



MassDEP / Drinking Water Program

100 Cambridge Street – 9<sup>th</sup> Floor; Boston, MA 02114

[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.



Babson Farm Quarry, Halibut Point State Park, Rockport, MA Photo by: Eric Cheung

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

2023-11-02

1. Federal Executive Order on Use of Artificial Intelligence
2. UMass and MassDEP Still Searching for Cybersecurity Technical Assistance Providers!
3. An Important Reminder!
4. Lead in Schools and Childcare Facilities Drinking Water Update
5. PFAS Update
6. Training Calendar
7. Cybersecurity, Emergency Preparedness, and You!
8. Supply Chain Reminders



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

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

## Federal Executive Order on Use of Artificial Intelligence

Recently we have been getting question on Artificial Intelligence (AI). Please see below information on this subject.

On October 30, 2023, President Biden released a new [EO: Executive Order on the Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy Development and Use of Artificial Intelligence](#). In addition to generally describing the US policy for developing,

assessing, and using artificial intelligence (AI), the executive order (EO) contains the following section that is of particular relevance for water suppliers:

*4.3. Managing AI in Critical Infrastructure and in Cybersecurity. (a) To ensure the protection of critical infrastructure, the following actions shall be taken:*

*(i) Within 90 days of the date of this order, and at least annually thereafter, the head of each agency with relevant regulatory authority over critical infrastructure and the heads of relevant SRMAs, in coordination with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency within the Department of Homeland Security for consideration of cross-sector risks, shall evaluate and provide to the Secretary of Homeland Security an assessment of potential risks related to the use of AI in critical infrastructure sectors involved, including ways in which deploying AI may make critical infrastructure systems more vulnerable to critical failures, physical attacks, and cyber-attacks, and shall consider ways to mitigate these vulnerabilities. Independent regulatory agencies are encouraged, as they deem appropriate, to contribute to sector-specific risk assessments.*

Given that the EO was just released, there has not been any guidance on developing this assessment for the water sector, but intentions are for US EPA to coordinate with Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) as well as the Water Sector Coordinating Council (WSCC) and the Water Governmental Coordinating Council (WGCC) leadership in developing this AI risk assessment. Read the full Executive Order at the weblink above and more information will be forthcoming on this topic.

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## UMass and MassDEP Still Searching for Cybersecurity Technical Assistance Providers!

MassDEP/DWP and UMass Amherst are still searching for Technical Assistance Providers (TAPs) to assist with cybersecurity efforts for public water systems (PWS). TAPs on this team will review cybersecurity assessment reports, guide and prompt PWS in addressing gaps, provide and help identify technical support, and contribute to overall cybersecurity resilience.

Please reach out if you or someone you know is interested in this position. Feel free to forward the job description information listed below to anyone in your network who may be interested as well. The job posting is also listed on the Massachusetts Water Works Association (MWWA) website here:

<https://mwwa.memberclicks.net/assets/documents/Jobs/9-25-23%20Cybersecurity%20Technical%20Assistance%20Provider%20.pdf>

### Job Description

- **Cyber assessment review:** Assist MassDEP/DWP and surveyors to review PWS emergency response plans (ERP) and cybersecurity evaluation reports.
- **Reporting and Documentation:** Develop/generate the Sanitary Survey Inspection Report/ Cyber Security Corrective Action Plan (CSCAP).
- **Develop/Implement Remediation Strategies:** Work with PWS and MassDEP/DWP to develop and implement cyber mitigation strategies and discuss remediation actions promptly.
- **Communication:** Maintain communication and follow-up with PWS to ensure they are addressing identified cyber gaps and maintaining their cybersecurity hygiene.

- **Training Development:** Provide training/guidance to both PWS, MassDEP/DWP, etc.
- **Informational Material Creation:** Assist in the development of informative materials such as flyers and posters on cybersecurity awareness and best practices.
- **Identify Funding Sources:** Research and identify potential funding opportunities to support PWS in enhancing its cybersecurity posture.
- **Query Resolution:** Respond to phone and email inquiries about cybersecurity and emergency response.
- **Stakeholder Collaboration:** Actively participate in meetings and collaborate with various stakeholders to promote cybersecurity awareness and coordination.

## Qualifications

Several positions available. Candidates of all experience and skill levels are encouraged to apply. The selected candidates will provide assistance in-person or virtually. Applicants must have an understanding of water utility operations. Familiarity with cybersecurity principles, concepts, and best practices skills preferred but training will be provided. Background in IT is not required. Ability to travel is required.

## Schedule

10-40 hours per week

## Compensation

\$18-45 per hour, depending on experience. This is an hourly, non-benefitted position.

If you or someone you know is interested in this position, please send a resume and a brief statement of interest to Patrick Wittbold at [pwittbold@umass.edu](mailto:pwittbold@umass.edu), Subject: Cybersecurity TAP.

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# REMINDER! DWP File Naming Convention for Submitting Monthly Reports by Email

There is a standardized naming convention for submitting your PWS monthly reports by email to MassDEP/DWP. This has been adopted so that reports can be efficiently processed without undo lag time in renaming all the reports. Please keep your reports from being deemed late because of an incorrect naming.

PWSs are strongly reminded to submit reports to [program.director-DWP@mass.gov](mailto:program.director-DWP@mass.gov) using the following file naming convention:

**Town/City-PWS ID#-Type of report-Month**

Reports that arrive without this proper naming may be returned to the PWSs for correction. If you have any questions on this procedure, please contact [program.director-dwp@mass.gov](mailto:program.director-dwp@mass.gov)

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# Lead in Schools and Childcare Facilities Drinking Water Update

Lead and Copper Rules Revisions Q&A: School and Childcare Facility Edition

The Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) will require PWS to offer lead testing to schools and childcare facilities in their service area. See below for answers to some recent questions regarding these new requirements. All requirements for school and childcare testing can be found in EPA's regulation 40 CFR 141.92 here: <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-40/section-141.92>.

**Q. How does the LCRR school and childcare facility requirement for drinking water testing fit in with MassDEP's Assistance Program?**

**A.** The LCRR does not require testing of schools/childcare facilities- it requires the offer of testing. However, MassDEP's program is based on the Lead Contamination Control Act (LCCA) and 3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water and is much more comprehensive than what will be required of PWS if a school or childcare facility accepts the offer of testing. See <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/3ts-reducing-lead-drinking-water>. Under MassDEP's current Assistance Program, all drinking water outlets within a school/childcare facility are sampled twice, primary draw samples and flushed samples are taken. Under the LCRR, PWS will only need to collect 5 samples per school and 2 samples per childcare facility if the school/facility accepts the offer of sampling, with all samples being primary draw samples.

**Q. Can data from lead in schools testing under the LCRR be utilized or coordinated to satisfy other testing requirements?**

**A.** LCRR sampling in schools may count towards the school's LCR sampling for lead but if the school is a public water system (PWS), the school must work with the PWS to ensure that that the sampling meets the LCR requirements. In addition to lead sampling in schools PWS will still need to test 2 schools for copper.

**Q. I don't think many smaller PWS's are aware of the LCRR school testing requirements, but they are somewhat aware of the state program directed at schools. Are the mandated LCRR school testing requirements being communicated to smaller PWS?**

**A.** MassDEP has made many attempts at communicating this issue. See our website at <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/lead-and-copper-rule-revisions>. If there are suggestions about ways to effectively message to smaller PWS, we would love to hear them.

**Q. How should PWS's be planning to sample schools and childcare facilities for this new requirement?**

**A.** The first step for the system will be to compile a list of all schools and licensed daycares in their distribution system and develop a targeted outreach strategy where the facilities with the more vulnerable population are tested first.

Having the outreach letters ready is a must. We are planning to publish in our LCRR website template letters that PWS can use or adapt for their programs.

In addition, PWS can start to comply with this requirement right now if they are eligible to apply to the Massachusetts Free Pilot Program for School and Early Education and Care Facilities (EECF) Testing Ahead of LCRR. See more information about this program here: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/lead-and-copper-rule-revisions#information-for-public-water-systems>.

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## PFAS Update

### Principal Forgiveness on Loans for PFAS Projects

On October 25, 2023, State Treasurer Deborah Goldberg, Chair of the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust (Trust) Board of Trustees, [announced](#) \$115.2 million in grants to 40 communities across the state.



The grant amounts are provided as loan forgiveness and are part of a larger low or no-interest loan through the State Revolving Loan Fund Program. The list of communities and projects is located [here](#). For drinking water projects to address PFAS contamination, communities are receiving a zero percent interest loan and 25% principal forgiveness on the loan. For projects located in disadvantaged communities, they will receive a supplemental 6.6% to 19.8% principal forgiveness depending on the [affordability calculation](#).

## EPA Enforcement under CERCLA for PFAS as a Hazardous Substance

**EPA does not intend to pursue CERCLA enforcement for PFAS contamination for certain parties including water utilities, as reported in the [National Law Review on October 13, 2023](#)**

Last year, EPA proposed to designate PFOA and PFOS as hazardous substances under CERCLA and is currently reviewing comments received on the proposed rule. The EPA has stated that they are developing a CERCLA PFAS enforcement discretion and settlement policy.

EPA intends to focus on manufacturers, federal facilities, and other industrial parties whose actions result in the release of significant amounts of PFAS. EPA may choose not to take CERCLA enforcement action against certain entities. EPA does not intend to pursue CERCLA enforcement for PFAS contamination against the following parties:

- Water utilities and publicly owned treatment works (POTW);
- Publicly owned and/or operated municipal solid waste landfills;
- Farms that apply biosolids; and
- Certain airports and fire departments (state, Tribal, or municipal airports and Tribal or local fire departments).

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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

### **CBF224AT: BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICE INSPECTORS/TESTER TRAINING**

Monday, November 6 through Thursday, November 9, 2023; 8:00 a.m – 4:30 p.m., Boston, MA

This course will help students understand cross connection control and provide them with the knowledge to test backflow prevention devices. Written and practical exams for students to become a NEWWA-certified Backflow Prevention Device Inspector/Tester are given on the last day of the course. Classroom and hands-on instruction will cover cross connections and their health hazards; backflow and its many types; how to test three types of backflow prevention devices; how to choose the appropriate device for a facility; troubleshooting; and regulations and codes. Note that NEWWA certification is universally accepted (except with Aqua America in Pennsylvania), however, some states such as Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New York require their own certification, separate from the NEWWA certification. This will be discussed during the course. Registration Fee: \$725. [Register now](#).

### **USEPA Funding to Mitigate Disasters with “Fed FUNDS”**

Tuesday, November 7, 2023; 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. ET; webinar

The USEPA is sponsoring a free webinar on Federal Funding for Water and Wastewater Utilities in National Disasters (FedFUNDS). FedFUNDS provides tailored information to water and wastewater utilities about applicable federal disaster funding programs from FEMA, USDA, EPA, HUD, SBA, and USBR. The FedFUNDS Web pages have new features including Search for the Right Funding, Successful Funding Examples across the nation, funding for tribes, and ways to combine funding from different federal agencies. A demonstration will be conducted on how to use FedFUNDS and provide an overview of the newly available funding resources from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. [Register now.](#)

#### **EFCN No-Cost Webinar: PFAS Today, Tomorrow, and Forever**

Tuesday, November 14, 2023; 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. ET; webinar

The Environmental Finance Center Network (EFCN) is hosting a no-cost webinar about PFAS. This webinar will explore the current, proposed, and future regulations surrounding PFAS in the water and wastewater industries, focusing on impacts to small water and wastewater systems. EFCN will explore what steps to take to determine if, and how, PFAS has impacted your water and wastewater systems and discuss established and up-and-coming treatment and destruction technologies that can be leveraged to address PFAS impacts. Lastly, EFCN will touch on potential funding opportunities and strategies to plan, fund, and implement PFAS treatment systems. [Register now.](#)

#### **EPA Tools & Resources Webinar: One Health**

Wednesday, November 15, 2023; 3:00-4:00 p.m. ET; webinar

EPA's Office of Research and Development invites you to a free public webinar! One Health is a holistic approach to advancing human well-being that recognizes the health of people is closely connected to the health of animals and our shared environment: when we protect one, we protect all. EPA has been working with the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA), the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO), and the Environmental Council of the States (ECOS) since 2021 to promote the One Health approach. This year, ASTHO and ECOS developed four case studies showing how states have used the One Health approach to address complex issues. In honor of One Health Day on November 3rd, this webinar will highlight various One Health efforts, including the One Health case studies, an update on the AFWA President's Task Force on One Health Report, and several One Health highlights at EPA. [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/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!

2023-11-02

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.



**EPA FREE CYBERSECURITY ASSESSMENT PROGRAM: 37 PWS have already used this no cost opportunity.**

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Take advantage of this opportunity and join the group of proactive PWS that have done so. Strengthen your PWS cybersecurity posture and register for the EPA Cybersecurity Assessment right away. Register with simple steps by using the following link: <https://www.epa.gov/waterresilience/forms/epas-water-sector-cybersecurity-evaluation-program>. For additional resources visit [EPA Cybersecurity for the Water Sector | US EPA](#).



**CISA Free In-Person Cybersecurity Assessments for Selected 20 PWS in Massachusetts: 11 PWS have already signed up.**

Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) in collaboration with MassDEP/ DWP is providing in-person cyber assessment to 20 pre-selected Public Water Systems (PWS) in Massachusetts. These PWS were chosen based on criteria such as PWS type, size, and particularly the timing of their sanitary surveys.

If your PWS is among the pre-selected group and you haven't yet indicated your interest in this valuable opportunity, we urge you to do so at your earliest convenience. Your prompt response would be greatly appreciated. Please let us know at [program.director-dwp@mass.gov](mailto:program.director-dwp@mass.gov). Subject: CISA Cybersecurity Assessments

**Keep Us Informed when you register for EPA, CISA or other partners' offers for free cybersecurity vulnerability assessments at [program.director-dwp@mass.gov](mailto:program.director-dwp@mass.gov). Subject Cyber security.**



**Cybersecurity is an Important Component of Providing Safe Drinking Water in Massachusetts** Cybersecurity assessments and plans are a vital and routine part of Emergency Response Planning and preparedness pursuant to 310CMR 22.04(13).

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

**MassDEP/DWP will check on PWS cybersecurity programs along with other components of Emergency Response Planning (ERP) and 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 [program.director-dwp@mass.gov](mailto:program.director-dwp@mass.gov).

**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 assess cybersecurity and be ready to show such information to MassDEP/DWP during the sanitary survey process.

PWS have many ways of assessing their cybersecurity plans and programs to prevent cyber-attacks. PWS may have used one or more of the following:

- Performed a cyber assessment as plan as part of their emergency response preparedness
- Completed a self-assessment using on or more of the products provided by EPA or CISA
- Completed a Risk and Resilience and Assessment (RRA) and Emergency Response plan (ERP), including the cybersecurity component, as required by the October 23, 2018, American Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) Law Section 2013. See below.
- Hired a third party to complete a cyber assessment and plan/program.

**Community water system serving a population of greater than 3,300** have the option to show their cybersecurity assessment reports they developed/ completed for their compliance with RRA and ERP required by AWIA Section 2013.

- The AWIA law specified the components that the RRAs and ERPs must address and establishes deadlines by which water systems must certify to EPA their completion of RRAs and ERPs.
- EPA Region, I worked with MassDEP/DWP to ensure that all Mass PWSs were aware of the requirement and certified their compliance to EPA.
- Such PWS may show DWP a copy of the RRA and ERP to MassDEP/DWP during the next sanitary survey or when requested by DWP.
- Note: A PWS with an ERP that does not include a cybersecurity component is in violation of 310 CMR 22.04(13).



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- If a PWS is in violation of 310 CMR 22.04(13) for not having an ERP with a cybersecurity component DWP will require the PWS to get a cybersecurity assessment and update its ERP.
  - DWP will assign the PWS to a DWP cybersecurity technical assistance provider (TAP) who will assist the PWS to register for a free cybersecurity assessments and other federal assistance. The DWP cybersecurity TAP will work with the system until it has completed a cybersecurity assessment, have a plan to address all cyber related emergencies, to identify and apply for financial assistance when available and needed and the PWSs are routinely operating and maintaining their system to prevent cyber-attack and continuously provide safe drinking water.

**For all other PWS that were not required by AWIA to complete RRA and ERP, (small COM, NTNC and TNC systems) These systems and all PWSs are also required by 310 CMR 22.04(13) to complete and ERP with a component to address cybersecurity attacks.**

- DWP will expect these systems to have completed an ERP as required by 310 CMR 22.03(13) and/or completed a cyber security self-assessment or sign-up for and received a free EPA cyber security assessment or determined that their PWS does not have operational technology (OT) and if it does, the OT is not connected to a computer or to a network and is not remotely accessible. See below
- Note: Some very small systems may review their system and determine that the system is not vulnerable to OT related cyber incidents because the PWS does not have OT technology and if it does, the OT is not connected to a computer or to a network and is not remotely accessible. If PWS reviews its system(s) and make that determination, they must document their determination in writing at their earliest convenience, to MassDEP/DWP at [program.director-dwp@mass.gov](mailto:program.director-dwp@mass.gov), Subject: Cybersecurity. A MassDEP/DWP Cyber security TAP will contact/follow up with the PWS upon receipt of the written determination. DWP has also developed a form for PWS to use to document their written determination to MassDEP/DWP.

MassDEP/DWP has hired cybersecurity technical assistance providers (TAP) who will work alongside DWP staff and support PWS to assess their systems, get free assessments if needed, develop plans and program to address all cyber related emergencies, identify and apply for financial assistance when available and needed and to routinely operating and maintaining their system to prevent cyber-attack and continuously provide safe drinking water. If you have any questions on this information, please contact the MassDEP/DWP at [program.Director-dwp@mas.gov](mailto:program.Director-dwp@mas.gov), Subject: ERP-Cybersecurity, or 617-292-5770.

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

#### **CISA Releases Logging Made Easy**

CISA has introduced a valuable toolset designed to assist organizations with their logging requirements. "Logging Made Easy (LME)," LME is a reimagined offering by CISA, that transforms a well-established log management solution into a reliable, centralized log management alternative. [Full article](#)

#### **Update: Hacktivist Groups Use Defacements in the Israel-Hamas Conflict**

Due to the unfolding events in Israel and Gaza, defacement attacks have become a common method employed by cyber actors to target their adversaries. These attacks involve unauthorized modifications to websites or web applications, typically resulting in changes to their content, appearance, or functionality by individuals with malicious intent. [Full article](#)

#### **CISA ICS Vulnerability Advisories and Alerts, Updates, and Bulletins**

WaterISAC has consolidated the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's (CISA) recent ICS vulnerability advisories, as well as alerts, updates, and bulletins. [Full article](#)

(Source WaterISAC)

#### **Upcoming Trainings**

**EPA Webinar: Funding to Mitigate Disasters with "Fed FUNDS"**

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Tuesday, November 7, 2023; 1:00 p.m. ET; webinar

Join EPA for a webinar on Federal Funding for Water and Wastewater Utilities in National Disasters (Fed FUNDS). Learn how Fed FUNDS provides tailored information to water and wastewater utilities about applicable federal disaster funding programs from FEMA, USDA, EPA, HUD, SBA, and USBR. Hear about the new Fed FUNDS Web pages features including search for the right funding; successful funding examples from across the nation; funding for tribes; and ways to combine funding from different federal agencies. [Register now](#)

### **EPA Webinar: Water Contaminant Information Tool (WCIT) - Learning the Basics**

Thursday, November 16, 2023; 1:00 p.m. ET; webinar

The U.S. EPA Water Laboratory Alliance (WLA) Water Contaminant Information Tool (WCIT) is a secure database containing information about priority contaminants of concern for drinking water and wastewater systems. The training will include a comprehensive overview of the database with a live demonstration of the tool and will cover the benefits of use by different stakeholders. [Register now](#)

### **MassDEP Cybersecurity Reminders:**

- **Cybersecurity Continues to Be an Important Component of Providing Safe Drinking Water in Massachusetts**
  - 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>
  - Other Grants <https://www.epa.gov/waterresilience/cybersecurity-funding>
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### **Supply Chain Reminders**

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](#)
-