file for submission to MassDEP.
 - [Service Line Inventory Excel Workbook for Systems WITHOUT Split Ownership \(Version 1.0.3\)](#)
 - A macro-enabled Excel workbook for producing the CSV service line inventory. This template is for a PWS, such as an NTNC or COM system **WITHOUT** split ownership of service lines. For example, a condominium or school where the PWS owns/controls all water system components. **This new version of the template is optional.**
 - [Instructions: Service Line Inventory Excel Workbook for Systems WITHOUT Split Ownership for Version 1.0.3.](#)

- Once the SLI is complete it needs to be exported to a CSV file for submission to MassDEP.
- [Template Letter for PWS to send to customers for the MA-LSLI App](#)
- [Instructions: Mass Lead Service Line Identification \(MA-LSLI\) Web App.](#)
 - A tool created by MassDEP for customer identification of service lines and SLI participation.
- More! Contact program.director-dwp@mass.gov

Lead in Schools and Childcare Facilities Drinking Water Update

The Expanded Assistance Program is now **Water-Smart!**

The Expanded Assistance Program for Lead in Schools and Early Education and Care Facilities (EECF) Drinking Water is now Water-Smart! For more information see the Water-Smart webpage at <https://www.mass.gov/water-smart>



Water-Smart provides free analysis of lead drinking water samples and technical assistance to eligible public and private schools and EECFs by assisting with sampling, results interpretation, and guidance on remediation actions. The program is funded by a grant from the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust.

Currently, 993 schools and EECFs are participating in the program and 634 (64%) of participating facilities are within environmental justice communities. To date, 774 schools and EECFs have completed testing. Of facilities that have tested and received results, 518 (67%) had one or more lead detections.

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

Eligible facilities may apply for assistance at https://script.google.com/macros/s/AKfycbyr_U8wEMrA-Q2XifkK4l58x4GDtYrltpKIKUAhSxpw9pSZtA/exec

PFAS Update

Where to find information on PFAS

- PWS PFAS testing results: search under the chemical name: “PFAS6” or to see all the PFAS chemicals, search under the contaminant group “PFAS” on the [EEA data portal](#).
- PWS with testing results above the PFAS6 MCL of 20 ppt: see Tab 3 of the [storymap on our PFAS webpage](#)
- PFAS treatment systems installed by PWS: see Tab 6 on the [PFAS storymap](#)

- Documents associated with investigations into the sources of PFAS contamination. Search by town name on the EEA data portal <https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/portal/#!/search/wastesite>
 - Bottled water requirements and PFAS testing results by the Dept. Of Public Health [Water Quality Standards for Bottled Water in Massachusetts | Mass.gov](#)
 - General information about PFAS from MassDEP <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/per-and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas>
 - The new EPA PFAS MCLs and a video of the briefing held by MassDEP on May 28th <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/epa-maximum-contaminant-levels-mcls-for-pfas>
 - PFAS in Private Wells [PFAS in Private Well Drinking Water Supplies FAQ | Mass.gov](#)
 - EPA information about PFAS <https://www.epa.gov/pfas>
 - CDC ATSDR health information for the public and for clinicians <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas/resources/index.html>
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Training Calendar

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>.

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/info-details/board-of-certification-of-operators-of-drinking-water-supply-facilities-approved-education-courses-to-sit-for-examination>

Some Newly Added Trainings on the Calendar

RCAP: Emergency Planning for Small Utilities

Tuesday, July 23, 2024; 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. ET; webinar

On October 23, 2018, America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) was signed into law. AWIA Section 2013, which amended Section 1433 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), requires community water systems serving more than 3,300 people to develop or update risk and resilience assessments (RRAs) and emergency response plans (ERPs). This webinar will discuss these two tools and some tips and tricks for completing them with your team.

[Register here](#)

EPA ORD Small Drinking Water Systems Webinar - Drinking Water System Resilience

Tuesday, July 30, 2024; 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. ET; webinar

The next Small Drinking Water Systems Webinar Series topic will discuss Drinking Water System Resilience. Attendees will first hear from the EPA's Office of Water about America's Water Infrastructure Act Section 2013. This presentation will provide an overview of the law, which requires community drinking water systems (CWSs) serving more than 3,300 people to conduct or review and revise risk and resilience assessments (RRAs) and emergency response plans (ERPs). CWSs must certify to EPA that they have done so by specified deadlines every five years, next occurring throughout 2025 and 2026. This presentation will also highlight EPA's Very Small Drinking Water and Wastewater System Resilience Continuing Education Unit (CEU) Program, which encourages utilities not covered by SDWA 1433 to develop a RRA and ERP with a participating technical assistance provider and, if allowed by their state or tribal operator certification program, get CEU credit for their work. Attendees will then hear from the EPA's Office of Water about the Water Laboratory Alliance and resources to improve contamination resilience. This presentation will highlight the role of the WLA in contamination response as well as describe some key resources that will help small systems to update and improve their RRAs and ERPs. [Register here](#)

- **MassDEP**

Previous Cybersecurity Trainings now on YouTube:

- Basic Cybersecurity Measures for Water Utilities: <https://youtu.be/78v3eAyf1yE>

- Ransomware Experiences, Defense, and Response: <https://youtu.be/eislsdQnXqE>
- **Environmental Finance Center Network**
For a complete list of trainings webinars and in-person trainings please go to:
<https://efcnetwork.org/training-events/>
- **EPA**
For a complete list of trainings, webinars and in-person trainings, please go to:
<https://www.epa.gov/dwreginfo/drinking-water-training>.
- **Mass Rural Water Association**
For a complete list of trainings, webinars and in-person trainings, please go to:
<https://www.massrwa.org/p/14/Trainings—Events>.
- **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:
https://communityhub.newwa.org/nc__upcomingevents.
- **WaterISAC**
For a complete list of trainings, webinars and in-person trainings, please go to:
<https://www.waterisac.org/resources>.
- **RCAP Solutions**
For a complete list of trainings, webinars and in-person trainings, please go to:
<https://www.rcapsolutions.org/events/>
- **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:

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

or click here:  **YouTube**

To subscribe to the *In The Main* Newsletter, send a blank email to join-dep-dwp-subscribers@listserv.state.ma.us.

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. To subscribe to the *In The Main* Newsletter, send a blank email to join-dep-dwp-subscribers@listserv.state.ma.us. 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 <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/safe-drinking-water-act-assessment-advisory-committee-section-70-committee>.

Cybersecurity, Emergency Preparedness, and You!

2024-07-11

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



Check out the MassDEP Drinking Water Program cybersecurity resource hub (StoryMap) for what you need to know: [Cybersecurity Resource Hub for MA Public Water Systems \(PWS\) \(arcgis.com\)](https://arcgis.com). The purpose of this hub is to provide resources for public water systems (PWS) to improve cybersecurity defenses, mitigate cyber-attack risks, and enhance overall resiliency and compliance.

- On the Hub, see ****Important** Cybersecurity Alert for Public Water Systems and Well Drillers on Phishing Attempt on Maine Water Operators and Well Drillers**



The MassDEP Drinking Water Program Cybersecurity Grant Program

The grant application deadline has been extended to October 1, 2024. Have you applied yet?

The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund in partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Drinking Water Program (MassDEP DWP), is offering grant funds of up to \$50,000, to PWSs that have a cybersecurity risk assessment and use operational technology equipment with an identified cybersecurity risk. More details are available here: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/public-water-suppliers-cybersecurity-improvements-grant-program>.



Incident Reporting:

- CISA's 24/7 Operations Center at Report@cisa.gov or (888) 282-0870.
- FBI via your local [FBI field office](#) or the FBI's 24/7 CyWatch at 855-292-3937 or cywatch@ic.fbi.gov.
- Contact the EPA Water Infrastructure and Cyber Resilience Division at watercyberta@epa.gov to voluntarily provide situational awareness.

Additionally, WaterISAC can be notified by emailing analyst@waterisac.org, calling 866-H2O-ISAC, or using the [online incident reporting form](#).



Regularly review CISA'S [Shields Up](#) page.



EPA FREE CYBERSECURITY ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

Register for a free assessment with simple steps by using the following link:

<https://www.epa.gov/waterresilience/forms/epas-water-sector-cybersecurity-evaluation-program>.



CISA Free In-Person Cybersecurity Assessments for Selected PWS in Massachusetts

Do you want a cybersecurity assessment from the federal Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA)? If you are interested, please let us know at your earliest convenience at program.director-dwp@mass.gov. Subject: CISA Cybersecurity Assessments. PWS will be chosen based on criteria such as PWS type, size, and particularly the timing of their sanitary surveys.



Important Reminder: Sanitary Surveys and Cybersecurity

Is your PWS scheduled for a sanitary survey in 2024? If your PWS is scheduled for a sanitary survey in 2024 **MassDEP/DWP will inspect your cybersecurity assessment findings and plans during the upcoming sanitary survey cycle.** Any findings will be incorporated in a separate action plan and your PWS will receive technical assistance to assist you to address the findings. Please remember all cybersecurity information is considered as sensitive information and must be kept confidential.

- For details, please refer to the important notice, which was sent on December 28, 2023, to PWS, reminding them of their 2024 sanitary surveys and cybersecurity program assessment report/review: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/important-notice-your-pws-2024-sanitary-surveys-and-cybersecurity-programassessment-report-inspection-reminder/download>
- If you have any questions on this information, you may also contact the Drinking Water Program at program.director-dwp@mass.gov.

NEW Critical Infrastructure Security Updates:

Please visit [MassDEP/DWP Cybersecurity Resource Hub for MA Public Water Systems \(PWS\)](#) routinely for alerts/ new critical infrastructure security updates and resources.

Upcoming Trainings

CISA and the National Cybersecurity Alliance: How to Get Involved in Cybersecurity Awareness Month 2024 Webinar

Tuesday, July 16, 2024; 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. ET; webinar

Want to learn more about how you or your organization can get involved in Cybersecurity Awareness Month 2024? Take an in-depth dive into the campaign during this special webinar presented by the National Cybersecurity Alliance and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA). They'll provide an overview of the theme, review materials in this year's toolkit, and share tips and advice for launching your own initiatives. [Register now](#)

CISA Webinar: Chemical Security Seminars 2024

Session 1: Thursday, July 11, 2024; 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. ET; webinar

Session 2: Thursday, July 18, 2024; 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. ET; webinar

CISA is hosting the virtual 2024 Chemical Security Seminars for all members of the public. Sessions will discuss and share the latest in chemical security best practices, including case studies of real-world scenarios, transnational threats to the chemical industry, updates on CISA's ChemLock program, artificial intelligence, and more. [Register now](#)

EPA Webinar: Microgrids and DERs for Water and Wastewater Utilities

Thursday, July 25, 2024; 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. ET; webinar

A microgrid is a group of interconnected loads and distributed energy sources (DERs) that acts as a single controllable entity with respect to the power grid. During a grid power outage, water and wastewater utilities could switch to an electric microgrid powered by both on-property and off-property sources (e.g., solar photovoltaics, wind turbines, biogas, battery banks) to sustain critical operations. Join EPA's Water Infrastructure and Cyber Resilience Division for a free webinar that will include a National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) presentation on the basics of microgrids and DERs and case studies for how they have been implemented at utilities. [Register now](#)

Supply Chain Reminders

Tools and Resources:

- [EPA Chemical Supplier and Manufacturer Locator Tool](#): 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 also be useful for finding alternative chemical suppliers in the case of supply chain shortages.
- **PWSs are reminded to implement the steps identified by DWP** at <https://www.mass.gov/doc/steps-to-prepare-your-public-water-system-for-supply-chain-disruptions/download> and keep MassDEP/DWP informed of all Supply Chain issues.