

Connecticut Clean Water Accomplishments 1999-2008

- ❖ DEP begins an investigation [Regarding the Impact of 1999 Lobster Mortalities in Long Island Sound](#). DEP collaborates with other state and federal agencies to collect [lobsters for monitoring](#). Water quality and sediment samples are also collected for analysis.



- ❖ The first 5 year cycle of the [Ambient Monitoring Strategy for River and Streams Rotating Basin Monitoring Approach](#) is completed. The strategy effectively doubles the water quality assessments of monitored resources.



1999

- ❖ DEP submits to the legislature a report entitled, [Use of Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether \(MTBE\) as a Gasoline Additive](#). In response to many [MTBE](#) drinking well contamination incidences, Legislation is enacted to phase out the use of MTBE by 2003.

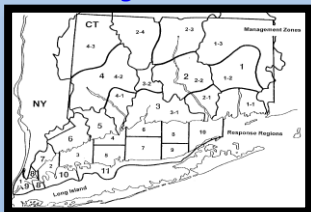


- ❖ [A Total Maximum Daily Load \(TMDL\) Analysis to Achieve Water Quality Standards for Dissolved Oxygen in Long Island Sound](#) (LIS) is approved, establishing nitrogen reduction goals, source reductions, implementation plan and schedule.

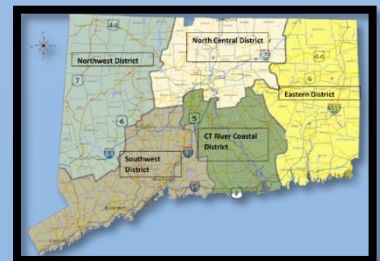
2000

- ❖ [The Clean Water Fund](#) finances (the greatest amount ever awarded in CT), the rebuilding of the Waterbury sewage treatment plant. Improved effluent quality will benefit both the Naugatuck River and Long Island Sound (nitrogen removal). (See also the article in [DEP's FY2000 annual enforcement report](#) to the legislature.)

- ❖ [The Nitrogen Control Program](#) is enacted to facilitate implementation of [the Long Island Sound Nitrogen TMDL](#) by allowing for nitrogen trading amongst CT's 79 municipal publicly owned treatment plants and issuance of a Nitrogen Discharge General Permit to create the regulatory basis for annual nitrogen trading.



2001



❖ The [Nitrogen Credit Exchange Program for Long Island Sound](#) successfully completes its first year of trading.

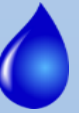
❖ Stormwater from [Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System \(MS4\)](#) General Permit is issued. This general permit applies to all municipalities that have Urbanized Areas as determined by the [U.S. Census Bureau](#). It applies to a town's separate storm sewer system and how the town manages their system and what measures they take to reduce or eliminate the discharge of pollutants to that system.



2002

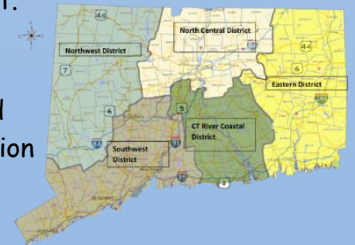
❖ CT's [water quality standards](#) are revised and new criteria for bacterial indicators of sanitary quality for freshwater are adopted.

❖ Marine dissolved oxygen criteria are revised and consistent with new EPA research and the LIS TMDL.



❖ Clarity is provided for [dredged material management in Long Island Sound](#).

❖ The [CT Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control](#) are created to fulfill the requirements of Connecticut's Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Act. They are required within municipal planning and zoning regulations as well as many permits issued by the CT that are associated with land development.



❖ CT's 8 county oriented soil and water conservation districts are reorganized into 5 watershed districts to strengthen [watershed management](#) and CT's district system.

❖ The [Aquifer Protection Area Program](#) adopts technical mapping regulations and publication of model municipal regulations.

❖ The [Fats, Oils, and Grease Model Program](#) issues The General Permit for the Discharge of Wastewater Associated with Food Preparation Establishments that Discharge to Sanitary Sewers.

❖ DEP works with the [Department of Public Health \(DPH\)](#) and stakeholders to update standards for maintaining minimum flows in rivers and streams. The [Connecticut Stream Flow Standards and Regulations](#) are required to balance river and stream ecology, wildlife and recreation while providing for public health, flood control, industry, public utilities, water supply, public safety, agriculture and other lawful uses of water.



❖ The [Jordan Cove Urban Watershed Project](#) completes its 10 years of research, comparing stormwater runoff from a traditional development, against a low impact development (LID). The research showed that LID practices significantly reduced stormwater pollutant loads in a residential neighborhood.



(Permeable Asphalt)

2004

❖ [Aquifer Protection Land Use Regulations](#) are adopted to help to protect public supply wells in stratified drift from contamination.

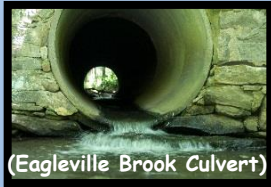
❖ The CT [Stormwater Quality Manual](#) is published to provide guidance on the measures necessary to protect the waters from the adverse impacts of post construction stormwater runoff.



(Grassed Swale)

2005

❖ [The Eagleville Brook Impervious Cover TMDL](#) is finalized. CT DEP establishes the first impervious cover TMDL. Research by CT DEP, The University of Connecticut, and the Town of Mansfield on aquatic life indicated that [Eagleville Brook](#) (Mansfield, CT) was likely impaired by a complex array of pollutants from stormwater.



(Eagleville Brook Culvert)

❖ [Connecticut Protects Coastal Waters and LIS by Banning Boat Discharges](#). CT declares [No Discharge Designation Area](#) (NDA) for coastal waters of the entire State.

❖ [The city of Shelton is fined \\$142k for illegal sewage discharges to the Housatonic River](#). The wastewater system included a wastewater treatment plant bypass which diverted discharges away from the treatment facility and into the river. This bypass was eliminated and sealed off from the system and all sewage goes through the expanded treatment facility.



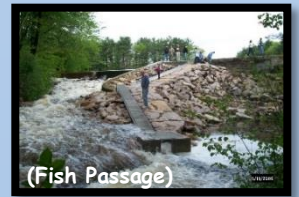
❖ [Governor Jodi Rell announces \\$135 million dollars for Clean Water Projects](#) in grants and loans made available to local wastewater infrastructure projects. These dollars come from the State Bonding Commission and include projects that increase nitrogen removals and reduced volumes in combined sewer overflow systems during rain events.

2006

2007

2008

❖ Restoration of fish passage miles meets a 100 mile goal of [river miles restored](#) set in 1998 by CT, NY and LISS. Accomplishment of the benchmark was reached through a combination of small dam removals, installation of fishways, and elimination of other obstacles to fish passage.



(Fish Passage)

❖ [Hamilton Sundstrand agrees to pay \\$12 million](#) in fines for discharge violations of the Federal Clean Water Act. The company discharged hexavalent chromium above permitted levels into the Farmington River in 2003 and also released over 100,000 gallons of copper contaminated wastewater which also exceeded permitted levels. Part of the penalties resulted in improvements to the facility wastewater practices and discharges.

❖ The [DEP Issues new Denial of Islander East Water Quality Certificate](#) for Island East Pipeline Company's proposed natural gas pipeline. This was after an earlier (2004) remanding of the decision back to CT DEP for further analysis. Due to the sensitive nature of the pipeline route in Branford, the department determined that the regulated activity would have permanently impacted habitat for fish and other wildlife and also impacted shellfish harvesting along the proposed pipeline route. CT DEP relied upon anti-degradation policies of the CT Water Quality Standards in making the decision of denial. The court's decision vindicated the policies of the WQS to protect coastal habitats and resources.

