Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP)/Drinking Water Program (DWP)

In the Main Newsletter – 09/08/2026

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In The Main - The Drinking Water Updates can be found online at the MassDEP Communication to Public Water Suppliers Website or at the Statehouse Archives which has a searchable database.



Colby Farm in Newbury, photo by Michael Celona

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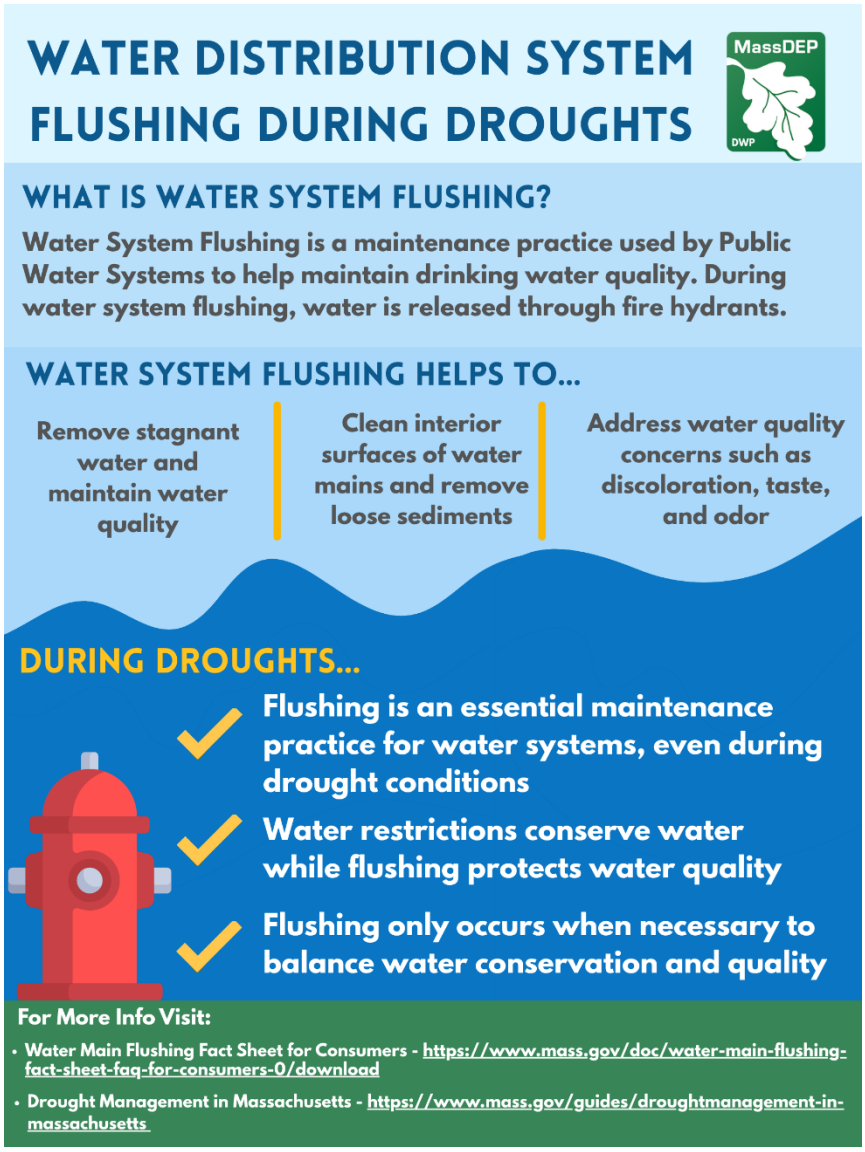
Are you looking for past issues or topics in our *In the Main* newsletter?

Use the search function in the Statehouse Archives Website.

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1. Flyer for Water Distribution System Flushing During Droughts

MassDEP DWP recently created a flyer that public water systems can distribute related to water distribution system flushing during droughts.



Water main flushing is a necessary component of water distribution system management. Water system flushing helps clean distribution system pipes and improve water age. However, customers may have questions or concerns when they see flushing performed in their area, especially when drought conditions persist in the state. Public water systems may find the Water Distribution System Flushing During Droughts flyer valuable to share with their customers to provide information about the importance of water system flushing and resources for learning more.

The flyer can be downloaded from the webpage Emergency Response for Public Water Systems - Natural Disasters, Pandemics, and Outbreaks Guidance.

2. Emergency Response: Using MEMA's Wireless Emergency Alert System

The Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) has a Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) system that Public Water Systems (PWSs) can leverage to communicate critical information during emergencies. The WEA system can send alerts to cellphones located within a municipality as long as residents have set up their phones to receive such alerts.

Cities/towns and their respective public safety leadership are encouraged to directly call the MEMA 24/7 dispatch center (508-820-2000) if they wish to leverage the WEA system. The dispatch verifies who the caller is and that they are authorized to use the WEA system. MEMA gets approval from their Senior Leadership, upon which time they then craft and send the message. Any town/city can ask to leverage the WEA system.

Important note for water districts or water utilities that serve multiple municipalities: MEMA requires the request to leverage the WEA system to come from the town leadership (e.g. police/fire/emergency services) where the emergency alert will be distributed. Town leadership will be the ones authorizing the message from the town's perspective and handling all of the residents' calls in relation to the message (as residents may call 911 to ask questions even if the message redirects them to a different number and/or website). In instances where the water utility may cover multiple jurisdictions, MEMA would first look to make sure the town(s) served were all on the same page.

Individuals can learn more and sign up for emergency alerts at Be Informed and Receive Emergency Alerts.

3. Upcoming Free Webinars with MassDEP and UMass Amherst

MassDEP, in partnership with UMass Amherst, is providing several free webinars for public water system operators and personnel. Upcoming webinars include the following:

- Information Session for Vocational Technical Schools and Students: Career Opportunities as a Drinking Water Operator (VSS/D1/T1)
- Operator Certification Q&A Session
- Preparing for UCMR6: An Overview for Public Water Systems
- Supply Chain Chemical Cooperatives (Eastern MA Chemical Cooperative)
- 1/2-Day Water Operations Overview for VSS/D1/T1 Certified Drinking Water Operators

To learn more about each webinar and register, see the "Training Calendar" section of this newsletter.

4. LCR, LCRR, and LCRI Updates

The Importance of Validating Your Service Line Inventory (SLI) Workbook

Please note that this article refers to the split ownership SLI Workbook configuration, but this information also applies to the no-split ownership SLI Workbook.

As many PWS with Lead, Galvanized Requiring Replacement (GRR), and Lead Status Unknown service lines are conducting work to identify service line materials, replace lead and GRR service lines, and conduct ongoing records reviews to make sure their inventory is accurate, the SLI Workbook is constantly being updated and changed to reflect these changes.

Since the MassDEP SLI Workbook has specific values which it recognizes to calculate service line classifications, these constant changes can cause invalid data values to be entered into the workbook, which can cause errors in the workbook and the service line classification calculation, like the prompt "Invalid Criteria" being shown as the classification if invalid service line material values are entered. There can also be human errors in the data entry process, like updating a service line classification manually without updating the service line material or overwriting the service line classification if "Invalid Criteria" is the classification.

To ensure that all data entered over time is correct, **MassDEP encourages PWS to run the data validation through your SLI workbook at minimum before creating your mailing list to distribute Lead, GRR, and Unknown service line consumer notices**. It is recommended to do this regularly, such as once a month, especially if you frequently update your SLI. This will help you identify and correct errors promptly. The data validation process will flag all errors in your SLI, including incorrect service line classifications. **To conduct a validation, follow these steps:**

Configure Validation Settings

1. Right-click in any cell of the SLI worksheet.
2. Select DEP: Inventory Validation from the context menu.
3. Select Highlight Invalid Cells and Output Validation Errors to File.
    a. Highlight Invalid Cells will fill all cells with an error with a light red color, which you can filter and sort by.
    b. Output Validation Errors to File will prompt you to select a folder where the error file will be saved, choose the best folder for that file to be saved. The error file will provide a list of all errors by cell row and number, and will provide you with a description of the error and how to fix it.
4. Click the Save button.

Run Validation

5. Right-click in any cell of the SLI worksheet to display the context menu.
6. Select DEP: Inventory Validation
7. Select Validate Inventory Worksheet. A progress indicator will show the percentage of rows that have been validated. The time it takes to complete the validation process will depend directly on the number of rows in the SLI worksheet.

8. When the progress indicator reaches 100%, select Okay. You may now review errors, either by filtering by the cell color (red) and correcting errors, or by reviewing the error file produced and then correcting cells 1 by 1.

PWS are encouraged to correct all errors found during the validation process. However, service line material, the past presence of a lead service lines, and service line classification errors (Columns F, G, J, and M) are the most important for ensuring the service line classification are correct. PWS are encouraged to make sure all errors in those 4 columns are resolved.

Using the SLI Workbook Formulas for Service Line Classification

MassDEP DWP strongly encourages PWS to avoid manually entering the service line classification in column M. If you enter the service line classification manually in column M, and it is incorrect, the SLI Workbook will not correct the classification unless a value in the cells in columns F, G, or J (service line material and previous presence of lead) for that row are altered, after which the classification would be recalculated. This means, should you manually enter the service line classification incorrectly, you will not be notified of the incorrect classification until the data validation is run.

The SLI Workbook will automatically calculate the service line classification based on the service line materials entered (columns F and J), and the past presence of lead (column G). If you'd like to rerun the classification formula to make sure the classification is up to date, or if the calculation is not running automatically, you can do so by following these steps:

1. Select all cells in column M which you would like to verify the service line classification (this may be 1 cell or many) and right click.
2. Hover over "DEP Col. Options"
3. Hover over "Column M" in the drop down options.
4. Select "Calculate Entire Service Line".

Reminder: Make sure that your data values are entered exactly as they are in the "Column Definitions" tab, meaning that **values must be all capitals, and should not include spaces before or after the value.** The formulas within the workbook are calculated based on these capitalized values, entering incorrect values can impact how the formula calculates the classification. Due to this, PWS can do an additional check to make sure all classifications are accurate, by following the instructions below.

Checking that Service Line Classifications are Accurate

Another way to confirm that service line classifications are accurate, or to run a secondary check, is to sort/filter by service line classification and then ensure that all service lines which are classified as such meet that classification criteria based on the materials and previous lead presence value entered. Below is a table with all classification scenarios for Lead, GRR, and Unknown service lines.

Public Service Line Material (Column F)	Was Public Service Line Material Ever Previously Lead? (Column G)	Private Service Line Material (Column J)	Entire Service Line Classification (Column M)
L	Answer Does Not Impact Classification	L	LEAD
L	Answer Does Not Impact Classification	Any Material	LEAD
Any Material	Answer Does Not Impact Classification	L	LEAD
L	YES	G	LEAD*

Any Material	YES	G	GALVANIZED REQUIRING REPLACEMENT
Any Material	UNK	G	GALVANIZED REQUIRING REPLACEMENT
UNK-LG	Answer Does Not Impact Classification	G	GALVANIZED REQUIRING REPLACEMENT
UNK-LG	Answer Does Not Impact Classification	UNK-LG	LEAD STATUS UNKNOWN
UNK-LG	Answer Does Not Impact Classification	Any Material	LEAD STATUS UNKNOWN
Any Material	Answer Does Not Impact Classification	UNK-LG	LEAD STATUS UNKNOWN

*Note, in this scenario, this is a Lead Service Line, but it is also a GRR service line as the Galvanized service line is downstream of a lead service line. Consumers should receive the Lead service line consumer notice as the workbook indicates while the public side is lead, and during replacement, the full-service line (public and private) should be replaced. If the lead service line only on the public side was replaced, a GRR service line would still be left.

Article Takeaways:

1. Run the data validation on your SLI Workbook prior to creating your SLI CN mailing list.
2. Do not manually enter service line classifications, use the formula within the workbook to calculate it for you.
3. Make sure your data values in the workbook match the allowed values (Column Definitions Tab), and are all capitals, without any spaces.
4. You can do an additional check by filtering the service line classifications and then checking to make sure all service lines have the correct materials and lead presence for that classification.

Completing the SLI Workbook and performing the validation process is explained in more detail in the SLI Workbook Instructions, which are available using the links below:

- Instructions: Service Line Inventory Excel Workbook Template for Systems with Split Ownership of Service Lines for Version 1.0.3
- Instructions: Service Line Inventory Excel Workbook Template for Systems WITHOUT Split Ownership of Service Lines for Version 1.3.2

If you have any questions regarding your SLI Workbook or distributing service line consumer notices, please contact MassDEP DWP at program.director-dwp@mass.gov, subject: SLI Workbook or LCRR Service Line Consumer Notices.

5. Water Smart

Water-Smart Program Update

The Water-Smart program continues offering free analysis of lead drinking water samples and technical assistance to eligible public and private schools and early education and childcare facilities (EECFs). Currently, 1,375 schools and EECFs are participating in the program and 1,199 (87%) of participating facilities are within economically disadvantaged communities. To date, 1,280 schools and EECFs have completed testing. Of facilities that have tested and received results, 846 (66%) 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: Water-Smart Program Website.

Fall Seminar Planning

We are currently planning our Fall Water-Smart Seminar! The purpose of this seminar is to raise awareness about the Water-Smart Program and the free services available to schools and licensed childcare facilities. Like our previous seminars, we plan to host the event at a public location, such as a town library, school, or community center. We are currently planning to hold the seminar in early November in Fall River.

If you are a licensed childcare provider or school in or near the Fall River area and would be interested in supporting this event, we would love to hear from you. We are also looking to partner with local organizations that work with schools or licensed childcare facilities to help promote the seminar.

If you know of an organization that may be interested in partnering with the Water-Smart Program, please feel free to share our information or put us in contact at program.director-dwp@mass.gov.

Get Ahead with Lead Testing: Join the Water-Smart Pilot Program for Public Water Systems

MassDEP continues inviting all Community PWS to the *Water-Smart Pilot Program for PWS* – a forward-thinking initiative designed to help water systems stay ahead of upcoming federal regulations.

Participating in the Pilot Program allows PWS to get ahead on their November 1, 2027, LCRI Testing Offering Requirements by leveraging the pre-existing Water-Smart Program. The Pilot Program:

- Offers valuable free lead testing to schools and childcare centers now,
- Fulfills future federal requirements early,
- Build community trust, and
- Access expert technical support at no cost.

Don't wait for 2027—Be Proactive, get ahead today. For more information or to join the pilot program visit Water-Smart (Lead in School Drinking Water) Pilot Program for Public Water Suppliers | Mass.gov, or email **Program.Director-DWP@mass.gov** with the subject line: **"Pilot Program for PWS."**

6. Drinking Water Trivia!

Tickle your brain and test your knowledge on drinking water related information. In each issue, we will ask 1-3 questions and provide the answers somewhere else in the newsletter to encourage your sleuthing skills.

Which of the following products can POSSIBLY contain PFAS?

A. Shampoo
B. Shaving Cream
C. Dental floss
D. All of the above

Check out the other articles while looking for the answer. If you would like to send in a Trivia question or two, please email the question and answer to program.director-dwp@mass.gov, Subject DWP Trivia.

7. Training Calendar

When you need training, please look at the MassDEP Training Calendar for Public Water System Operators or refer to the resources on the webpage Drinking Water Training.

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 Webpage and view the approved education courses to sit for examination.

Some Newly Added Trainings on the Calendar

Water 2050: Shared Water Stewardship in the Digital Age

Wednesday, September 9, 2026; 1:00 – 2:30 pm ET; webinar

The industries driving our digital future (semiconductors, data centers, rare earth mineral mining, and next-generation energy) depend on vast amounts of water. As global demand for digital infrastructure accelerates alongside mounting water scarcity, this webinar convenes leaders from across these water-intensive industries to explore how collective stewardship can ensure both industrial progress and community resilience. Panelists will highlight how partnerships with local utilities, governments, and residents create mutual success, protecting community water access while securing reliable resources for industry. By embracing shared stewardship, industries and communities can power the digital revolution while ensuring that future generations inherit resilient, thriving watersheds. Register for the webinar: Water 2050: Shared Water Stewardship in the Digital Age

MassDEP/UMass Webinar: Information Session for Vocational Technical Schools and Students: Career Opportunities as a Drinking Water Operator (VSS/D1/T1)

Thursday, September 10, 2026; 10:00 – 11:00 am ET; webinar

This free, virtual information session is to learn about career opportunities and the responsibilities involved in working as a Very Small System (VSS), Distribution (D1), or Treatment (T1) Drinking Water Operator. This introductory session is designed for vocational technical school students and others interested in pursuing a career in the drinking water field. Topics will include water quality sampling, wells and source protection, water pipes, storage tanks, hydrants, valves, meters, water treatment, Massachusetts drinking water regulations, and other essential operator responsibilities. The session will also explain the steps needed to prepare for and pass the VSS, D1, and T1 certification exams and will highlight current career and job opportunities in the field. Water supply professionals will be available to answer questions and provide additional guidance and follow-up support. Register for the webinar: Information Session for Vocational Technical Schools and Students: Career Opportunities as a Drinking Water Operator (VSS/D1/T1)

EFCN Webinar: Chlorine Disinfection and Calculations for Drinking Water Operators

Tuesday, September 15, 2026; 1:00 – 2:00 pm ET; webinar

Chlorine disinfection is one of the most important processes used in drinking water treatment and distribution systems to protect public health. This one-hour webinar provides drinking water operators with an overview of chlorine chemistry, disinfection principles, and the practical calculations required for effective system operation. Participants will learn how chlorine works to inactivate pathogens, the factors that affect disinfection performance, and how to monitor and maintain proper disinfectant residuals throughout the treatment and distribution systems. The webinar will also cover common operator calculations related to chlorine dosage, feed rates, residual concentrations, and contact time (CT). Real-world examples and calculation exercises will help operators strengthen their understanding and confidence in applying chlorine disinfection concepts in daily operations. Register for the webinar: Chlorine Disinfection and Calculations for Drinking Water Operators

MDBP Rule Revisions: NDWAC Recommendations, State Insights, and Research Highlights

Wednesday, September 16, 2026; 1:00 – 2:30 pm ET; webinar

This webinar explores potential revisions to the Microbial and Disinfection Byproduct (MDBP) rule and will discuss key recommendations from the National Drinking Water Advisory Council (NDWAC) on disinfectant residuals, disinfection byproducts (DBPs), finished water storage tanks, and premise plumbing. Presenters will highlight relevant case studies and research. $75-member, $120-nonmember. Register for the webinar: MDBP Rule Revisions: NDWAC Recommendations, State Insights, and Research Highlights

MassDEP/UMass Webinar: Operator Certification Q&A Session

Thursday, September 17, 2026; 10:00 – 11:00 am ET; webinar

Join UMass Technical Assistance Providers (TAPs) for a FREE virtual Q&A and office hours session designed to help drinking water operators and other interested individuals navigate the operator certification process. Participants can ask questions and receive guidance on topics such as the Board of Certification, licensing requirements, operator certification pathways, license types, exam registration, license applications, experience calculations, training and certification requirements, testing tips, renewal cycles, online resources, and frequently asked questions. This session provides an opportunity to connect directly with technical assistance providers, get answers to certification-related questions, and learn where to find additional resources and support. Register for the webinar: Operator Certification Q&A Session

MassDEP Drinking Water Program and UMass Amherst: Preparing for UCMR6: An Overview for Public Water Systems

Wednesday September 30th, 2026 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. EDT; Webinar

MassDEP Drinking Water Program and UMass Amherst are hosting an important **free** training related to the Emerging Contaminants in Small or Disadvantaged Communities (EC-SDC) Grant. This webinar will provide a comprehensive overview of EPA's newly proposed Sixth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 6), including the drinking water regulatory landscape, the 30 contaminants of concern, and required sampling and analytical methods. Attendees will gain an understanding of the proposed monitoring timeline and key compliance obligations, to help public water systems and other water professionals prepare ahead of the rule's required compliance. This webinar will also go over available

technical support and a brief summary of the Emerging Contaminants in Small or Disadvantaged Communities (EC-SDC) Grant Program. There will be an open forum/Q&A session at the end of the training. The training portion of this webinar will be recorded and available on the MassDEP YouTube channel for later viewing. We strongly encourage all interested PWS personnel, including operators, and authorized representatives to attend. **Certified operators can earn 1 TCH by participating in the training.** Registration is required and each attendee must register individually: Please Register for the webinar "Preparing for UCMR 6: An Overview for Public Water Systems"

MassDEP/UMass Webinar: Supply Chain Chemical Cooperatives (Eastern MA Chemical Cooperative)

Wednesday, October 7, 2026; 10:00 – 11:00 am ET; webinar

This one-hour informational session will focus on how public water systems (PWS) can work together through a chemical cooperative to address supply chain challenges. The session will review how PWS can collaborate to obtain competitive pricing, streamline and consolidate the administrative work involved in sourcing chemicals from manufacturers, and improve the reliability of their chemical supply. The presentation will highlight how a cooperative approach can increase resilience to supply chain disruptions by helping PWS identify alternative chemical suppliers and respond effectively to shortages or other disruptions to the supply chain. Participants can receive 1 TCH for successful completion of the webinar. Register for the webinar: Supply Chain Chemical Cooperatives (Eastern AM Chemical Cooperative)

MassDEP/UMass Webinar: 1/2-Day Water Operations Overview for VSS/D1/T1 Certified Drinking Water Operators

Thursday, October 8, 2026; 8:30 – 12:00 pm ET; webinar

This free, virtual introductory training is for individuals interested in becoming a Very Small System (VSS), Distribution (D1), or Treatment (T1) Drinking Water Operator. The course is designed for individuals who are new to the field, as well as current operators looking to strengthen their knowledge and prepare for certification. Topics will include water quality sampling, wells and source protection, water distribution pipes, storage tanks, hydrants, valves, meters, water treatment, Massachusetts drinking water regulations, and other essential operator responsibilities. The session is a starting point to help operators pass the VSS, D1, and T1 certification exams; operators who want additional exam preparation may want to consider signing up for a full VSS/T1/D1 training. Participants can receive 3 TCHs for successful completion of the webinar. Register for the webinar: 1/2-Day Water Operations Overview for VSS/D1/T1 Certified Drinking Water Operators

EPA Webinar: Natural Hazard Technical Assistance for Updating your Emergency Response Plan

Monday, October 14, 2026; 1:00 – 2:30 pm ET; webinar

Join EPA's Strengthening Water Infrastructure for Tomorrow (SWIFT) initiative for a free webinar on updating your emergency response plan (ERP) for natural hazards. The webinar will highlight how to use available data resources, online tools, templates, and free technical assistance to address natural hazard threats in ERPs. Section 1433 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), revised by America's Water

Infrastructure Act (AWIA) section 2013, requires community water systems (CWS) serving over 3,300 people to prepare (or revise) and certify ERPs to the EPA every five years. Recertification deadlines have been occurring throughout 2025 and 2026. The final ERP recertification deadline, for systems serving 3,301 to 49,999 people, is December 31, 2026. CWSs that serve less than 3,301 people, non-CWSs, wastewater utilities, and stormwater utilities are not required to certify completion of an ERP to EPA. However, because natural disasters and malevolent acts also affect these utilities, EPA encourages them to develop ERPs to plan for potential disruptions. Register for the webinar: Natural Hazard Technical Assistance for Updating your Emergency Response Plan

8. Cybersecurity, Emergency Preparedness, and You!

For information and alerts see Cybersecurity Resource Hub for MA Public Water Systems (PWS)

Biweekly Spotlight

September Is National Insider Threat Awareness Month: Guide to Mitigating Insider Threats

When it comes to cybersecurity it's easy to fall into the 'walled garden' ideology. You might think if you can just keep the bad actors out, all will be well. Unfortunately, sometimes, the threats come from inside and a firewall won't save you.

Post Rock Rural Water District, Kansas 2019. A former employee used credentials that were never revoked after his resignation to remotely log in and shut down disinfection and cleaning processes at the water plant. He used pre-configured access from his phone to do this. He later pleaded guilty to tampering with the water treatment facility computer system*. This is a textbook example of offboarding failure that led to compromise and direct manipulation of the water treatment process.

Often, the bad actor is not the actual person that these credentials were assigned to. In many instances they are leaked and traded around on the dark web until a bad actor uses them for nefarious purposes. In either case, a combination of 'least trust' and proper documented offboarding procedures can reduce and or eliminate your exposure to these scenarios.

Offboarding: When employees leave, make sure you disable any and all access:

- Remote access
- Physical keys and keycards
- Email accounts
- SCADA account / credentials

It's critical to revoke unneeded access. Less is more in the case of security. Most of the time a former employee is not going to intentionally cause damage, granted. Leaving former employee credential active is just rolling out the red carpet for future attacks by someone who leverages those old credentials to do harm. Have a plan written down that is followed every single time someone leaves employment at your facility regardless of why they are leaving. Don't leave the keys in the door.

Zero Trust: Security works best in layers. One additional layer we highly recommend is practicing as much of 'Least Trust' aka 'Zero Trust' as you can.

In short, the key principles speak for themselves:

- **Continuous Verification**: Every access request is authenticated and authorized in real time, not just at login.
- **Least Privilege Access**: Users and workloads receive only the access necessary for their tasks, and permissions are temporary and tightly scoped.
- **Assume Breach**: Security controls are designed with the expectation that attackers may already be inside the network, focusing on limiting the impact of breaches and enabling rapid detection and response

Entire books are written about this topic but fundamentally the idea is to grant users (Operators) the least access required to do their job. This means not every single person should be an administrator. This extends to contractors as well. If someone does not need it, they should not be able to access it. This process is virtually impossible when credentials are shared between employees. This is one reason we highlight the importance of unique credentials for each user on your network / system. Having unique users also helps out a lot during the digital forensics stage after an attack.

It's always a good idea to discuss these things with your integrator or whoever assists you with your SCADA/OT network. Even if you are not following best practices today, you can slowly adjust the sails and start implementing these things over time for a safer tomorrow. Cyber security never stops.

Stay Vigilant.

- For more information Visit CISA Insider Threat Mitigation Guide
- *District of Kansas | Kansas Man Pleads Guilty to Water Facility Tampering | United States Department of Justice

9. Supply Chain Reminders

If your PWS experiences any supply chain issues, including the receipt of a Force Majeure letter from a chemical supplier, the MassDEP/DWP encourages you to report all supply chain issues to your MassDEP regional office Drinking Water Program contact and take the following steps:

- Review your PWS Emergency Response Plans (ERP) required by 310 CMR 22.04(13) and take planned actions identified for such an emergency. This should include any applicable work and conservation practices to extend the currently available supply.
- Implement the steps identified by DWP using the Steps to Prepare Your PWS For Supply Chain Disruptions Flyer and keep MassDEP/DWP informed of all Supply Chain issues.
- Check/Use 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.
- Join MaWARN.

10. How To Subscribe to the In The Main Newsletter

Subscribe to the *In The Main* Newsletter here!

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*, subscribe by completing the quick ITM Newsletter Sign-Up Form. 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, visit to the Safe Drinking Water Act Assessment Advisory Committee ("Section 70" Committee) Homepage.

11. Drinking Water Trivia! Answer

Answer: D

PFAS can be added to all of these to make them more durable, water resistant and easier to apply. While using these products won't necessarily make you sick, you should always check the to see what brands and alternatives are PFAS-free to limit your overall exposure.