



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.



Abigail Adams State Park, Weymouth, Photo by: Eric Cheung

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

2024-09-20

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3. Net Impact Boston SDG Summit
4. APPLY NOW: UMass - Technical Assistance Providers for Public Water Systems for the USEPA Emerging Contaminants in Small or Disadvantaged Communities Grant Program (EC-SDC Grant Program)
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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>

REMINDER: Applicants for Operator Licensing Must Submit Application Within Six Months of Passing Exam

The Board of Certification of Operators of Drinking Water Supply Facilities regulations (236 CMR 4.04(1)) require that individuals who pass a drinking water exam submit an application for licensure within 6 months of passing. The vast majority of applicants apply within a couple of months. The Board provided some flexibility around this 6-month deadline during the height of the COVID pandemic but is now returning to its original practice. Individuals are required to apply within the 6-month timeframe. Contact the Board with questions at drinkingwaterboard@mass.gov.

Publication of Public Water System Estimated Service Area Data on MassGIS

MassDEP is pleased to announce the publication of the drinking water estimated service area dataset to MassGIS. Data delineating the areas served by public water systems (PWSs) is available for the first time through [MassMapper](#) and the MassGIS's [ArcGIS Online Data Hub](#). The full dataset including description, metadata, and upcoming options to download the data or use it in ArcGIS Online are available through the [MassGIS's dataset landing page](#). This mapping effort began in 2017, as part of the "[Enhancing Resilience and Emergency Preparedness of Water Utilities through Improved Mapping](#)." Through this project, the MassDEP [Water Utility Resilience Program \(WURP\)](#) began to uniformly map drinking water service areas throughout Massachusetts using information collected from various sources. Along with confirming existing public water system (PWS) service area information, the [MassDEP WURP Mapping Project](#) collected and verified estimated service area delineations for PWSs not previously delineated. As of the date of publication, WURP has [delineated Community \(COM\) and Non-Transient Non-Community \(NTNC\) service areas](#). Transient non-community (TNCs) are not part of this mapping project.

MassDEP WURP is an ongoing mapping project. All PWS service area delineations are approximate estimates for broad planning purposes and should only be used as a guide. The data is not appropriate for site-specific or parcel-specific analysis. Not all service areas have been confirmed by the systems. This data is maintained by MassDEP WURP. Questions may be directed to WURP at WURP@mass.gov.

YOUR ACTION IS REQUIRED!
PWS DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM
SERVICE AREA MAPPING



**Have you sent
your distribution
map information
to MassDEP and
WURP?**

Net Impact Boston SDG Summit

On Saturday, September 28, from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m, the Net Impact Boston Sustainable Goals Summit will be held at the NonProfit Center in downtown Boston. There will be a panel on Boston's Green New Deal which will focus on five areas: decarbonization, transportation, clean energy, resilience & nature, and the workforce. There will be additional panels on Environmental Justice and Driving Innovation. Tickets are \$15-20 and more information can be found here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/net-impact-boston-sdg-summit-tickets-982302823187>



APPLY NOW: UMass - Technical Assistance Providers for Public Water Systems for the USEPA Emerging Contaminants in Small or Disadvantaged Communities Grant Program (EC-SDC Grant Program)

Job Description

The MassDEP Drinking Water Program (DWP) partners with UMass Amherst to provide training and technical assistance to small and/or disadvantaged public water systems (PWS) in Massachusetts. UMass Amherst / MassDEP is currently looking to hire individuals to assist small and/or disadvantaged PWS with aspects of the USEPA EC-SDC Grant Program to address emerging contaminants in drinking water.

This work may include assisting PWS through one or more of the following tasks:

- Complete grant paperwork such as Project Scopes of Work, budget forms, and associated documentation

- Evaluate PWS grant eligibility and financial need
- Use federal and/or state tools for demonstrating grant eligibility and financial need and collect documentation to support eligibility and need
- Assist PWS with project planning to address emerging contaminants such as PFAS or manganese
- Ensure PWS compliance with grant requirements throughout the project timeline such as BABA, MEPA, MassDEP permits, etc.
- Complete monthly project reporting forms for PWS grantees
- Coordinate with PWS owners, operators, and/or contractors throughout the entire grant period
- Develop training and guidance materials
- Conduct training for PWS owners and/or operators
- Respond to phone and email inquiries about the grant program
- Attend periodic virtual (video conference) project meetings

Several positions are available. The selected candidate(s) will provide technical assistance primarily via phone/email and virtual meetings. Some in person meetings may occur on a case- by-case basis. Applicants must have a background in drinking water, engineering, grant management, or other closely related field. Basic computer and communication/people skills are required. Candidates of all experience and skill levels are encouraged to apply. Schedule: 10-20 hours per week

Compensation: \$18-45/hr depending on experience. This is an hourly, non-benefitted position.

Please send a resume and a brief statement of interest to drinkingwater@umass.edu . Include “EC-SDC TAP Position” in the email subject line.



Getting Ready for LCRR

The deadline to submit your service line inventory is very close!

This is a reminder that the deadline to submit your service line inventory under the revised Lead and Copper Rule (LCRR) is —October 16, 2024. This is a crucial step in ensuring the safety of our drinking water and protecting public health.

Key Points to Remember:

October 16, 2024 Service Line Inventory Submission Requirement: All COM and NTNC public water systems must compile and submit an inventory that identifies the materials of all service lines, including those made of lead. The inventory must also be publicly available.

Importance of Compliance: Timely submission is essential for complying with federal regulations and for providing vital information to consumers about the materials in their service lines. **Failing to submit your inventory by this deadline will result in enforcement by EPA.**

November 15, 2024 Consumers Notifications: COM and NTNC PWS must notify all consumers served by service lines identified as lead, galvanized requiring replacement, or unknown, detailing potential health risks and recommended actions. These notices can be provided by mail, hand delivered or posted in conspicuous locations.

After October 16, 2024 all COM and NTNC lead action level exceedances will require Tier 1 24-hour consumer notification.

As we approach the service line inventory deadline, we urge all PWS to prioritize submitting their inventory on time. For assistance or further information, please visit [Lead and Copper Rule Revisions | Mass.gov](#).



Service line inventory (SLI) Star Shout Out: Thank you to **Gould Farm (PWS ID 1193003)** for their successful use of the MassDEP Service Line Identification Web App crowdsourcing tool to work with their customers to identify service line materials in their system.

Interested in using the Web App tool as a resource for completing your SLI? See the enrollment instructions here: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/instructions-mass-lead-service-line-identification-ma-lsli-web-app/download>.

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 guidance documents on the following topics:
 - [LCRR Links of Interest](#)
 - [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](#)
 - [How to Submit Your Initial SLI](#)
 - [Lessons Learned: Common Validation Errors Found in Submitted SLIs](#)
 - And more!
- Through the [Lead & Copper Forms and Templates](#) webpage you can access the following:
 - o [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.

- o [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.
- o [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.**
- o [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.
- And more!

Lead in Schools and Childcare Facilities Drinking Water Update

Water-Smart Program Update

Water-Smart (formally known as the Expanded Assistance Program) 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, 1,041 schools and EECFs are participating in the program and 667 (64%) of participating facilities are within environmental justice communities. To date, 819 schools and EECFs have completed testing. Of facilities that have tested and received results, 552 (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-Q2XifkK4l58x4GDtYrItvpKIKUAhSxpw9pSZtA/exec

PFAS Update

How often is PFAS found in public water supplies nationally?

The U.S. EPA collects nationwide drinking water PFAS data under the fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule <https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/occurrence-data-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule#5>

- 11% of PWS nationally exceeded one or more of the EPA MCLs
- 20% of PWS in Massachusetts exceeded one or more of the EPA MCLs
- 24% of PWS in EPA Region 1 exceeded one or more of the EPA MCLs

The Department of Defense has set new clean-up priorities for PFAS in drinking water

On September 3, 2024, the DOD released a guidance document entitled, “[Prioritization of DOD Cleanup Actions to Implement the Federal Drinking Water Standards for PFAS Under the Defense Environmental Restoration Program](#),” describing DoD’s plans to incorporate EPA’s MCLs into their ongoing PFAS cleanups. They are prioritizing actions where PFAS levels are the highest and will initiate removal actions to address private drinking water wells impacted by PFAS from DoD activities where concentrations are known to be at or above three times the MCL values (i.e., PFOA = 12 ppt; PFOS = 12 ppt; PFHxS = 30 ppt; GenX = 30 ppt; PFNA = 30 ppt; HI = 3).

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.

What was the name of the first cyber attack?

- A. Hilbert Effect
- B. Serizawa Scale
- C. Morris Worm
- D. GB Initiative

Who is credited for discovering PFAS in its first form?

- A. Condoriano Ortega
- B. Roy Plunkett
- C. Wallace Langdon
- D. Gerald Morgen

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 pdirector-dwp@mass.gov, Subject DWP Trivia.

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

Optimizing Onsite Wastewater Systems

Tuesday, September 24, 2024; 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. ET; webinar

This webinar will cover troubleshooting techniques, common problems and their solutions, the impact of various chemicals and materials on system function, issues related to fats, oils, and grease (FOG), and important guidelines on what not to flush. Presenter: Dr. Jason Barrett, Associate Director, Mississippi Water Resources Research Institute. [Register here](#)

Architecting Safety using Cybersecurity Requirements and Assessments

Wednesday, September 25, 2024; 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. ET; webinar

Deploying and maintaining safe processes requires planning and the implementation of knowledge gained from previous tests and experiences. The field devices, controllers, servers, and other digitized safety equipment that communicate via Ethernet or wireless connections have increased dramatically. Additionally, vendors are rapidly deploying cloud-based services that are directly connected to process assets relied on for both monitoring and control. The earlier cybersecurity is considered in the process development process the safer it will be for people, the environment, and the process. This presentation will review cybersecurity considerations when planning safe operations. Attendees will be introduced to the ISA 62443 risk management process and high-level risk assessment data gathering that will fuel their information gathering requirements. The requirements for architecting and remotely accessing safety enclaves and assets will be outlined with consideration for possible cloud asset inclusions. The types and outputs from cybersecurity vulnerability assessments will be outlined to help each attendee understand how to plan and scope these critical reviews. By the end of the presentation each attendee will have a starting point for discussing cybersecurity concepts which will ultimately improve process safety on current and new process environments. [Register here](#)

PFAS: Sampling & Analytical Method Developments

Wednesday, September 25, 2024; 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. ET; webinar

Please join NEWMOA for a webinar to learn about the latest developments at US EPA on analytical methods for soil, water, and air. Bring your questions! \$0-75. [Register here](#)

Navigating the Evolving PFAS Landscape in Biosolids Management

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

The topic of PFAS is both inescapable and rapidly evolving nationwide. Join us for an overview of the EPA PFAS Strategic Roadmap, the designation of PFOA and PFOS as CERCLA hazardous substances, developments in PFAS legislation by the Senate EPW Committee, and the latest research on PFAS. Gain the knowledge and tools to better understand biosolids management in the context of PFAS and to best serve your communities in addressing this challenging issue. Presenter: Mary Baker, Executive Director, Mid Atlantic Biosolids Association. [Register here](#)

Addressing Vape Product Waste: Management Challenges and Policy Solutions

Wednesday, October 2, 2024; 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. ET; webinar

This webinar will cover the full breadth of VPW, including generation, state and local policy options, best management practices, challenges, and successes for this complex product. Participants will hear from a local government about the operational details of VPW management, including insights from Boulder County's Vape Aware program, which offers community vape waste disposal opportunities. PSI will share policy options identified through a research project conducted for Boulder County. Additionally, we'll hear from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency about specific challenges and complexities of vape end-of-life management, and from the Environmental Health Initiative at University of California about the broader environmental issues associated with VPW disposal. There will be ample time for Q&A. [Register here](#)

PFAS: Thermal Treatment Technologies

Wednesday, October 2, 2024; 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. ET; webinar

Please join NEWMOA for a webinar to learn about the carbon reactivation process and thermal treatment of soils. Bring your questions! \$0-75. [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.
- **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:
<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!

2024-09-20

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

EPA is currently conducting AWIA/Cybersecurity inspections. Please ensure that you are up to date with all ERP and Cybersecurity planning and actions. If you have any questions please contact program.director-dwp@mass.gov, Subject: Cybersecurity



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.



Free Cybersecurity Health Check Program- Office of Municipal and School Technology (OMST)
PWS can apply for this free program at no cost and access a variety of services. If PWS are unsure about which service to choose the Executive Office of Technology Services and Security (EOTSS)- OMST staff will assist them in selecting the service that best meets their needs. **Apply Today** <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/cybersecurity-health-check-program> Note: PWS are free to apply independent of their municipality.



Apply Today for Municipal Cybersecurity Awareness Grant Program (MCAGP) and Receive Free Cybersecurity Training for Your Staff

The [Municipal Cybersecurity Awareness Grant Program](#) in Massachusetts offers funding for training and awareness initiatives to help PWS and local governments protect their systems and data from cyber threats. PWS are encouraged to apply for this valuable program. It's an excellent opportunity to enhance your cybersecurity measures at no cost, ensuring the protection of critical infrastructure and services. **Apply today** [here](#). Note: PWS are free to apply independent of their municipality.



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 completed 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:



Update on Cybersecurity Plans for Water/ Wastewater Systems requested by the National Security Council (Source ASDWA)

- The Association of State Drinking Water Administrators (ASDWA) has provided an update on a recent briefing they received regarding the Cybersecurity Plans for Water/Wastewater Systems. These plans were requested from the Governors in each state by the National Security Council (NSC).
- Approximately, **38 states responded**. EPA was tasked by the NSC to evaluate the submitted plans against seven elements that were outlined in the letters, and to develop a strategy for working with states who may not have submitted plans or to address any gaps in the submissions.
- NSC will be sending letters in the next couple of weeks to each state on their plans. Regarding any perceived areas of improvement, the letters will identify Federal resources and technical assistance to assist states with bolstering their plans.
- MassDEP/DWP submitted the MA cybersecurity plan for water and wastewater to NSC on 06/28/2024. As soon as MassDEP receives feedback from NSC, MassDEP will inform MA PWS.
- Due to the sensitive nature of the information, MassDEP will not release any specific details. Instead, MassDEP will share any additional federal resources or technical assistance available for PWS based on the submitted plan.



Reminder: Cybersecurity Meeting for Water and Wastewater - SAVE THE DATE- Friday November 1st, 2024

On Friday, November 1st MassDEP is holding an educational Cybersecurity Meeting for water and wastewater utility staff in Burlington, MA. There will be expert speakers from multiple organizations and a utility roundtable to discuss cybersecurity questions, issues and solutions. We hope you can attend. Please mark the date on your calendar. More details to follow.



Coming Soon- Self Paced Course on Basic Cybersecurity Measures for Water and Wastewater Systems in Massachusetts (Massachusetts Board of Certification Approved for 1 TCH)

MassDEP DWP is excited to announce the upcoming launch of our Cybersecurity Basics course, designed specifically for water and wastewater operators. This self-paced course allows you to earn 1 TCH (Training Contact Hour) while learning valuable cybersecurity skills. The course will be published soon and will provide you with the knowledge you need to protect critical infrastructure against evolving cyber threats. Stay tuned for more details!

Learning Goals:

- Participants will learn about water sector threats, basic cybersecurity measures, incident response, system resilience, and valuable resources, with the goal of fostering a culture of cybersecurity within their organizations.
- Regardless of the size of the water system, this course empowers everyone, from field workers to office staff, to contribute to maintaining a reliable and resilient water system.

National Insider Threat Awareness Month 2024 – Resources and Awareness Training

- As part of National Insider Threat Awareness Month (NITAM), the federal government has created several free online resources and awareness training modules that organizations can use to manage the risk of insider threats. WaterISAC encourages water and wastewater utilities to review these resources and share them throughout their organizations. [Full article](#)

CISA Releases Analysis of FY23 Risk and Vulnerability Assessments

- CISA has published an analysis and infographic outlining the results from 143 Risk and Vulnerability Assessments (RVAs) conducted across various critical infrastructure sectors during fiscal year 2023.
- The new resources provide several detailed mitigations and remediation measures to help protect against some of the most up-to-date threat actor tactics.
- Many of these tactics are highly prevalent to the water sector, particularly Lateral Movement which has been observed being used by Volt Typhoon to breach a water utility and is mentioned in the analysis. [Full article](#)

For additional alerts see [Cybersecurity Resource Hub for MA Public Water Systems \(PWS\)](#)

Upcoming Trainings

CISA Webinar: Chemlock: Introduction to Chemical Security Training Course

Monday, October 7, 2024; 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. ET; webinar

CISA's ChemLock program is a completely voluntary program that provides facilities that possess dangerous chemicals no-cost services and tools to help them better understand the risks they face and improve their chemical security posture in a way that works for their business model. This course provides an introduction to identifying, assessing, evaluating, and mitigating chemical security risks. This easy-to-understand overview identifies key components and best practices of chemical security awareness and planning to help kick start chemical security discussions at your facility. The course runs 1-2 hours in length and is appropriate for all personnel regardless of their level of involvement with dangerous chemicals. [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.

Answer: C, B