

WATER QUALITY CLASSIFICATIONS WEST HARTFORD, CT

SURFACE WATER QUALITY CLASSES

A	A
AA	AA
B, B*	B, B*
SA	SA
SB	SB

NOTES:
Surface Water Classifications beginning with S refer to Coastal and Marine Surface Water.
B* is a subset of Class B where no direct wastewater discharges are allowed other than those consistent with Class AA, A and SA surface waters.

GROUND WATER QUALITY CLASSES

GA (white background)	Area of Contribution to Public Supply Well
GAA, GAAS	
GA, GAA may not meet current standards	
GB	
GC	

Final Aquifer Protection Area (Level A)
Major Basin Boundary

EXPLANATION

WATER QUALITY CLASSIFICATIONS (WQC) MAPS are one of the elements of the Water Quality Standards (WQS) for the State of Connecticut. The WQS are a part of Connecticut's clean water laws and serve as the primary tool for protecting water quality. The WQS follow the principles of Connecticut's Clean Water Act which is in Chapter 446K of the Connecticut General Statutes. The WQS provide policy guidance in many areas, for example decisions on acceptable discharges to water resources, streamlining landfill permitting, preventing industrial sewage treatment projects. The first two elements of the WQS are the Standards, which set an overall policy for management of water quality, and the Criteria, which are descriptive and numerical standards that describe the allowable parameters and goals for various water quality uses. A discussion of these two elements is found in the Water Quality Standards document available on the CT DEEP website. The third element is the Classifications and the Water Quality Classification Maps which show the classification assigned to each surface and groundwater resource throughout the State. The WQS are adopted using a public participation process. The WQC are also adopted using a public participation process to go through the same steps as the WQS from the Standards and Criteria hearings. Revision and adoption of the WQC data occurs in accordance with the public participation procedures contained in Section 22a-42e of the Connecticut General Statutes. The WQC is subject to federal regulation and changes must be made to the WQC if they do not meet the Surface Water Quality Standards which is subject to federal review and approval in addition to CT regulation. The adoption dates for the WQC by major drainage basin are: Housatonic River, Hudson River and Southwest Coastal Basins - March 1999; Connecticut River and South Central Coastal Basins - February 2001; and the Pawtucket River and Southeast Coastal Basins - December 1986. Surface Water Classifications do not change after the adoption date until the next major revision. Ground Water Classifications may change after the adoption date under specific circumstances. The map may have more than one WQC adopted date because a town may be in more than one major drainage basin.

SURFACE WATERS IN Connecticut are divided into freshwater classified as AA, A, B or B* and saline waters classified as SA or SB. Class AA waters are suitable for drinking and water recreation, and water supply for industry and agriculture. Class A designated uses are habitat for fish and other aquatic life and wildlife, potential drinking water supplies; recreation; navigation; and water supply for industry and agriculture. Class SA designated uses are saltwater intrusion protection areas (salt marshes); shellfish harvesting; for direct human consumption; recreation; industrial water supply; and navigation. Class B designated uses are habitat for fish and aquatic life and wildlife; recreation; navigation; and industrial/agricultural water supply. Class B*, applied to Canterbury Lake, is a subset of Class B and is identical to Class B except for the restriction on direct discharges. Class SB designated uses are habitat for marine fish and aquatic life and wildlife; commercial shellfish harvesting; recreation; industrial water supply; and navigation.

DATA SOURCES

WATER QUALITY CLASSIFICATIONS DATA – Water quality classifications maps that include information about the following digital spatial datasets that are typically shown together – Ground Water Quality Classifications Poly, Surface Water Quality Classifications Line, and Surface Water Quality Classifications Poly. The map legend above reflects the content of these three data sources. These WQC data were initially compiled on 1:24,000 scale USGS topographic quadrangle maps and digitized at 1:24,000 scale. To examine the Surface Water Quality Classifications Line and Surface Water Quality Classifications Poly digital data assign surface water quality classifications to water bodies such as rivers, streams, reservoirs, lakes and ponds and cover in 1:24,000-scale hydrography data available online. This map may not include all regulated waterbodies in Connecticut. The Ground Water Quality Classifications Poly data assign ground water quality classifications at 1:24,000 scale, to the remaining ground land areas in Connecticut.

AQUIFER PROTECTION AREA DATA – Aquifer Protection Areas shown on this map are from the Aquifer Protection Area digital dataset which contains polygon data intended to be used at 1:24,000 scale. The dataset contains regulated areas classified as Level A Aquifer Protection Area (Final) and Level B Aquifer Protection Area (Draft). The data was created from 1991 to the present and is actively updated as Final area mapping replaces earlier Preliminary areas. The Aquifer Protection Areas are delineated by

the individual water companies owning the well fields and submitted to the CT DEEP for review. Preliminary mapping provides a general estimate of the area contributing ground water to the well field. Final mapping is based on extensive, site-specific detailed modeling of the ground water flow system. CT DEEP may adjust Final area boundaries to be consistent with 1:24,000 scale topography and base map data where appropriate during the approval process.

MAJOR DRAINAGE BASIN DATA – Major drainage basins shown on this map are from Major Basin Line data developed by CT DEEP and intended to be used at 1:24,000 scale.

BASE MAP DATA – Based on data originally from 1:24,000-scale USGS 7.5 minute topographic quadrangle maps published between 1969 and 1992. It includes political boundaries, railroads, airports, hydrography, geographic names and geographic places. Streets and street names are from Tele Atlas® copyrighted data. Base map information is neither current nor complete.

RELATED INFORMATION
This map is intended to be printed at its original dimensions in order to maintain the 1:24,000 scale (1 inch = 2000 feet).

WATER QUALITY STANDARDS – Go to the CT DEEP website for a copy of the Water Quality Standards or the "Water Quality Standards" for other information on water quality.

AQUIFER PROTECTION AREAS – Go to the CT DEEP website for more information.

ADOPTED DATES	
Water Quality Standards	February 25, 2011
Thames River, Pawtucket River and Southeast Coastal Basins	December 1986
Connecticut River and South Central Coastal Basins:	February 1993
Housatonic River, Hudson River and Southwest Coastal Basins	March 1999

MAP LOCATION

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State Plane Coordinate System of 1983, Zone 1026 Lambert Conformal Conic Projection North American Datum of 1983

SCALE 1:24,000 (1 inch = 2000 feet) when map is printed at original size



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
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