



MassDEP / Drinking Water Program

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[Program.Director-DWP@mass.gov](mailto: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](https://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.



Revere Beach International Sand Sculpting Festival, Centerpiece Sculpture, Photo by: Mary Beth LaRivee

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

2023-08-11

1. Coliform Bacteria Level 1 and 2 Assessment Forms Have Been Updated on Our Website!
2. First Quarterly UCMR5 Data Release
3. Cybersecurity Continues to Be an Important Component of Providing Safe Drinking Water in Massachusetts
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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>

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# Coliform Bacteria Level 1 and 2 Assessment Forms Have Been Updated on Our Website!

The Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) Level 1 and Level 2 assessment forms were updated on our website to reflect the following minor change. **The Compliance Period field now accepts a text entry for the month without triggering a date validation.**

You can find the updated forms at:

Level 1 Assessment Form: [Coliform Bacteria Level 1 Assessment | Mass.gov](#)

Level 2 Assessment Form: [Coliform Bacteria Level 2 Assessment | Mass.gov](#)

For more information or questions, please contact [program.director-dwp@mass.gov](mailto:program.director-dwp@mass.gov). Subject: RTCR

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## First Quarterly UCMR5 Data Release

On August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the EPA will be releasing the first batch of UCMR5 data to the National Contaminant Occurrence Database (NCOD). The occurrence data and the Data summary document will be posted here: <https://www.epa.gov/sdwa/national-contaminant-occurrence-database-ncod>. The data will be time stamped up until July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

All participating PWS with preliminary results above EPA health advisory (HA) thresholds have and continue to be notified by EPA and MassDEP. All PWS are automatically notified when analytical results are posted to the Safe Drinking Water Accession and Review System ([SDWARS](#)).

**What should PWSs do with the data?** Each PWS should carefully review the analytical results reported to ensure their accuracy. PWSs should expect to receive calls from consumers with questions about the program and data. For general information on the EPA UCMR program and frequently asked questions, visit:

<https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/fifth-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule>.

### What are EPA and MassDEP requirements for detected results?

- **EPA and MassDEP require that UCMR5 detects be reported in the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) in the unregulated contaminants table.** Instructions on how to report your results from UCMR5 sampling in your CCR in the unregulated contaminants table can be found in article 2 in the “In the Main” newsletter at <https://www.mass.gov/doc/in-the-main-drinking-water-program-updates-12-16-2022/download>. Please note that PFAS6 is regulated in Massachusetts, and PFAS6 detects must be reported separately as one contaminant in the regulated table in your CCR.
- **All PWSs must notify customers with a Tier 3 Public Notice (PN) about the availability of UCMR5 results no later than 12 months after the results are known.** This is required whether there were any detects or not. The fact that you had to test for UCMR5 warrants the need for PN. Failure to issue PN is a violation. Instructions on PN can be found in article 2 in the “In the Main” newsletter at <https://www.mass.gov/doc/in-the-main-drinking-water-program-updates-12-16-2022/download>
- If your testing results also exceed the Massachusetts Maximum Contaminant Level for PFAS6, then your PWS also has public notification requirements under 310 CMR 22.07G and must also continue to follow those requirements.

If you have any questions on this information, please contact the MassDEP Regional Office Drinking Water Program contacts listed below or the Drinking Water Program at [program.director-dwp@mass.gov](mailto:program.director-dwp@mass.gov) Subject UCMR5.

### MassDEP Regional Office Contacts

MassDEP Region	Name	Contact
Western	Christine Simard	<a href="mailto:Christine.Simard@mass.gov">Christine.Simard@mass.gov</a>
Central	Paula Caron	<a href="mailto:Paula.Caron@mass.gov">Paula.Caron@mass.gov</a>
Northeast	Amy LaPusata	<a href="mailto:Amy.Lapusata@mass.gov">Amy.Lapusata@mass.gov</a>
Southeast	William Schwartz	<a href="mailto:William.Schwartz@mass.gov">William.Schwartz@mass.gov</a>

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## Cybersecurity Continues to Be an Important Component of Providing Safe Drinking Water in Massachusetts

July 12, 2023, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit stay/suspension/pause on the EPA March 3, 2023, [memorandum](#) on Cybersecurity to State Drinking Water Administrators **will have no significant impact on the Massachusetts' safe drinking water program for public water system because MassDEP/DWP considers cybersecurity to be a vital and routine part of Emergency Response Plan (ERP) requirements pursuant to 310 CMR 22.04(13) and expects all PWS to perform a cybersecurity assessment as part of their emergency planning responsibilities.**

For more information on the EPA March 3, 2023 memorandum see the letter/notice at <https://www.mass.gov/doc/important-notice-to-pws-sanitary-surveys-and-cybersecurity-assessments/download>. For more information on July 12, 2023, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit granted a request from the American Water Works Association (AWWA) and the National Rural Water Association (NRWA) to stop the USEPA Cybersecurity memo from going into effect until the current case challenging the rule has been decided. See [court order](#).

**MassDEP DWP wants to emphasize that cybersecurity remains a critical aspect of ensuring the safety and security of our PWS. MassDEP will continue its existing cybersecurity program and encourage PWS to include cybersecurity in their operations and maintenance programs and perform a cybersecurity assessment as part of their emergency planning responsibilities.**

- **All PWS** that have operational technology-OT (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 the operational technology is connected to a computer or to a network or is remotely accessible, **must complete a cybersecurity assessment** and be ready to present the cybersecurity assessment report during the sanitary survey process.
- **Note:** Some very small systems may not be vulnerable to cyber incidents because the PWS does not have operational technology and if it does, the OT is not connected to a computer or to a network and is not remotely accessible. If PWS believe that their system **is not** vulnerable to cyber incidents; They need to contact MassDEP/DWP at [program.director-dwp@mass.gov](mailto:program.director-dwp@mass.gov), Subject: Cybersecurity, **at their earliest convenience not to exceed 30 days of receiving this notice**. MassDEP/DWP will contact/follow up upon receipt of the response.
- **Cybersecurity Assessment Options/Programs:** PWS have a choice to get a cyber assessment done by multiple means:

- PWS can sign up for the EPA's free cybersecurity evaluation program. MassDEP/DWP strongly recommends you to utilize the USEPA Free cybersecurity evaluation program.  
**How to Apply: Use the following to apply today**  
<https://www.epa.gov/waterriskassessment/forms/epas-water-sector-cybersecurity-evaluation-program>.
- Alternatively, systems may arrange for another 3-party assessment or perform a self-assessment using the [EPA's checklist](#) or any of the following approved alternatives: [NIST CSF](#), [ISA 62443](#), [ISO 27001](#), [AWWA](#), and CISA CPGs (<https://www.cisa.gov/cross-sector-cybersecurity-performance-goals> )

**MassDEP/DWP will check on PWS cybersecurity programs along with all other components of providing safe drinking water during each sanitary survey or as needed.**

If you have any questions on this information, please contact the Drinking Water Program at [dwp@mass.gov](mailto:dwp@mass.gov) , Subject: Cybersecurity.

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## Chemical Overfeed

By James McLaughlin, Section Chief SERO

On June 2, 2023, a small community water system experienced a potassium hydroxide (KOH) overfeed. This is a reminder to fully inspect and test your critical chemical control systems, wiring and alarms.

The Chemical Safety Control for Critical Chemical Feed Systems requirements were developed in response to a chemical overfeed that occurred in the Town of Spencer water system on April 25, 2007. The full requirements were first detailed in Chapter 6 of MassDEP's *Guidelines for Public Water Systems*, and later incorporated into the Massachusetts Drinking Water Regulations at 310 CMR 22.04(14).

The requirements mandate electrical interlocks such that, among other things, when any parameter is not met, the electrical outlet powering the chemical feed pump will be deenergized. The parameters include the well pump running; the flow sensor indicating flow; and the chemical analyzer reading within the pre-set acceptable range. If those three conditions are met, then power is supplied to the outlet, and the chemical feed pump can operate.

In the recent event, the electrical outlet powering the chemical feed pump was normally powered on instead of being normally off. After some routine work was done on the system, the chemical feed pump was reactivated by pressing the power button twice. This placed the chemical feed pump in "prime" mode. The prime mode was not controlled by the system parameters. When the well pump shut off overnight, the chemical feed pump kept injecting KOH into the well discharge pipe, forming a slug of KOH. When morning demand caused the well to activate, the KOH slug was pushed down the pipe. The KOH was drawn into the 100-foot tap to the pH analyzer which shut off the well, while the chemical feed pump kept operating. The operator responded on site after receiving the pH alarm call-out, recognized the problem, and took appropriate actions. Luckily the high pH water did not make it far into the distribution system and no injuries were reported. A pH as high as 12 was measured at one of the first services in the system. Corrections have since been made, including reconfiguring the power to the chemical pump and replacing the pump itself with a newer model.

It is important to understand that after the chemical safety control requirements were enacted, water systems **self-certified** that their chemical feed systems complied with the requirements. **The chemical feed systems you now operate may not have been inspected by an electrician, engineer, or SCADA control specialist to determine compliance with the requirements.** You likely perform quarterly or monthly testing of the high and low alarms, but checking the electrical configuration is more difficult and time consuming. Please double check to see that the power at the chemical feed pump electrical outlet deenergizes when alarms are activated. An indicator light on the plug would be most helpful to show that the outlet is properly energized and deenergized.

Please contact your local regional MassDEP office if you have any questions regarding chemical safety requirements.

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# NEIWPCC Updated Source Water Protection Toolkit Now Available Online

The New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPCC) has issued an updated [source water protection toolkit](#), which is now available for use by municipal and regulatory officials throughout the seven member states. The document provides information and resources to stakeholders on how they can better protect drinking water sources in their communities. An accompanying [outreach guide](#) is also available on NEIWPCC's website.

The toolkit has 10 chapters and includes information on contemporary issues such as [climate change](#) and [PFAS](#). Other topics include:

- Source water protection opportunities.
- Land use.
- Hazardous materials and contaminants of emerging concern.
- Septic systems.
- Stormwater.
- Funding resources and application information.

These updates were made by a team of NEIWPCC staff using input from the [Source Water Protection Workgroup](#). MassDEP's Drinking Water Program staff participate on the workgroup. For more information, contact Ian Dulin at [idulin@neiwpcc.org](mailto:idulin@neiwpcc.org).

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## Getting Ready for LCRR – Important Updates

**Using the New LCR-LOC-MOD Form is now required for all sampling plan changes**



Effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, **all PWS are required to use the revised LCR Sampling Sites and Sampling Plan Form (LCR-LOC-MOD)** to submit new LCR sampling plans or changes to an existing approved plan. The revised form ~~allows for~~ requires verification of all sampling sites to ensure PWSs are using updated information and the highest tier locations.

### ***Why is This Form a Necessary Improvement?***

This form replaces 2 forms, the Lead and Copper Sampling Plan (LCR-SP-A, LCR-SP-B, LCR-SP-C) and the Lead and Copper Sampling Plan Change in Sampling Site Form (LCR – Site Change). This revised form is much easier and standardized for your use and will save your time and reduce manual transcription errors. The new format will also expedite reviews, approval, filing and archiving. The new form is prepopulated with your currently approved sampling plan locations, so you will only need to go through the form and check off which sites are no longer in use and/or add new sampling sites in the allocated sections. This form must be completed directly on Microsoft Word and emailed to [program.director-DWP@mass.gov](mailto:program.director-DWP@mass.gov) for initial review (cc your regional contact). The LCR-LOC-MOD form is only needed to make changes to an existing approved sampling plan or if a new sampling plan is required, such as due to a change in sampling frequency, etc. The review and approval of the new LCR-LOC-MOD form can take several weeks, so please plan accordingly. Changes to sampling locations or new sampling plans must be approved prior to collecting lead and copper samples.

### ***Where do I Find this Revised Form?***





**Contact your Regional MassDEP Office to request the revised LCR-LOC-MOD Form;** because this form is prepopulated with your information, it is not available on the MassDEP website.

For more information on the LCR-LOC-MOD Form, there is an instructional video that goes through the form, step by step, on our YouTube page at: <https://youtu.be/hJd9MAY8CGA>. Or you can watch the webinar using the video training that was held on May 17<sup>th</sup> at: <https://youtu.be/ql97WxcteHA>.

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## Lead in Schools and Childcare Facilities Drinking Water Update

### Expanded Assistance Program Update

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 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, 625 schools and EECFs are participating in the program and 401 (64%) of participating facilities are within environmental justice communities. To date, 428 schools and EECFs have completed testing. Of facilities that have tested and received results, 290 (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 [https://script.google.com/macros/s/AKfycbyr\\_U8wEMrA-Q2XifkK4l58x4GDtYrltvpKIKUAhSxpw9pSZtA/exec](https://script.google.com/macros/s/AKfycbyr_U8wEMrA-Q2XifkK4l58x4GDtYrltvpKIKUAhSxpw9pSZtA/exec)

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## PFAS Update

### Grants and Loans

- MassDEP received conditional approval from EPA Region I on August 10, 2023 for the \$38 million grant under the [Emerging Contaminants - Small and Disadvantaged Communities Drinking Water Grant Program](#). The funding should be available in 2024.
- MassDEP/DWP on August 4, 2023, sent educational information to the private well owners who participated in the Free PFAS Testing Program for selected private wells, notifying them of EPA's proposed MCLs. For more on that program see : [PFAS in Private Wells DWP FAQ](#) webpage.

### Massachusetts PWS addressing PFAS contamination

The 40th drinking water treatment system for PFAS removal was activated in Massachusetts. See Tab 6 on the [PFAS storymap](#) for all of the treatment plants constructed by our PWS (both temporary and permanent systems). The map also includes the drinking water state revolving loan funds issued for PFAS-related construction.

### Looking for PFAS testing data?

Public Water Supplier PFAS testing results are available to the public on the web in the [EEA data portal](#). Search under the chemical name: “PFAS6” or to see all the PFAS chemicals, search under the contaminant group “PFAS”.



### **Errata: Correction of an Article from the June 30, 2023 ITM Newsletter**

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. The article has been removed from the posted copy of the June 30, 2023 newsletter.

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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/doc/drinking-water-board-approved-education-courses-updated-september-2020/download>.

### Some Newly Added Trainings on the Calendar

#### **Wastewater System Operation and Maintenance**

Tuesday, August 15, 2023; 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. ET; webinar

This course is designed to develop the knowledge and skills to effectively operate and maintain a wastewater collection system. Operational and maintenance procedures for lift stations, manholes, and other key components of a collection system will be covered. [Register now](#).

#### **Move the Dial on Your Utility's DEI Program, Part II**

Wednesday, August 16, 2023; 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. ET; webinar

In this 2-part series, attendees will hear from utility leaders on learn how to adapt and implement strategies to improve diversity, equity, and inclusion at your utility, regardless of size. In part 2, utility leaders will speak about evaluating organizational readiness for change, determining a baseline understanding of DEI concepts, and using that information to identify objectives and goals for their utility’s strategy. The session will cover the importance of leadership buy-in and how to gain it. FREE for Member/\$25 Nonmember. [Register now](#).

#### **CWSRF Funding Process Virtual Workshop Series: Documents Needed to Apply for SRF Funding**

Thursday, August 17, 2023; 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. ET; webinar

Join experts from the Environmental Finance Center Network for a no-cost webinar series on the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF). This monthly series is intended to help you better understand the CWSRF funding process. Sessions will be held on the third Thursday of every month. When applying for CW SRF funding specific documentation is needed. In this webinar we will discuss the most commonly required documents, the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) and the Environmental Information Document (EID). We will also briefly discuss other types of documents that some states may require. This webinar will include how to get started with PER development, potential funding sources for the development of a PER, and details on the EID. [Register now](#).


- **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/eisl5dQnXqE>
- **Environmental Finance Center Network**  
For a complete list of trainings webinars and in-person trainings please go to:  
<https://efcnetwork.org/upcoming-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](https://communityhub.newwa.org/nc__upcomingevents).
- **Water ISAC**  
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:  
<http://www.rcapsolutions.org/community-resources-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](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](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLJn2AKOcYr7lutGJB-UfDKtQPF_o_249m)

or click here:  **YouTube**

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

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# Cybersecurity, Emergency Preparedness, and You!

2023-08-11

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

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## Be Vigilant!



Report all incidents and anomalous activity to [CISA](#) and/or the FBI via your local [FBI field office](#) or the FBI's 24/7 CyWatch at 855-292-3937 or [CyWatch@fbi.gov](mailto:CyWatch@fbi.gov)



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

## Keep Us Informed

Have you accessed EPA, CISA or other partners' offers for free cybersecurity vulnerability assessments? If yes, please let us know at [program.director-dwp@mass.gov](mailto:program.director-dwp@mass.gov). Subject Cyber security.

## NEW Critical Infrastructure Security Updates:

### **Security Awareness – A Must Read if your Utility Uses Email and Pays Invoices: BEC with a New Twist**

- If your utility uses email and pays invoices, you will want to read this and share it with everyone in your organization, especially accounts receivable and other finance staff.
- Business email compromise (BEC) is a type of cybercrime where the scammer uses email to trick someone into sending money or divulging confidential company info. The culprit poses as a trusted figure, then asks for a fake bill to be paid or for sensitive data they can use in another scam (Microsoft).
- **The Twist:** Scammers typically lead BEC invoice fraud with a request to change the account number for payment. However, this incident began with an “invoice due” email, **followed up a few days later** with a request to “stop payment,” and **then another follow up a few hours later** requesting the reissue of the payment to the “new” bank account information.
- While the end goal of this BEC-based invoice fraud was the same as we've seen, read, and heard at least a thousand times, this incident is another example of how some scammers are willing to be patient for a payout to include prolonging their pretext.

#### **Best practices:**

- **In terms of best practices, if you are unsure about the legitimacy of an email, it is recommended to communicate and confirm with the sender via another means of communication before sending any sensitive information or doing financial transactions.**
- Employees act as the first line of defense against such attacks. It is critical to maintain ongoing security awareness and training. Staying up to date is very important in a world where threat actors are always improving their strategies.
- [Full article](#)

### **Ransomware Awareness – Ransomware Source Code Leaks Leading to Proliferation of High-Quality Ransomware Variants**

- Talos has written a blog discussing ransomware code leaks and how they impact the threat landscape by making it easier for new threat actors to quickly build their own malware variants to deploy against potential victims. [Full article](#)

### **Security Awareness – The Threat of the Malicious QR Code and How to Mitigate It**

- AT&T has posted a blog discussing the threat of malicious QR codes and how to mitigate them. Due to the ease of creation and the convenience of use, QR codes are a popular method organizations use to drive web traffic from the physical to the virtual. However, QR codes also engender trust, which can be abused by threat actors.
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- Using a QR code, criminals can take a variety of actions that help them exploit a user, including redirection to a malicious website, automatically downloading content to a device, connecting to a rogue wireless network, making phone calls, and triggering digital payments.
- The blog listed [5 ways to defend against malicious QR code](#):
  - Ask yourself “How certain am I of the creator of this QR code?”
  - Determine if there is an alternate way of obtaining the information you seek
  - Never enter login credentials or any sensitive personal or financial information
  - Don’t jailbreak your device
  - Ensure that you have a mobile threat defense solution installed
- [Full article](#)

## Upcoming Trainings



### **Reminder: Cybersecurity Assessment Training for Circuit Riders and Technical Assistance Providers**

**August 16, 2023, 2:00 - 4:30pm ET**

EPA will conduct two separate virtual training sessions for circuit riders and technical assistance providers. Attendees of this training will gain a better understanding of how to use EPA’s Water Cybersecurity Assessment Tool (WCAT) to conduct cybersecurity assessments at water and wastewater utilities. Both training sessions will contain the same information. [Register Here](#)

### **EPA Webinar: WLA Learning Center - Accessing Laboratory Support**

**Thursday, August 17, 2023; 1:00 p.m. ET; webinar**

The U.S. EPA Water Laboratory Alliance (WLA) is hosting a free webinar on "Accessing Laboratory Support." This interactive guide shows how to access laboratory support at the local, state, regional, and federal levels, includes examples of when this help may be needed, and supplies a one-page summary sheet that lists key information for finding support.

[Register now](#)

### **SANS Webinar: Threat Detection Trends 2023**

**Wednesday, August 23, 2023; 11:00 a.m. ET; webinar**

In this talk, SANS Fellow Seth Misenar explores the current state of threat detection and highlights opportunities to mature security operations to achieve better cyber protection, detection, and response. [Register now](#)

### **MassDEP Cybersecurity Reminders:**

- MassDEP posters with cybersecurity tips to help keep your systems secure <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/public-drinking-water-system-operations#cybersecurity->

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

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## Supply Chain Reminders



### **Reminder: EPA -Supply Chain Resilience Assessments**

- EPA has developed an assessment process in which it will work individually with water and wastewater systems to identify their supply chain vulnerabilities and provide recommendations for increasing resilience.
  - The assessments will focus on the following areas: 1) chemical delivery, storage, inventory, and usage; 2) contracting and financing; 3) mutual aid agreements; and 4) operational flexibility.
  - Contact EPA for more information on these assessments or to indicate interest in participating. (Matt Umberg, [umberg.matt@epa.gov](mailto:umberg.matt@epa.gov))
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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.

**Resources:**

- MassDEP poster on supply chain issues planning and response with steps to prepare PWS for supply chain disruptions. See/download the poster here <https://www.mass.gov/doc/steps-to-prepare-your-public-water-system-for-supply-chain-disruptions/download>
  - [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 be can also be useful for finding alternative chemical suppliers in the case of supply chain shortages.
  - Join [MassWARN](#).
  - [EPA page on supply chain disruptions](#), 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](#)
-