



Association of Environmental Authorities of New Jersey

Friday, March 13, 2020

Governor Declares State of Emergency: What You Need to Know

The Governor issued Executive Order 103 Declaring a State of Emergency as a result of the Coronavirus outbreak (aka COVID-19). For his full statement, [please see this document](#). Here are some key highlights that are important for those in the public sector, especially in the water/wastewater fields:

- The State Corona Virus Task Force continues to lead the COVID-19 response.
- The State Emergency Operations Center, (609) 963-6900 daily hours and levels are listed below:
 - 1) 0800 and 1600 hours, Full Activation Level 1- contact SEOC at Ext 2.
 - 2) 1600 and 0800 hours, Enhanced Monitoring Level 3-contact IWW at Ext 1.
- Governor Murphy is recommending cancelling all public gatherings of 250 people or more.

NJDEP (ESF#10 - Hazardous Materials) DEP programs are coordinating with our ESF#3 and ESF#10 stakeholders and federal/state/county/local partners: Sharing information via email and conducting weekly conference calls and video-conferences. Following up to identify and provide appropriate sector-specific guidance as requested. This applies to the following facilities: Water/Wastewater Systems, Dams, Chemical & Hazardous Materials, Petroleum, Nuclear, Radiological, Solid & Hazardous Waste.

NJ BPU (ESF #12 - Energy) PSE&G has instructed 1,500 employees to work from home until further notice. BPU and PSE&G management discussed the legal ramifications of asking customers health questions before entering private homes. BPU Emergency Management personnel are meeting with the natural gas utilities today to discuss the impact of COVID-19 on the industry.

Thus far COVID-19 has had no significant impact on the delivery of services in the lifeline sectors.

[**Important Guidelines and FAQs for state employees**](#)

NJDEP activated their EOC at 0800hrs.

Only health care facilities should make resource requests for PPE directly through NJDOH. NJDOH will be providing health care facilities PPE from Health & Human Services - Strategic National Stockpile.

All other resource requests must go through County OEMs to New Jersey OEM. Follow normal procedures for requesting resources through E Team.

Financial/Administrative Guidance

- All state, county and municipal agencies are encouraged to capture all time and expenses accrued in relation to planning, prevention, response and recovery efforts.

More Vital Information re: Coronavirus

The DEP Emergency Operations Center has forwarded these links. Please share them with all appropriate personnel:

CDC - Water Transmission & COVID-19

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/water.html>

OSHA - COVID-19 Control & Prevention - Wastewater

<https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/covid-19/controlprevention.html#solidwaste>

News Links

We gather industry news from throughout the state so you don't have to! Explore the following headlines and more at this news link

- The 'water literacy' lessons cities can learn from Cape Town
- EPA Inches Toward PFAS Drinking Water Regulation
- US considers more water recycling _ including from oilfields
- Lawsuit filed in DC seeks money for testing, treatment for controversial chemicals contaminating water
- Gov Murphy budget includes \$80M for drinking water

More water, wastewater, solid waste and recycling news at
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