

Representative Policy Board
Land Use Committee
South Central Connecticut Regional Water District
Via Remote Access**

AGENDA

Regular Meeting of Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

1. Safety Moment
2. Approval of Minutes – December 9, 2020 meeting
3. Review of Land Use Plan – 5th Anniversary: J. Triana
4. Updates on other land and RWA properties – including invasive species update
5. Other land items
6. Member to attend January 21, 2021 RWA meeting – G. Malloy
7. Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.
8. Adjourn

**In accordance with the Governor Lamont's, Executive Order No. 7B for the Protection of Public Health and Safety during COVID-19 Pandemic and Response, the public meeting will be held remotely. Members of the public may attend the meeting via conference call, videoconference or other technology. For information on attending the meeting via remote access, and to view meeting documents, please visit <https://www.rwater.com/about-us/our-boards/board-meetings-minutes?year=2020&category=1435&meettype=&page=>. For questions, contact the board office at 203-401-2515.

Topic: RPB Land Use Committee Meeting

Time: Jan 13, 2021 05:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting (*via conference call*)

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 874 4222 2663

Passcode: 200250

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87442222663>

SAFETY MOMENT

BE PREPARED FOR WINTER DRIVING

Driving in the winter means changes in the way you drive. Snow, sleet and ice can lead to hazardous road conditions. Prepare your vehicle for the upcoming winter season with these helpful tips.



Prepare your car for winter: Have a mechanic check out:	Don't leave home without:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ignition Brakes Wiring Hoses and fan belts Spark plugs Air, fuel and emissions filters PCV valve Distributor Battery Tire wear and air pressure Antifreeze 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Properly inflated spare tire Shovel Jumper cables Windshield cleaner Ice scraper or snow brush Tool kit First aid kit Blankets, mittens, extra socks and hats Non perishable high energy food



Service – Teamwork – Accountability – Respect – Safety

Safety is a core company value at the Regional Water Authority .
It is our goal to reduce workplace injuries to zero.



UNAPPROVED DRAFT

**Representative Policy Board
Land Use Committee
South Central Connecticut Regional Water District**

Minutes of December 9, 2020 Meeting

The regular meeting of the Land Use Committee of the Representative Policy Board of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water District (“RWA”) took place on Wednesday, December 9, 2020 via remote access. Chair Betkoski presided.

Present: Committee Members: P. Betkoski, P. DeSantis, B. Eitzer, R. Harvey, M. Horbal, M. Levine, G. Malloy, J. Oslander and J. Mowat Young
Authority: K. Curseaden
Management: W. Henley, T. Norris, J. Tracy, and J. Triana
RPB Staff: J. Slubowski

Chair Betkoski called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. He reviewed the Safety Moment distributed to members.

On motion made by Mr. Horbal, seconded by Mr. Harvey, and unanimously carried the Committee approved the minutes of its November 18, 2020 meeting.

Mr. Henley, the RWA’s Aquatic Resource Scientist, and Mr. Tracy, the RWA’s Invasive Species Management Technician, provided a presentation on the Water Chestnut Infestation and Harvest at Furnace Pond, which included:

- History of the Water Chestnut
- Pre and Post Harvest
- Prevention
- Summer 2020 Harvest
- Equipment
- Disposal
- Monitoring
- Future and Drone Mapping Initiatives
- Project Costs

Discussion took place regarding effects on water quality and climate change, remaining water chestnuts, drone imagery, length of time to harvest, possible results of no action, effect on taste, odor and aquatic life, and public communications.

Mr. Triana, the RWA’s Real Estate Manager, acknowledged the efforts of the operations division at the RWA, which was a crucial part of the Water Chestnut Harvest Project.

Update on *The Land We Need for the Water We Use Program* – J. Triana reported:

Reservoir Levels (Percent Full)

	Current Year	Previous Year	Historical Average	Drought Status
November 30, 2020	67	79	66	None

Rainfall (inches)

	Current Year	Previous Year	Historical Average
November 2020	5.20	1.34	3.96
Fiscal YTD (6/1/20 – 11/30/20)	20.85	23.91	22.99

Land We Need for the Water We Use Program (Dispositions/Acquisitions)

- Killingworth - Corresponded with property owner of 25+/- acres.

Hamden/Bethany, DePodesta and Hendrickson properties – Had conference call with DEEP and Murtha about the DePodesta survey and title work. Original easements for Hendrickson sent to DEEP. Signed the agreement and easement for DePodesta and forwarded to DEEP.

Olin Powder Ponds property, Hamden – FMA approved discussions with Hamden Land Conservation Trust to assign the option to buy this property.

Rental houses:

- Seymour, 59 Rimmon Rd. (SE 11) – House and lot were sold. Property boundaries marked. Working with new owners to transfer the street light.
- Hamden, 95 Ives St. (HA 13) and 233 Skiff St. (HA 9A) – Town staff (engineer) would not sign off on the lot split application/map even though we met all the criteria. He contends that there were a taking for the bridge, but it never occurred. Emailed Murtha questions about the process here.
- Woodbridge, 1029 Johnson Rd. – Corresponded with parties who were contacted by the Tarlowski's.

Forestry Update

- Guilford – West of Sugar Loaf ash salvage (GU 4) – 40% complete
 - North Branford - Beech Street Softwood (NB 4) – **90% complete**
 - Killingworth - East Hammonasset Leaf Screen Thinning, (KI 4) - Contract not yet awarded.
 - Hamden - Overstory removal and Tornado Salvage, (HA 36) – Not started yet
 - Bethany – East of Lake Bethany hardwood (BE 18) – 70% complete.
- Showed and awarded timber sale in Madison Peter Marlowe Forest Products.
 - Managed hazard tree issues on our property, both from the public and facilities department.
 - In conjunction with CAES and NRCS, led Yale School of Forestry master's students on a tour of our newest timber harvest and explained the silvicultural prescription and background of the harvest.
 - Worked to get a landclearing contractor to aid facilities and engineering at Farm River-EH.
 - Ordered several species of trees for reforestation and pollinator garden purposes.

Recreation

- Fishing season ended.
- Operations staff cleared downed trees at Hammonasset.
- Operations repaired the fence by the Maltby entrance after a car accident.
- Led bird walk at Lake Hammonasset with the New Haven Bird Club. 25 people attended.
- Scavenger Hunt concluded with 7 entries.
- CFPA provided map of the Quinnipiac Trail relocation in Prospect.

	November		October	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
Permit Holders	5,879	3,785	5,758	3,812

Special Activity Permits

- McLaren Engineering Group (Craig Plate) – Perform a routine and underwater inspection at Whitney Avenue Bridge (SR707) over Lake Whitney; contracted by CTDOT to perform the inspection; (11/18/2020)

Other items

- Encroachments/agreements –
 - Agricultural fields – Discussed fields with three potential farmers.
 - North Branford, 229 Forest Rd. (NB 17) – Police hand-delivered letter and set time to meet abutters at the property.
 - Guilford, Wilbur’s Lane (GU 3) – Notified by Guilford Land Trust members of potential encroachment coming from Taylor Lane.
- Invasive plants – Treated invasives in Woodbridge, and Bethany. Documented invasive populations in Bethany and Killingworth.

Invasive Species Documented/ Mapped (ac)	~2.42 acres
Invasive Species Treated (ac/MH)	~1.88 acres

- Deer hunt – Hunt concluded on November 30. Harvest results below.

Deer Harvested	Bucks	Does	Total
Prospect	2	5	7
Bethany	0	3	3
Seymour	1	0	1
North Branford	16	18	34
			45

- Cell phone antennas – Agreed to increase of revenue from Rabbit Rock tank antenna replacement.
- Comcast lease, Burwell Tank site – Received counter proposal from Comcast about second amendment to lease. Rejected and resent our first counter proposal.
- Regional Conservation Partnership – Held zoom meeting about pollinator pathways with 30 attendees.
- South Cheshire Wellfield storm sewer – Met with Cheshire staff to discuss possible work on and expansion of the existing storm sewer outlet. Researched easement and sent information back to town staff.
- Hamden, New Haven Country Club – Corresponded with surveyor working with the NHCC and supplied maps that we have on file.
- Madison, Old Toll Rd. – Corresponded with neighbor about condition of the road into the Cedar Swamp area.
- Hamden, Spruce Bank Rd. sluice gate – Investigated report of possible vandalism to the old sluice gate related to the race that powered an old mill. Did not find any evidence of vandalism or an accident. Seems to have deteriorated and fallen out of the base.
- Lake Whitney dam work – Assisted CP&D with plans to access the east side of the dam through East Rock Park.

Mr. Triana reported that the RWA sold approximately 93 Christmas trees at the Lake Gaillard cut your own tree event held on December 5th and 6th.

Chair Betkoski reported that the joint meeting with the Consumer Affairs Committee to review management's FY 2022 proposed budget is scheduled for April 19, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

Chair Betkoski reported on the volunteer to attend the Authority meeting on December 17, 2020.

The next regular meeting of the committee is Wednesday, January 13, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

At 6:35 p.m., the meeting adjourned.

Peter Betkoski, Chairman

January 13, 2021
Land Use Committee Meeting

Reservoir Levels (Percent Full)

	Current Year	Previous Year	Historical Average	Drought Status
December 31, 2020	81	85	72	None

Rainfall (inches)

	Current Year	Previous Year	Historical Average
December 2020	4.25	7.16	4.11
Fiscal YTD (6/1/20 – 12/31/20)	25.10	31.07	27.10

Land We Need for the Water We Use Program (Dispositions/Acquisitions)

- [nothing to report]

Hamden/Bethany, DePodesta and Hendrickson properties – Re-executed the agreement and easement for the DePodesta property grant.

Hamden, Olin property option – Held conference call with Murtha staff regarding this matter.

Rental houses:

- Seymour, 59 Rimmon Rd. (SE 11) – Received reval notice update and forwarded it to new property owner.
- Hamden, 95 Ives St. (HA 13) and 233 Skiff St. (HA 9A) – Discussed issue of condemnation with our attorneys. They will contact the town attorney.

Forestry Update

- Guilford – West of Sugar Loaf ash salvage (GU 4) – 40% complete
- North Branford - Beech Street Softwood (NB 4) – **95% complete**
- Killingworth - East Hammonasset Leaf Screen Thinning, (KI 4) - Contract not yet awarded.
- Hamden - Overstory removal and Tornado Salvage, (HA 36) – Not started yet
- Bethany – East of Lake Bethany hardwood (BE 18) – **85% complete.**
- **Madison - Nathan’s Pond Slash Wall Harvest (MA 5) – Contract awarded Will likely start in February.**
- **Seymour - Silvermine Road Slash Wall Harvest (SE 9) - Contract not awarded yet. Out to bid.**
 - Met with Environmental Planning staff and worked on the plan for the pollinator garden at 90 Sargent Drive.
 - Met with several contractors for hazard tree work.
 - Cut Cedar trees in the field on Sperry Road in Woodbridge.

Recreation

- Discussed mountain bike possibilities with Madison staff.
- Discussed possible trail between Hammonasset and Genesee areas with Madison staff.
- Held Christmas tree cutting days at Lake Gaillard. Harvested 91 trees.
- Reviewed possible fishing trails at Lake Chamberlain.
- Cleared downed trees from trails south of Lake Bethany.

	December		November	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
Permit Holders	6,016	3,761	5,879	3,785

Special Activity Permits

- New Haven Bird Club (Chris Loscalzo) - Annual Christmas Bird Count survey - Saltonstall, Whitney, Wepawaug, Maltby, Dawson, Glen, Chamberlain, Watrous – (12/19/2020).
- Christopher Loscalzo (at request of CTDEEP) - Annual Midwinter Bald Eagle Survey - Lakes Saltonstall and Gaillard – (1/9/2021).
- Jon Petersen – NEMBA - Walking the land to layout new trails, Genesee Recreation Area (12/8/20-12/8/21)
- New Haven Bird Club (Patrick T. Leahy) – Maintain and monitor bluebird nesting boxes on 7 sites – Downes Road, Bethany, adjacent to Lake Bethany property and field below Lake Dawson dam, Woodbridge, farm field on Sperry Road and Lake Chamberlain below the dam, Lake Watrous and other properties – 1/1/21– 12/31/21.

Other items

- Encroachments/agreements –
 - Agricultural fields – Discussed a fields with two potential farmers.
 - North Branford, 229 Forest Rd. (NB 17) – Met with abutter. Coordinated surveyor to set two pins to verify the property line.
 - Guilford, Wilbur’s Lane (GU 3) – Guilford Land Trust members contacted the abutter to address encroachment.
 - North Haven, Old Maple Ave. (NO 5) – Contacted by new property owner who stated he gave previous property owner two months to remove items.
 - Killingworth, Bunker Hill Rd. (KI 9A) – Found encroachment of abutter using property by field.
 - Bethany, Hoadley Rd. (BE 18) – Found encroachment where abutter created ditch over property line.
- Invasive plants – Documented invasive populations in Seymour. Gave a talk regarding the use of drones to monitor populations of invasive species, specifically the water chestnut harvest to Connecticut Association of Conservation and Inland Wetland Commissions.

Invasive Species Documented/ Mapped (ac)	~0.25 acres
Invasive Species Treated (ac/MH)	0.0 acres

- Deer hunt – Post-hunt surveys were distributed. Some have been returned.
- Farm River-EH dredging – Helped Operations prepare for dredging operation of the impoundment.
- Lake Whitney dam work – Continued to assist CP&D with plans to access the east side of the dam through East Rock Park. Received letter of estimated value of the temporary and permanent easements in East Rock Park. Forwarded that to CP&D.
- Lake Dawson dam work – Assisted CP&D with planning for work on the Lake Dawson spillway.

Attachments

- December 10, 2020 - 'A great success' Milford's Beaver Brook boardwalk nears completion – Milford Mirror
- December 17, 2020 - RWA Supports Education Initiatives through Claire C. Bennitt Watershed Fund – ZIP06.com
- January 7, 2021 - Volunteers extend Quinnipiac Trail in Prospect – Citizen's News
- December 16, 2020 - Health Officials Lift PFAS Contamination Advisory On Farmington River - WNPR

Upcoming Agenda Items

February 2021 –

'A great success' Milford's Beaver Brook boardwalk nears completion

Sandra Diamond Fox – Milford Mirror - Dec. 10, 2020

MILFORD — With the finishing touches still being put on the new Beaver Brook boardwalk, residents already are taking to it for evening and weekend walks, according to Milford's Assistant Director of Public Works Steve Johnson.

"We probably have from one to two to eight to 10 people maximum at any one time," Johnson said.

As work nears completion, the mayor's office has been encouraging residents to access the boardwalk for outdoor hiking and walking opportunities during the coronavirus pandemic, he said. Since the 1,100-foot boardwalk is six feet wide, Johnson has been encouraging walkers to go in a counterclockwise direction, with everyone walking the same way to maintain six feet of separation. Walkers also are encouraged to wear masks while on the boardwalk, he said.

The boardwalk, located at 553 West Ave., is open year-round during daylight hours. Pets must be leashed, and there is no bicycling allowed.

Boardwalk history

According to Johnson, the boardwalk has been an important project with the city. It was previously owned by the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority in New Haven, which supplies water to the area. Prior to selling the property to Kingdom Life Christian Church in Milford, the water authority had already constructed a boardwalk on the 57-acre property, which includes a 41-acre freshwater marsh.

In 2012, there was a fire in the marsh that burned 80 percent of the boardwalk. The city went through a design phase to rebuild it.

"It was and a very challenging construction project," Johnson said.

Previously, the marsh had been overtaken by an invasive common reed plant called phragmites, which, according to Johnson, crowds out some of the native, natural vegetation that might otherwise grow there. During the winter, the above-ground stalks of the plant die off and they become a potential fire hazard.

The project was completed in part with a \$500,000 in STEAP (Small Town Economic Assistance Program) grant funds. There was an additional \$50,000 in funds from the CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) for some engineering design.

The most recent phase of the project was upgrading the public parking area, which included lowering it by two to three feet.

"By lowering the parking lot grade, we were able to achieve a much more connecting trail that is now paved, from the parking lot down to the lower trail," Johnson said. "So, it is now more accessible for people of all abilities."

The only portions of the project left to complete are rain garden plantings and plantings between the parking lot and West Avenue. Some trees will also be planted next spring, in the warmer weather, according to Johnson. This last phase was funded through a CDBG grant for \$130,000.

"I think it's a wonderful opportunity for people to get out and enjoy a brief walk in the woods and observe the wetlands that Milford has so many of," Johnson said. "I encourage people to get out there and enjoy the new boardwalk. It's been a wonderful support from all the funding that we've got — both at the state level as well as the local level, so it's been a great success."

RWA Supports Education Initiatives through Claire C. Bennitt Watershed Fund

Zip06.com; by press Release, Regional Water Authority • 12/17/2020

The Regional Water Authority (RWA) announced today that the company's affiliate, the Claire C. Bennitt Watershed Fund (The Watershed Fund), has awarded grants in support of educational initiatives to the New Haven Science Fair and the James Blackstone Memorial Library in Branford.

"These organizations are providing exceptional services and experiences to the children of our community, aligning with the Claire C. Bennitt Watershed Fund's purpose of providing education that encourages appreciation for and preservation of our environment," said Brian M. Stone, Claire C. Bennitt Watershed Fund President. "We believe that education is central to our mission of preserving open space and protecting watershed land."

"We are proud to support these programs that will inspire, educate and empower future generations," said Larry Bingaman, President and CEO of the RWA. "Through the Claire C. Bennitt Watershed Fund, the RWA has enriched the lives of thousands of students in our region, and we look forward to remaining strong partners in the Greater New Haven community for years to come."

The Watershed Fund awarded a \$10,000 grant to the New Haven Science Fair, a program dedicated to improving the quality of education, particularly in science and math, in New Haven Public Schools grades Pre-K through 12. The program provides teacher training, mentoring and support for the science fair and parent involvement. As part of the grant, The Watershed Fund will award a \$250 prize to the student with the most innovative project related to water, water conservation or environmental science. The Watershed Fund is a longtime partner of the New Haven Science Fair, awarding it more than \$135,000 since 2007.

The \$1,291 grant award to the James Blackstone Memorial Library will support the Reading Colors Your World (Waterways) program, developed by the library and the Town of Branford's Office of Sustainability and Compliance. The program will be broken into two sessions and will use a combination of stories, discussion starters, visuals and hands-on activities to introduce children in grades K through four to Branford's natural resources, including the watershed and various waterways. Both sessions will reinforce their importance and teach participants the actionable steps they need to take to protect this precious resource through conservation, recycling and reducing litter.

The RWA created The Watershed Fund in 1999, and it remains a driving force behind its mission to protect water quality by acquiring watershed land and promoting environmental education. Working in partnership with municipalities, land trusts and other entities, The Watershed Fund enhances the environment and improves quality of life by protecting drinking water supplies and watershed lands. The education programs and scholarships supported by The Watershed Fund provide future leaders with the tools they need to preserve and protect open space and drinking water supply resources.

Reporter's Note: In February, 2020, RWA announced the affiliate fund renamed in honor late North Branford community leader and conservation activist, Claire C. Bennitt, who passed away in 2019. Among many attributes, Bennitt was recognized for championing legislation which led to regionalizing the water utility and forming the RWA in 1977, playing a key role in establishing the RWA Recreation Program (named in her honor when she retired as RWA board chair in 2009), helping to establish the RWA's water science education program and to establish The Watershed Fund in 1999.

Volunteers extend Quinnipiac Trail in Prospect

January 7, 2021 - By Andreas Yilma, Citizen's News

PROSPECT — Hikers can now make their way from Kathan Woods Nature Preserve in town all the way down to West Rock Ridge State Park in New Haven along the same trail.

Officials from the Prospect Land Trust and Connecticut Forest and Park Association worked together to extend the blue-blazed Quinnipiac Trail 3.4 miles from where the trail previously ended about half a mile above Roaring Brook to a new northern terminus in Kathan Woods Nature Preserve off Boardman Drive.

Scott Ellis, who manages the northern section of the Quinnipiac Trail for the Cheshire Land Trust, said technically the Quinnipiac Trail goes to Sleeping Giant State Park in Hamden but then connects with the Regicides Trail, which goes all the way to West Rock.

"So you can hike right from here (Kathan Woods) all the way to New Haven on the same trail," he said.

The extension follows old tote roads and sections of newly built trail across moderate terrain, according to the Connecticut Forest and Park Association. It crosses land owned by the South Central Regional Water Authority, and connects lands protected by the town of Cheshire and Cheshire Land Trust with Kathan Woods, an 82-acre parcel of open space managed by the Prospect Land Trust.

"It's a wonderful addition to the trail. This new section offers all kinds of vistas; you overlook the reservoir, obviously outside of Kathan Woods. All abilities can hike it. Just a beautiful, four-season hike," Ellis said. "It's a wonderful addition to the Quinnipiac Trail. I look forward to people being able to use it more. It's really nice and worthwhile."

Prospect Land Trust member Suzanne Porter spearheaded the effort to extend the trail, a process she said began five years ago.

"The wheels of progress grind slowly," Porter said.

The process included an environmental impact assessment to ensure two reservoirs on the South Central Regional Water Authority's land near the trail would not be impacted by hikers.

"That was their biggest concern," said Prospect Land Trust President Bill Rinckel referring to the water authority.

CFPA paid for the environmental assessment using money from the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's recreational trails grants program. It took time to secure the grant funding, Rinckel said.

Porter envisioned expanding the trail across the water authority's land, which she said has beautiful trails but is typically off limits. Local officials had to get permission from the water authority. That's when CFPA got involved, she said, because the organization wanted to extend the trail across Route 68.

"For me, it just started as, let's just get more of the trail in use here but now it goes across the street, as well," she said.

Representatives from the CFPA could not be reached for comment as of press time.

Extending the trail took many planning meetings, hours of scouting work and tremendous trail building efforts by volunteers, CFPA stated on its website.

Volunteers connected the old blue trail with the new extension by marking trees on the new trail with blue paint. They started work blazing the new trail in the fall, according to Rinckel.

"I'm delighted with it," Prospect Land Trust Vice President Peter Murphy said. "The extension is absolutely great."

The Quinnipiac Trail is 23 miles and runs through Hamden, Bethany, Cheshire and Prospect. People can access the trail in Prospect on Boardman Drive and Cornwall Road.

Rinckel said people are allowed to hike with their dogs on Prospect Land Trust property but not the water authority land.

Rinckel hopes the new trail section, which officials aptly called the Quinnipiac Blue Trail Extension, will help promote the Prospect Land Trust, since people can now hike all the way to New Haven on the trail. The land trust has 75 members and welcomes new ones.

Rinckel pointed out there are other trails that loop back around for people who don't want to hike to New Haven.

Volunteers opened the extended trail at a time when Rinckel feels more people are hiking due to restrictions in place during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"There are definitely more people hiking," Rinckel said.

Health Officials Lift PFAS Contamination Advisory On Farmington River

By Patrick Skahill • Dec 16, 2020 - WNPR

State public health officials have removed a consumption advisory on fish taken from a portion of the Farmington River. That advisory had been in place since June 2019 after a spill at a nearby airport hangar washed thousands of gallons of toxic chemicals into the river.

The spill at the Signature Flight hangar at Bradley International Airport released PFAS, per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, which are linked to a variety of bad health effects, including thyroid disease and cancer.

After the spill, chemicals made their way into drainage pipes, through a wastewater treatment plant, and ultimately into the Farmington River.

In response, public health officials issued a warning to avoid consuming fish caught in a portion of the Farmington River in Windsor, because sampling detected elevated levels of PFAS in dozens of fish.

But subsequent sampling detected lower contamination levels.

After several rounds of tests, the state Department of Public Health said Tuesday it is removing its PFAS consumption advisory for the affected portions of the Farmington River.

The agency said recent samples of dozens of fish show PFAS levels dropped more than 70% from samples taken more than a year ago.

“The latest tissue samples measured 18 ppb (parts per billion), a decline of more than 71% from samples taken in September 2019 and below 20 ppb, which is the cutoff for unlimited consumption in Connecticut’s consumption advisory guidelines for PFAS in fish,” the agency said in a statement. “Due to these results, DPH has removed the current fish advisory for the lower section of the Farmington River.”

While the PFAS advisory is officially lifted, DPH said anglers should still be aware of other consumption advisories in place, including those for mercury contamination in some Connecticut freshwater fish.