

Janet T. Mills
Governor

Jeanne M. Lambrew, PhD.
Commissioner



Maine Department of Health and Human Services
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The bearer of this letter is an essential critical infrastructure worker in the Water and Wastewater Sector and is providing a vital public health and safety service. **Please allow passage of this person, property, and/or equipment to the intended destination during the COVID-19 outbreak.**

The activities of Maine's public water suppliers, licensed water operators, licensed Site Evaluators and licensed Well Drillers and Pump Installers are deemed to be essential. This determination is consistent with a 3/19/2020 (Rev. 3/28/2020) guidance memo issued by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and with [Orders issued by the Governor of Maine](#) on 3/18/2020 and 3/24/2020. These Orders restrict the movement of individuals to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. **However, the personnel listed in this memo are not restricted from traveling as necessary to conduct these essential activities.**

In the above-mentioned guidance memo, the Department of Homeland Security lists "[Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers](#)", which include the following water and wastewater workers:

WATER AND WASTEWATER

Employees needed to operate and maintain drinking water and wastewater/drainage infrastructure, including:

- Operational staff at water authorities.
- Operational staff at community water systems.
- Operational staff at wastewater treatment facilities.
- Workers repairing water and wastewater conveyances and performing required sampling or monitoring, including field staff.
- Operational staff for water distribution and testing.
- Operational staff at wastewater collection facilities.
- Operational staff and technical support for SCADA Control systems.
- Chemical and equipment suppliers to water and wastewater systems and personnel protection.
- Workers who maintain digital systems infrastructure supporting water and wastewater operations.

PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT SERVICES

- Workers who support the operation, inspection, and maintenance of essential public works facilities and operations, including water and sewer main breaks, construction of critical or strategic infrastructure, emergency location services for buried utilities, maintenance of digital systems infrastructure supporting public works operations, and other emergent issues.
- Workers such as plumbers and other service providers who provide services that are necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences, businesses and buildings such as hospitals, senior living facilities, any temporary construction required to support COVID-19 response.

To help facilitate continuity of operations, please ensure that all staff keep a copy of this notice, and corporate and photo identification at all times when traveling to and from work sites. For verification or inquiries, please contact: Michael D. Abbott, Director, Maine CDC Drinking Water Program at 207.287.5684 (office), 207.592.2174 (cell), or Michael.Abbott@maine.gov.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael D. Abbott", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Michael D. Abbott, Director