WATER QUALITY CLASSIFICATIONS
STAFFORD, CT

SURFACE WATER QUALITY CLASSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Color</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Class A - Reservoir</td>
<td>Yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Class B - River</td>
<td>Red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Class C - Stream</td>
<td>Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Class D - Wetland</td>
<td>Blue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GROUND WATER QUALITY CLASSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Color</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class GAA</td>
<td>Ground Water Area of Protection</td>
<td>Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class GA</td>
<td>Ground Water Area of Protection Above Class GAA</td>
<td>Red</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EXPLANATION

Surface water quality class designations (e.g. A, B, C, D) are based on the water body's suitability for assimilating discharges, assimilating natural background concentrations, assimilating background concentrations, and assimilating natural background concentrations plus background concentrations associated with certain uses. These designations are derived from the Water Quality Criteria for Connecticut and are based on the water body's potential to support aquatic life.

DATA SOURCES

Surface water quality data were compiled and classified using the Water Quality Classification System (WQC). This system assigns surface water quality classifications (A, B, C, D) to water bodies in Connecticut based on their ability to support aquatic life. These classifications are based on the water body's potential to support aquatic life and are assigned using a series of criteria and standards.

References:

- Water Quality Criteria for Connecticut
- Water Quality Classification System
- Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection

NOTES:

- Final Aquifer Protection Areas (Level A) are included on the WQC maps for informational purposes.
- These areas are identified on the WQC maps as Area of Contribution to Public Supply Wells.
- Final mapping is based on extensive, site-specific, and detailed modeling of the ground water flow system.
- Connecticut's public drinking water supply is protected by the Aquifer Protection Program, which helps to protect and maintain the quality of ground water resources.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection
- Connecticut Department of Public Health

CREDITS

- Map design and production:
- Water Quality Standards
- Connecticut River Basin Council
- Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection
- Connecticut State Water Resources

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