



Appropriations Conservation and Development Subcommittee Work Session

Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

March 3, 2025

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Fish Hatcheries

Sum of Amount	Fiscal Years		
Accounts	2023	2024	2025
Agric/Hort/Livestock Supplies	555,957.66	230,792.03	417,873.30
Capital-Motor Veh Equipment		79,288.50	
Capital-Research Equipment	5,280.00		
Capital-Transportation Equip		5,800.00	
Cellular Communication Svcs	1,650.24	1,694.30	1,852.17
Clothing & Footwear	4,976.65	10,370.53	
Controllable Property	12,170.00	4,513.73	
Delivery Services	1,255.64	1,388.37	818.63
Diesel-Generator		2,327.61	
Differential Payments	14,849.67	15,691.67	9,540.85
Educ & Training For Employees	150.00		
Electrical Supplies	841.21	3,414.77	3,780.48
Electricity	486,918.72	858,515.67	286,169.69
Emp Allow & Reportable Pymnts	1,890.00	2,010.00	2,000.00
Engineer/Architect Services		83,213.00	20,572.00
Freight & Cartage	3,033.17	4,472.25	2,278.18
General Office Supplies	1,308.23	979.52	
Highway Supplies	1,297.17		
In-State Travel		56.32	
Internet Services	3,086.62	12,777.12	2,892.67
Laboratory Services & Testing	8,682.06	2,050.00	
Laboratory Supplies	71,027.28	28,573.84	3,713.90
Loc/Long Distance Telecomm Sv	4,978.00	9,023.40	7,462.13
Longevity Payments	3,202.00	3,202.00	1,635.00
Maint Supplies-Non Premises	4,152.19		
Medical Supplies		608.00	
Misc. Bituminous Materials			4,245.91
Motor Veh Parts-Repair & Maint	22,958.11	6,781.22	7,825.57
Motor Vehicle Accessories	4,265.85		
Motor Vehicle Fuel - Diesel	14,272.12	13,105.55	4,778.39
Motor Vehicle Fuel - Ethanol B		21,581.61	8,978.87
Motor Vehicle Fuel - Gasoline	17,693.22		
Non-Controllable Property	2,617.19		
Oil #2	27,800.72	41,361.81	9,247.74
Other Equip Mnt/Rp-Non Contract			61.90
Overtime	41,200.04	57,609.65	36,687.47
Premises Cleaning Supplies	1,235.06		
Premises Fire Protection	79.09	733.40	595.87
Premises Repair/Maint Services	133,251.40	443,010.69	191,633.52
Premises Repair/Maint Supplies	113,067.51	94,391.03	82,068.89
Premises Security Services	300.00		
Premises Waste/Trash Services	13,598.40	11,797.08	10,156.16
Printing & Binding	1,987.50		
Propane	3,716.53	1,604.38	2,831.48
Regular Postage	25.68	38.47	132.60
Replacement Parts for Off Road	5,241.41	5,969.67	3,127.64
Salaries & Wages-Full Time	1,051,628.25	1,097,308.65	738,539.65
Salaries & Wages-Temporary	214,313.55	233,346.03	196,033.00
Salary & Workers Comp. Recover	(1,157.23)		
ST-Equip Lease/Rental-Other	20,305.04	28,152.77	13,028.96
ST-Motor Vehicle Lease/Rental	793.32	3,703.97	1,358.60
Testing & Analysis Of Material		6,387.98	
Grand Total	2,875,899.27	3,427,646.59	2,071,921.22

NRC Licensing ROI Information

	<u>2025</u>	<u>Requested positions</u>	<u>2026+</u>
Number of Positions	1	3	4
Personnel Services	\$93,807	\$279,284	\$373,091
Fringe	\$71,884	\$214,015	\$285,900
Other Expenses	0	0	0
Equipment	0 -		\$34,200
Grants	0 -		0
License fees paid by state agencies	\$100,600 -		0
Total State Cost or (Savings)	\$177,413 -		\$751,958
Estimated Revenue Gain or (Loss)	0	\$1,731,663	\$1,731,663
Total Net State Cost or (Savings)	\$177,413		(\$979,705)

- Radiation Division is currently staffed as follows (12 plus Director)
 - 5 working Millstone (emergency response, environmental sampling, etc) on dedicated funding
 - 2 Mammography (MQSA) on dedicated funding
 - 1 Agreement State prep – regulations, program development, training coordination
 - 2 DTX (diagnostic and therapeutic x-ray) ensuring registration, inspections, enforcement and allegations for 2600 registrants
 - 2 Industrial x-ray ensuring registration, inspections, enforcement and allegations for 600 registrants
 - All staff rotate 24/7 emergency response coverage for incidents involving radiation and radioactive materials, review and respond to transportation issues and participate in approximately 10 training drills/exercises annually
 - Radiation Division personnel also staff SEOC and coordinate agency incident management team
- Agreement State requires licensing and a more rigorous inspection, enforcement program
 - We completed rigorous detailed analysis of requirements determined we need 3 FTEs plus one for program maintenance (regulation development, procedures, etc) and defense in depth. This analysis was part of legislative proposal supporting Agreement state as well as application to US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)
 - NRC will audit our program to ensure properly staffed and completing licensing, inspection and enforcement work
 - Necessary to have adequate staffing to meet demands of licensees in state such as hospitals so we can process licensing changes and not delay medical treatment.
 - Application was submitted by Governor and is currently under review by NRC
 - Agreement will be effective 9/30/2025
- All positions require specialized scientific training in radiation physics, radiation safety and emergency response.

Federal Funding

Fund Title SID	Federal (Multiple Items)	T T
Row Labels	Count of Job Code Description	
Air Management	30	
EngineerTrainee	3	
EnvrmtAnlys t1	1	
EnvrmtAnlys t2	4	
EPAirPol CntrlEngr3	6	
EPAirPol lutionCntrlEngr1	1	
EPAirPol lutionCntrlEngr2	10	
EPAAsDivDir	1	
EPPradnCntrlSpec	1	
EPSubvAirpolCntrlEngr	2	
Secretary1	1	
Bur of Energy & Tech Policy	4	
CtrCarTm c(A&R)	1	
GrantsAndContractsSpecialist	3	
Central Services	1	
EPMaint3	1	
Commissioner's Office	1	
EnvrmtAnlys t2	1	
Miss Mgt and Compl Assurance	34	
Envl rComplianceSpec2	3	
Envl ronEngr1 (EP)	3	
Envl ronEngr2 (EP)	1	
Envl ronEngr3 (EP)	3	
Envl ronmentalTrainee	1	
EnvrmtAnlys t1	6	
EnvrmtAnlys t2	6	
EnvrmtAnlys t3	5	
Lic&ApplicsAnlys t	1	
Offl cAs sistant	1	
ProcessingTechnician	2	
SupvEnvrmtAnlys t	1	
SupvsngEnvlronEngr(EP)	1	
Natural Resources	46	
EnvrmtAnlys t2	1	
EnvrmtAnlys t3	1	
EPFireCntrlOfcr	1	
EPFdul&Arms SftyCoord	1	
EPFoster1	2	
EPFoster2	2	
EPFshBl oigs t1(In land)	5	
EPFshBl oigs t1(Mar)	3	
EPFshBl oigs t2(In land)	1	
EPFshBl oigs t2(Mar)	1	
EPMaint2	1	
EPMaint3	1	
EPPrgrmsSpec (Natu ral Resources)	3	
EPResTech(FshBl o)	1	
EPShyRe pl(Firearms)	1	
EPWildfBl oigst1	9	
EPWildfBl oigst2	7	
ResearchVesselEngineer	1	
ResVesselCapt	1	
Secretary1	1	
Secretary2	2	
Outdoor Recreation	14	
ConservEntOfcr	7	
ConservEntSgt	2	
EnvrmtAnlys t2	3	
EnvrmtAnlys t3	1	
Offl cAs sistant	1	
Public Utilities Reg Auth	5	
PublicUtilitiesEngineer3	4	
PUEngr1(Gas)	1	
Water Prot and Land Re use	47	
EnvrmtAnlys t1	6	
EnvrmtAnlys t2	21	
EnvrmtAnlys t3	17	
Lic&ApplicsAnlys t	1	
ProcessingTechnician	1	
Secretary1	1	
Grand Total	182	

Row Labels	Count of Position Description
Dept of Commerce-NOAA	15
Coastal Management	14
Coastal Zone Management	1
DHS	1
Flood Control Projects	1
DOA	3
Consolidated Forestry Program	3
DOE	2
Fed Weatherization Asst. Prog.	2
DOT	5
Gas Pipeline Safety	5
DOT FHWA	1
Recreational Trails Program	1
EPA	95
Brownfields Response Program	4
Climate Pollution Reduction	1
Leakng Undergrnd Storage Tank	4
LIS Study	9
Performance Partnership Grant	71
Superfund Core Grant	1
Superfund Remedial	2
Underground Storage Tank Prog	3
FDA	2
Inspect Mammography Facilities	2
National Park Service	1
Land And Water Conservation	1
NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service	2
Interstat Marine Fishrs Mngmnt	1
Joint Enforcement Agreement	1
NTIA	2
Broadband Infrastructure BEAD	2
USCG	10
Boating Safety	10
USDA Forest Service	2
SFAP Implementation - IJJA/BIL	1
Wildlife Defense Gmt-IJJA/BIL	1
USFWS	42
Anadromous Fish Enhancement	1
Aquatic Resource Education	2
Assss Fish Wildlif Specis Risk	3
Fisheries Coordination	2
Habitat Conservatn & Enhancmnt	1
Hunter Safety Education	3
Inland Fisheries	5
Marine Fisheries	6
Motorboat Access Area Op/Maint	1
Pumpout Station & Waste Fac	1
Wildlife Habitat Enhancement	5
Wildlife Outreach	4
Wildlife Research	8
Grand Total	183

Funding:

Base vs. Competitive, ARPA, IRA or IUA Increase, etc.		(Multiple Items)					
Sum of Expense		Column Labels					
Row Labels		2022	2023	2024	2025	Grand Total	
(F) DOE		2,598,508.50	2,702,335.14	2,497,293.80	2,053,046.73	9,851,184.17	
(F) EPA		26,330,111.68	20,531,265.72	22,247,718.96	20,714,298.11	89,823,394.47	
(F) FDA		280,941.74	233,796.95	144,458.49	185,240.85	844,438.03	
(H) Homeland Security		9,192.75	149,819.97	30,720.65	5,773.60	195,506.97	
(F) National Marine Fisheries Service		79,845.65	126,806.49	130,871.76	69,618.47	407,142.37	
(H) National Park Service		751,891.00	0.00	808,201.42	161,455.40	1,721,547.82	
(F) NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service		251,353.94	251,184.22	155,079.82	156,291.97	813,909.95	
(H) NTIA			0.00	1,326,406.82	1,247,139.83	2,573,546.65	
(F) the United States Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration		179,637.70	251,058.57	191,765.48	75,513.46	697,975.21	
(H) U.S. Treasury			0.00	102,408.75	510,644.66	613,053.41	
(F) United States Coast Guard		1,456,935.00	1,549,701.27	1,418,216.90	936,819.71	5,361,672.88	
(H) USDA Forest Service		142,437.48	24,407.33	0.00	5,572.47	172,417.28	
(F) (blank)		2,086,876.58	1,191,052.15	1,639,918.88	1,508,325.72	6,426,173.33	
(H) DOT		1,050,435.28	1,170,975.63	1,133,433.84	747,919.89	4,102,764.64	
(F) DOT FHWA		1,078,799.99	29,332.45	167,861.11	86,452.40	1,362,445.95	
(F) DOD		17,475.10	22,155.52	18,374.10	6,224.60	64,229.32	
(F) FEMA		148,031.38	149,436.47	108,176.68	81,423.99	487,068.52	
(F) USGS		30,117.65	200.00	21,955.51	10,562.37	62,835.53	
(F) USDA - NRCS		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
(F) NOAA		298,307.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	298,307.36	
(F) USFWS		11,853,062.00	14,630,984.07	12,661,170.20	9,530,123.83	48,675,340.10	
(F) Dept of Commerce- NOAA		2,463,563.41	2,442,292.85	2,577,107.10	1,558,622.98	9,041,586.34	
(H) DHS		254,592.99	268,250.69	220,618.85	151,862.39	895,324.92	
(F) DOA		469,160.16	580,877.72	659,270.59	440,790.49	2,150,098.96	
Grand Total		51,831,277.34	46,305,933.21	48,261,029.70	40,243,723.92	186,641,964.17	

Overtime

Total Overtime Costs:

DEEP's overtime costs of \$1,972,832.36 for FY 2024 were down \$257,075 compared to FY 2023 overtime costs of \$2,229,907.26. So far in FY 2025, DEEP's OT costs are 1,619,655.28, which includes \$297k in OT related to wildfire response.

EnCon and ERU:

The majority of DEEP's OT costs stem from our Environmental Conservation Police (EnCon) division and our Emergency Spill Response Unit (ERU), which collectively accounted for 79% of DEEP's 2024 OT costs. EnCon made up 58% of total OT costs in FY 24, and the ERU accounted for 22%.

Emergency Response Unit (ERU) Workforce

- The current ERU workforce consists of 3 supervisors and 9 Emergency Response Coordinators
- On average CT DEEP receives approximately 8000 spill reports annually. The Emergency Response Unit (ERU) responds to approximately 20% of those reports, or approximately 1600 responses per year. The most common causes are vehicle accidents (28%) and petroleum tank systems (18%). Common transportation incidents include fuel tanker releases maritime vessel incidents and aircraft incidents.
- Additionally there have been recent increases in the number of residential heating oil tank releases and drug-related cases. These cases require significant resources for the protection of first responders and the public and can be very costly.
- The average cost to DEEP for responding to and remediating a release of heating oil at a residence is approximately \$7400 per incident, however a significant number of releases over the last year had significant environmental impacts and had costs as high as \$198,000. In 2023, the cost for ERU to respond to residential heating oil releases exceeded a half million dollars
- In previous years, we've seen our ERU budget exceed so that is the reason for our request in this area

Analysis of Enforcement

- DEEP compiles enforcement data by Federal Fiscal year for all programs including federally delegated programs as required to meet EPA requirements.
- The [FY 2024 Enforcement Report](#) can be found online and includes five years of data and includes clean air, clean water, and materials management programs.
- As reported in [20BY26](#) Goal 4, DEEP has prioritized Enhancing Enforcement across the Environmental Quality Branch.
- Enforcement staffing resources are often balanced with permit staffing resources.
- Last year, DEEP developed an [Enforcement Viewer Application](#) for public transparency of enforcement actions in the state.

Breakdown of Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) and Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) Structure

							PURA													Total Expense
							2024													
							Expense Headers													
Fund	SID	SID Description	Account#	Account Description	Approved Budget	Available Balance	Jul-2023	Aug-2023	Sep-2023	Oct-2023	Nov-2023	Dec-2023	Jan-2024	Feb-2024	Mar-2024	Apr-2024	May-2024	Jun-2024	EOY Final Closing	
12006	10010	Personal Services	50110	Salaries & Wages Full Time	7,711,866.00	(8,928.34)	583,270.36	581,808.82	569,611.67	581,723.69	563,102.20	862,900.12	647,076.20	603,782.26	606,096.04	618,912.73	938,126.84	607,383.81	0.00	7,759,794.34
12006	10010	Personal Services	50170	Overtime	0.00	(8,903.09)	60.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	449.97	285.16	0.00	492.55	0.00	0.00	4,013.98	3,601.35	0.00	8,903.09
12006	10010	Personal Services	50190	Accumulated Leave	0.00	(63,577.96)	0.00	0.00	7,082.72	0.00	4,342.24	2,268.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	49,894.42	0.00	0.00	63,577.96
12006	10010	Personal Services	50700	Tuition Reimbursement	0.00	(2,250.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,250.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,250.00
12006	10010	Personal Services	Discretionary	Discretionary Expenses	0.00	(5,187.79)	242.94	114.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	208.76	0.00	0.00	2,372.78	949.16	1,299.03	0.00	0.00	5,187.79
12006	10010	Personal Services	Other PS	Other PS	25,000.00	228.08	596.00	512.00	548.00	10,783.75	520.00	(1,386.13)	588.00	520.00	528.00	10,216.25	819.05	534.00	0.00	24,775.92
12006	10010	Total					584,169.38	582,435.04	577,242.39	592,507.44	570,664.11	864,273.49	647,664.20	604,794.81	609,996.82	626,078.14	994,143.32	611,519.16	0.00	7,864,488.00
12006	10020	Other Expenses	Discretionary	Discretionary Expenses	322,100.00	116,888.82	4,275.53	7,626.52	8,260.34	27,898.66	10,583.25	11,454.68	32,660.34	31,822.97	14,987.98	20,250.78	14,864.00	20,626.53	0.00	205,211.58
12006	10020	Other Expenses	Fixed	Fixed Expenses	45,000.00	(64,116.36)	4,482.31	6,915.38	2,862.46	11,281.88	4,131.91	4,368.18	4,011.06	11,179.83	23,352.42	5,217.72	13,131.93	8,181.68	0.00	99,116.36
12006	10020	Other Expenses	Other PS	Other PS	0.00	(913.42)	111.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	108.00	67.56	19.00	0.00	607.88	0.00	913.42
12006	10020	Total					8,869.22	14,541.90	11,122.80	39,180.14	14,715.16	15,822.86	36,571.40	43,110.80	38,407.96	25,487.50	27,995.93	29,415.69	0.00	305,241.36
12006	12268	Fringe Benefits	Fringe Benefits	Fringe Benefits	7,094,455.00	468,408.70	496,695.15	494,439.33	491,793.67	502,690.13	483,737.40	731,502.77	534,934.28	507,906.35	513,535.85	524,392.64	825,988.96	518,429.77	0.00	6,626,046.30
12006	12268	Total					496,695.15	494,439.33	491,793.67	502,690.13	483,737.40	731,502.77	534,934.28	507,906.35	513,535.85	524,392.64	825,988.96	518,429.77	0.00	6,626,046.30
12006	12262	Indirect Overhead	Discretionary	Discretionary Expenses	0.00	(203,340.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	203,340.00	0.00	203,340.00
12006	12262	Total					0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	203,340.00	0.00	203,340.00
12006	Total						1,089,733.75	1,091,416.27	1,080,158.86	1,134,377.71	1,069,116.97	1,611,599.12	1,219,169.88	1,155,811.96	1,160,940.63	1,175,958.28	1,848,128.21	1,362,704.62	0.00	14,999,116.26
Grand Total							1,089,733.75	1,091,416.27	1,080,158.86	1,134,377.71	1,069,116.97	1,611,599.12	1,219,169.88	1,155,811.96	1,160,940.63	1,175,958.28	1,848,128.21	1,362,704.62	0.00	14,999,116.26

Salaries	7,736,866.00
Fringe Benefits	7,094,455.00
Fixed and Discretionary	367,100.00
Total	15,198,421.00

Positions:

Agency	Department Description	Fund Code	Fund Title	Filled Positions	Pending Positions	Vacant Positions with Refill Authority
DEP	Public Utilities Reg Auth	12006	Consumer Counsel/PUC Fund	73	2	7
DEP	Public Utilities Reg Auth	12060	Federal	5		
DEP	Public Utilities Reg Auth Total			78	2	7

List of All Properties Still in Transfer Act

A list of all properties in the Transfer Act can be found on the [Open Data Portal Here: List of Contaminated or Potentially Contaminated Sites](#).

Superfund Sites

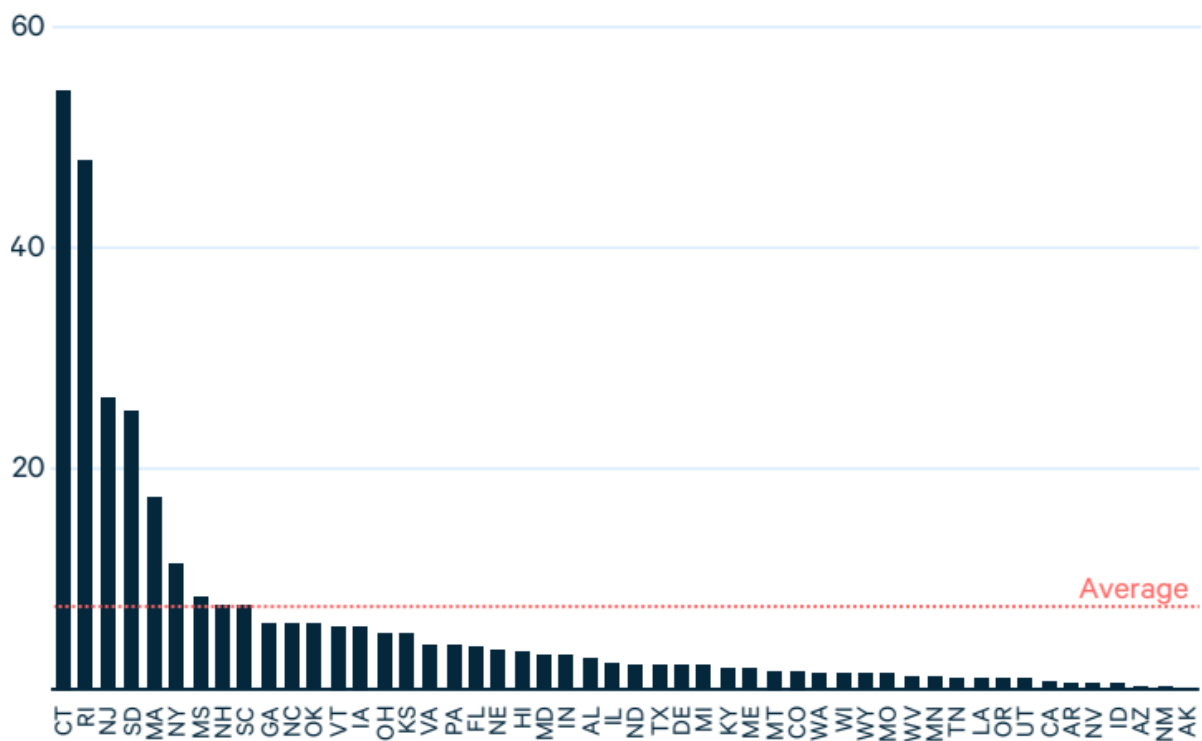
- There are 12 active Federal Superfund sites in Connecticut, which either do or will require some amount of long-term operation of the remedy and/or environmental monitoring to ensure that contamination is not endangering human health or the environment.
- The 13 Federal Superfund sites are:
 - **Barkhamsted-New Hartford Landfill**
 - **Beacon Heights Landfill**
 - **Durham Meadows**
 - **Gallup's Quarry**
 - **Kellogg-Deering Well Field**
 - **Laurel Park Landfill**
 - **Linemaster Switch**
 - **U.S. Navy Submarine Base**
 - **Precision Plating**
 - **Raymark Industries**
 - **Scovill Industrial Landfill**
 - **Solvents Recovery Service**
 - **Yaworski Waste Lagoon**
- Remedy construction: EPA pays for remediation at the sites and requires a 10%-50% State match. Connecticut's contribution has been waived for recent remedy construction work on Raymark properties as BIL funding was provided, which has saved the State millions of dollars.
- Long-term operation and maintenance: All properties require some level of care, but notably at Raymark: monitoring and sub-slab depressurization systems at 125 residences located south of the former Raybestos factory to prevent groundwater pollution from volatilizing to indoor air; and, monitoring the effectiveness of the cap that isolates consolidated waste. These expenses are 100% DEEP and require about \$400k annually.

Dam Maintenance

The Dam Maintenance fund is used by the Department for inspecting and managing over **300 dams owned by the Department**. With a supervising civil engineer, two civil engineers and an environmental analyst, the agency manages these dams that are often used for recreation. This funding is obviously far less than is needed for the large infrastructure repair projects that are required of dams over time and that work is supported through bonding.

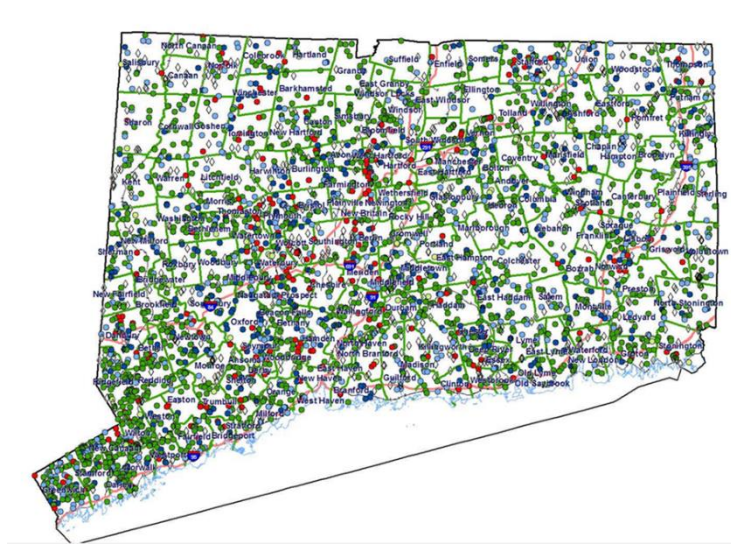
With over **4,800 dams statewide**, it is important to highlight that **Connecticut has the highest number of dams per mile of river in the country** and the Department is the largest dam owner in the state.

It is also very important to note that Connecticut's dams – as a whole – are aging and most no longer serve their intended purposes. And while most people assume that dams serve a flood control purpose – Connecticut's dams don't typically provide flood storage.



In addition to its role as the state's largest dam owner, the Department also runs that state's Dam Safety Program. This program works with municipalities, water utilities, and private owners to ensure their dams are inspected, maintained, and repaired in order to prevent the loss of life and/or property. This responsibility is all the more urgent as infrastructure ages and climate change brings more intense weather events to the state.

The [Dam Safety Program website](#) features an inventory of all known dams. The program also provides a [Dams Public Viewer](#), a GIS map application that displays the location and information about dams.



Since 2020, DEEP issued 6 permits for dam removals – 3 projects have been completed thus far. DEEP is working to fund removals through federal funding, where removal is a high priority and there is a willing owner. Over approximately the last 15 years, 59 dams have been removed – only a small decrease – and only 4 per year.

Indian Affairs Council

1. Recording and understanding the history of CIAC and why it dissolved.
 - a. The Connecticut Indian Affairs Council (CIAC) is a council with 8 member seats—5 seats from elected Tribal representatives and 3 seats of non-native governor appointed representatives.
 - b. CIAC was established in 1973. The council faced significant quorum challenges beginning in 1985 stemming from the Mashantucket Pequot gaining federal recognition and a lawsuit challenging the Paucatuck Eastern Pequot's seat. The last meeting found in the NAHAC meeting minutes was in 1994-- in attendance were representatives from Schaghticoke, Mohegan, and the three Governor Appointees.
 - c. Despite the last meeting being in in 1994, until 2003, Paulette Crone-Morange (CIAC Chair and Schaghticoke Rep) and Ed Sarabia (DEP/CIAC Liaison) sent out meeting agendas and regularly encouraged Tribes to send representatives. Paulette and Ed stressed how important the Council was for the Tribes [to voice their concerns and opinions to the State government](#). Meetings never reached quorums. They stopped sending agendas/communication about CIAC in 2003.
2. Conducting active communication and feedback gathering with Tribal Nations regarding CIAC reinstatement. Gauging each tribe's willingness to participate is the next step and is being led by the Vice-Chairwoman of the Eastern Pequot Tribal Nation, Brenda Geer. The federal tribes have voiced concerns in the past, but Geer believes federal tribes would participate this time around.
 - a. Confirmed Interest:
 - i. Golden Hill Paugussett
 - ii. Eastern Pequot Tribal Nation
 - b. Schaghticoke:
 - i. Individual Schaghticoke members (not Chiefs) are interested.
 - ii. Ongoing leadership disputes within the Schaghticoke necessitates legal guidance.
 - c. Mashantucket Pequot and Mohegan:
 - i. Interest in meeting to discuss reinstatement efforts
3. Moving forward with reestablishment
 - a. Set up a meeting with Tribal leaders to discuss interest and establish future steps.

- i. Both Schaghticoke leaders will have to invited
- b. Schaghticoke leaders will need to reach a mutually agreed-upon CIAC representative selection
- i. Although DEEP does not have authority to resolve internal Tribal disputes, DEEP is developing a webinar that will outline the statutory processes for leadership resolutions.
 - Our efforts are focused on facilitating dialogue and providing resources, not on imposing a specific outcome.
- ii. DEEP is also developing a Tribal Affairs webpage that will maintain CIAC resources and other Tribal statutes.

Environmental Justice (EJ) Initiatives

Some of our recent major EJ initiatives follow:

- Launching [Community Resource Hubs](#) to support and improve DEEP's programs in EJ communities across the state
- Developing [Environmental Justice regulations](#)
- Convening and organizing the [Connecticut Equity & Environmental Justice Council](#) (CEEJAC)

Examples include but are not limited to the following, which we recently compiled for the launch of our Community Resource Hubs mentioned directly above:

1. Environmental Conservation

- *Open Space Watershed Acquisition (OSWA) and Urban Green and Community Gardens Grant Program (UGCG)* (CGA § 7-131d) provides state bond funding to buy and preserve open space and to improve existing open spaces such as urban green spaces and community gardens located in EJ communities. In recent years, the percentage of state bond funds allocated to EJ Communities through the UGCG program was less than 4% of the total OSWA funds awarded, far below the statutory cap of 20%. The Legislature clarified in 2024 that non-profit organizations may apply for UGCG funding directly.
- *Urban Forestry* DEEP's [Urban Forestry program](#) administers several state and federally funded grant programs to support planning, tree planting and invasive plant management in urban areas. These grant programs are instrumental in achieving Connecticut's statutory target (CGS § 23-8) to increase the tree canopy cover in EJ communities by 5% by 2040.
- *CT Recreational Trails Greenway Program* (CGS § 23-103) DEEP's [Recreational Trail Program](#) provides funding to private nonprofit organizations, municipalities, state departments and tribal governments in support of trail projects including planning, design and construction of new trails, maintenance and restoration of existing trails, access to trails by persons with disabilities, purchase and lease of trail construction and maintenance equipment, acquisition of land or easements for a trail, or for trail corridors, operation of educational programs to promote safety and environmental protection as related to recreational trails.

2. Affordable, Clean Energy & Broadband Access

- *Energy Retrofits* (CGS § 8-240a) The Legislature established a pilot program, administered by DEEP, to finance qualifying energy retrofit projects in multi-family homes in EJ Communities or alliance districts.

- *Residential Energy Preparation Services (REPS)* (Special Act 21-15) REPS removes health and safety barriers to weatherization, and it targets households who are eligible through Weatherization Assistance Program or Home Energy Solutions-Income Eligible programs, which are based on income-eligibility.
- *Broadband Grant Program* (CGS § 16-330c) DEEP's broadband grant program supports the deployment of affordable and reliable broadband internet access across the state. Under this program, DEEP established the ConneCTed Communities Grant Program and the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program. ConneCTed Communities focuses on building out broadband access for low-income/multi-family and underserved communities.
- *Energy Efficiency* (CGS §16-245m) DEEP has oversight over a variety of energy efficiency initiatives, including the EnergizeCT program and various federally funded initiatives related to energy efficiency.
- *Sustainable, Transparent and Efficient Practices for Solar Development (STEPS)* (CGS § 31-53d) Provides guidance around solar siting for agricultural landowners, among others

3. Climate Resilience

- *DEEP Climate Resilience Fund (DCRF)* (CGS § 16-243y) The DCRF supports a range of climate resilience initiatives and is charged with ensuring that at least 40% of the funds support “vulnerable communities,” a term that is defined to include EJ communities. In the first round of DCRF funding, more than 90% of the funds went to 10 vulnerable communities; the Legislature added more funding for DCRF in 2024 and also established a climate resiliency revolving loan fund, with \$10 million in state bond funds, to make low-interest loans to municipalities and private entities for infrastructure repairs and resiliency projects after unplanned climate events.

4. Affordable, Clean Transportation

- *Connecticut Hydrogen and Electric Automobile Purchase Rebate ([CHEAPR])* (CGS § 22a-202) Through the CHEAPR program, DEEP provides rebates and vouchers, prioritizing EJ communities and low-income residents, for e-bikes and electric vehicles—including used ones—to up to 100 percent more than the standard rebate or voucher amount
- *Zero Emissions School Buses* (CGS §§ 22a-201d, 22a-201e) This program requires that by 2030, 100 percent of the school buses in environmental justice community school districts shall be zero-emission buses.

5. Clean Air, Water, and Land

- *Bottle Bill* (CGS §§ 22a-246c) Connecticut's beverage container recycling program includes forgivable grants, administered by DEEP, for new or expanded beverage container redemption centers located in urban centers and EJ communities that lack one.

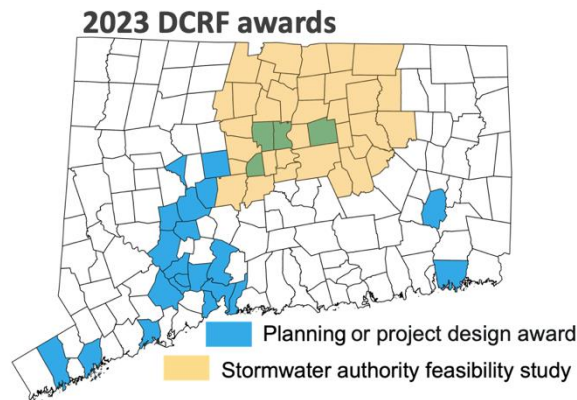
DEEP also has many other relevant initiatives, programs, and regulatory measures. These activities include, for example:

- Development of cumulative impacts regulations to implement recent legislative changes to DEEP's environmental justice in permitting statute.
- Development of a comprehensive climate action plan (CCAP) as a part of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) program.
- Implementation of our community-based air quality monitoring goals. Executive Order 21-3 charged DEEP, in consultation with the Department of Public Health, with developing a community-based air quality monitoring program. DEEP is committed to local capacity building to pursue localized air quality monitoring projects, and is committed to increasing awareness about air monitoring data and evaluation. Parallel efforts are underway to utilize a mobile monitoring platform called Geospatial Measurement of Air Pollution or [GMAP](#), an innovative program designed to assure compliance.

Resilience Initiatives

DEEP Climate Resilience Fund (Bond Funded)

DEEP launched the DEEP Climate Resilience Fund (DCRF) in 2022 to help Connecticut's communities plan, design, and unlock additional sources of funding for projects that protect communities and critical infrastructure from flooding, extreme heat, storm surge, and other natural hazards.



In 2023, DEEP awarded more than \$8.7 million for a wide range of projects across 14 municipalities and 3 Council of Government regions. These projects include city-wide resilience plans, a neighborhood heat plan, pump station relocations, substation protections, living shorelines, berms to protect against storm surge, a stormwater authority feasibility study, and other planning and design projects.

More than half of the funds awarded in 2023 will provide benefits to vulnerable communities, such as reducing their risk to natural disasters and creating new community amenities that promote well-being and health.

The cornerstones of the DEEP Climate Resilience Fund are ensuring that awardees conduct meaningful community engagement and encouraging the use of nature-based approaches when they can offer cost savings and provide substantial benefits to local communities.

DEEP expanded to DCRF in 2025 by offering a matching grant program to help communities meet the non-federal cost share requirements for the largest federal resilience grant program.

DEEP is also in the process of readying another RFP under the DCRF that will fund project, project advancement that includes hiring consultants to draft applications for federal and other funds, and a new matching grant opportunity.

Mystic:

- There are several opportunities for resilience projects in Mystic that could be competitive for funding from the DEEP Climate Resilience Fund for design and engineering plans, or potentially matching funds for implementation, including:
- Coastal flood protection for the Gravel Street Pump Station
- Measures to address flooding on Pearl Street from stormwater runoff, including measures identified in the Downtown Mystic Resiliency and Sustainability Plan, such as green infrastructure in the upper watershed
- Coastal flood protection for the downtown area along West Main Street
- Improving drainage at Mystic Academy Park through green infrastructure.

Should you have any further questions please reach out to Megan Andrews and Harrison Nantz at Megan.M.Andrews@ct.gov and Harrison.Nantz@ct.gov.