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STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
Department of Public Health  
Drinking Water Section



Keeping Connecticut Healthy  
[www.dph.state.ct.us](http://www.dph.state.ct.us)  
Governor M. Jodi Rell  
Commissioner J. Robert Galvin, M.D., M.P.H.

**Connecticut Statutes and Regulations  
For The Protection of Public Drinking Water Sources**

**Water Company Lands:** P.H.C. Sections 25-37c-1 et seq. and 25-37d-1 et seq. regulates the sale and/or change of use of water company owned lands, along with defining watershed land classifications, and through Connecticut General Statute 25-32(b), prohibits the sale of the most critical watershed lands (i.e. Class I land). Less critical water company owned watershed lands, defined as Class II land, is allowed to be sold or have its present use changed through a permit process.

**Source Abandonment:** C.G.S. Sections 25-33k, 25-33l, & 25-33m regulates the sale and abandonment of public water supply sources.

**Location of Cemeteries:** C.G.S. Section 25-41 prohibits the location of cemeteries within one-half mile of a public water supply reservoir.

**Prohibition of Sewage Discharge:** C.G.S Section 22a-417 prohibits sewage discharge within a public water supply watershed area.

**Sanitation of Watersheds:** P.H.C. Section 19-13-B32 et. seq. mandates various separating distances from potential sources of pollution to the edge of an established watercourse within a public water supply watershed area or aquifer recharge area and requires that special protections be taken during construction to protect stream quality.

**Watershed Survey:** P.H.C. Section 19-13-B102(b) requires a water company having an active water source of supply under its control to conduct a sanitary survey of the watershed at least annually and report the results of this survey to the Department of Public Health by March 1 each year.

**Sanitary Survey Of A System Using Groundwater:** In conducting a sanitary survey of a system using groundwater pursuant to P.H.C. Section 19-13-B102(e)(7)(E)(iii), information on sources of contamination within the delineated wellhead protection area shall be considered.

**Watershed Prohibitions, Fishing, Passive Recreation & Penalties For Polluting A Reservoir:** C.G.S. Sections 25-43, 25-43c and 43(a) prohibits (i.e. bathing, aircraft, and general pollution) and regulates specific activities (i.e. fishing from boats with electric motors, fishing from shoreline) on public water supply reservoirs and associated watershed. Allows passive recreation for both surface and ground water source areas through a permitting process. Any person who causes or allows any pollutant or harmful substance to enter any public water supply reservoir is subject to a fine of not less than one hundred dollars or imprisonment for not more than thirty days, or both.

**Threat of Pollution:** C.G.S. Section 25-34 (a) The Department of Public Health may make orders as it deems necessary to protect public drinking water sources or ice supplies for any pollution or threatened pollution, which, in its judgment is prejudicial to public health.

**Orders To Correct Pollution:** C.G.S. Section 25-32g. allows, after investigation, the issuance of orders in writing to any person to discontinue, abate, alleviate or correct conditions or activities that constitutes an immediate threat to public water supplies

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**Monitoring Waivers:** The department may grant a public water system a waiver from the monitoring requirement for certain chemicals pursuant to P.H.C. Section 19-13-B102(e)(7)(C)(xii) – (xvi) if the watershed or zone of influence is not subject to certain types of land uses, and for certain chemicals, previous analytical results showed no detectable limit of the contaminant to be waived.

**Review of Projects In A Watershed By The Department of Public Health:** C.G.S Section 25-32f allows the State Department of Public Health to review and comment on proposed development projects and zoning changes within public water supply source water areas.

**Water Company Review of Projects In A Source Water Area:** C.G.S. Sections 8-3i and 22a-42f requires an applicant to either the municipal planning and zoning commission, zoning board of appeals or the inland wetlands commission to notify the water company of the proposed development if this proposal is within the water company's public water supply watershed area (8-3i also includes aquifer protection areas). The water company therefore has the opportunity to provide comments to the municipality concerning the development proposal.

**Individual Water Supply Plans:** C.G.S. Sections 25-32d and 25-32d-1 et seq. requires water companies which serve over 1000 people to produce long term water supply plans in which the water company must plan for adequate supply to meet projected demand for the next fifty years, which includes an evaluation of source water protection measures.

**Regional Water Supply Plans:** C.G.S. Section 25-33d through 25-33j mandates water supply planning on a regional basis. Regulations detail the creation of the regional water supply plan. Individual water supply plans are a part of this regional process.

**Local Governmental Consideration Of Public Drinking Water Sources:** C.G.S. Section 8-2 & 8-23 requires that a municipal plan of conservation & development and zoning regulations shall be made with consideration for the protection of existing and potential public surface and ground drinking water supplies.

**Suggested Reading:** The State's *Conservation and Development Policies Plan for Connecticut* sets forth specific goals and policies for the State of Connecticut and local communities. Sections concerning potable water supplies are located on pages 59-68, 120-123. This document is revised and updated every five years by the Office of Policy and Management and available on their website.



**For More Information Contact the Source Water Protection Unit**