



# TOWN OF WATERTOWN CONNECTICUT

## OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

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### TOWN OF WATERTOWN REPORT TO TOWN COUNCIL

**Subject:** Overview of Regional Public Water Providers in Connecticut

**Date:** July 1, 2025

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#### I. Introduction

This document provides an overview of major public water utility providers operating in the State of Connecticut, with a specific focus on three entities that may be of relevance to the Town of Watertown as it considers future planning related to its water and sewer systems.

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#### II. Regional Water Authority (RWA)

**Address:** 90 Sargent Drive, New Haven, CT

The **Regional Water Authority (RWA)** is a public, non-profit corporation that supplies water to approximately **430,000 consumers** across a **15-town service area** in South Central Connecticut. The map attached (Attachment 2) outlines both areas served by RWA (blue) and towns included in the RWA district but not directly served (green).

##### Key Service Areas:

- **Served Towns (Consumers Served by RWA):** Ansonia, Branford, Cheshire, Derby, East Haven, Hamden, Milford, New Haven, North Branford, North Haven, Orange, West Haven, Woodbridge, Seymour, Beacon Falls, Prospect, Wolcott
- **District Towns (Not Served Directly):** Bethany, Guilford, Killingworth, Madison

RWA may be a potential candidate for regionalization efforts, particularly given its proximity to Watertown-adjacent communities such as Prospect and Wolcott.

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#### III. Connecticut Water Company

**Regulated by:** Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA)

Connecticut Water is a **state-regulated public utility** providing service to over **107,000 customers in 60 towns**, including wastewater services in Southbury. The utility has a broad geographic footprint spanning northwestern, central, and eastern Connecticut. It currently provides **public water service in the Town of Waterbury**, indicating regional integration with Watertown's existing supply arrangements.

**Notable Towns Served:**

Ashford, Avon, Beacon Falls, Bethany, Bolton, Brooklyn, Canton, Chester, Clinton, Colchester, Coventry, Deep River, Durham, East Hampton, East Windsor, Ellington, Essex, Farmington, Griswold, Guilford, Haddam, Killingworth, Madison, Manchester, Middlebury, Naugatuck, Old Lyme, Oxford, Plainfield, Plymouth, Portland, Prospect, Simsbury, Somers, Southbury, Stafford, Stonington, Suffield, Thomaston, Thompson, Tolland, Vernon, Waterbury, Westbrook, Willington, Windsor Locks, and Woodstock.

Given the company's regional presence and regulatory framework, Connecticut Water represents another potential partner should Watertown consider future sale, lease, or consolidation options.

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**IV. Aquarion Water Company**

**Parent Company:** Eversource

**Service Reach:** Over **207,000 customers across 56 towns**

**Headquarters:** Bridgeport, CT

Aquarion is the **largest investor-owned water utility in New England**, with significant holdings in western and southwestern Connecticut. The utility has expanded aggressively over the past decade, absorbing more than 67 smaller systems since 2011.

**Notable Service Areas:**

Aquarion serves major portions of Fairfield County (Stamford, Bridgeport, Danbury, Bethel, Newtown, Brookfield, New Milford) and extends into Litchfield and New Haven counties. Over **4,200 customers in Brookfield** alone rely on Aquarion.

Aquarion's existing footprint near Watertown, including partial service in Litchfield County and its extensive resource base, may offer a viable partnership if the Town explores divestiture options for water infrastructure.

## V. Comparative Overview (Map Summary)

The three attached maps offer graphical representations of:

- **Map 1:** Statewide overview of public water providers by company (Aquarion – blue, CT Water – orange, RWA – green, MDC – pink, others – black).
- **Map 2:** Specific service area of Regional Water Authority (RWA).
- **Map 3:** Connecticut towns served by Aquarion Water Company as of July 1, 2022.

These visuals are intended to assist in understanding service overlaps, geographic proximity, and potential for integration.

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## VI. Recommendations & Next Steps

Given the Town's ongoing deliberations regarding the future of its Water and Sewer Authority, this report is presented to inform future evaluation of potential regional partnerships or sale of assets. Further due diligence will be necessary to assess:

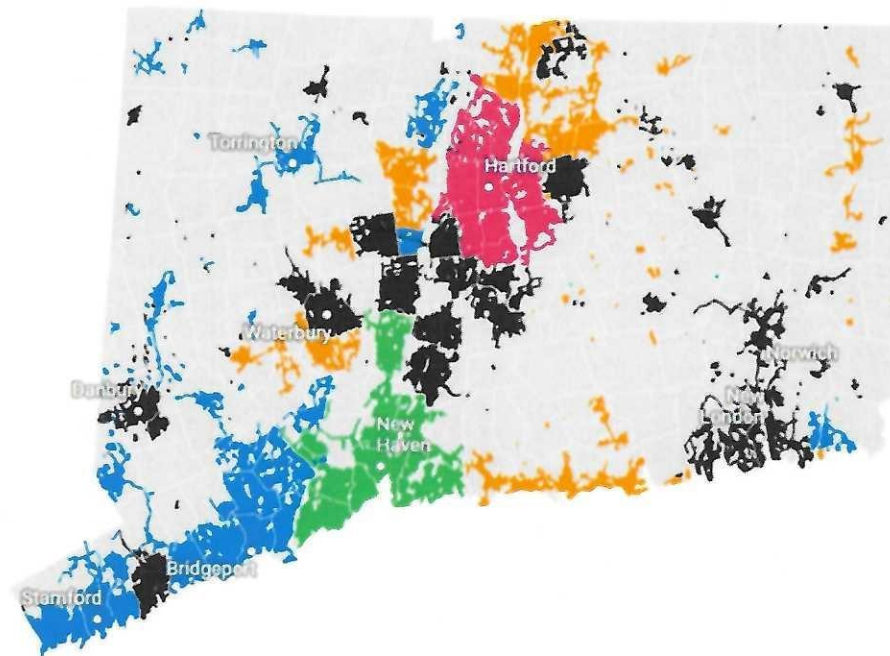
1. **Asset compatibility** and infrastructure integration.
2. **Ratepayer impacts** under each utility's rate structure.
3. **Capital investment requirements** and transition logistics.
4. **Regulatory implications** with PURA and other oversight bodies.

It is recommended that the Town initiate exploratory outreach meetings with each of these entities—starting with RWA and Connecticut Water—while continuing to assess internal financial readiness and operational capacity.

Map 1

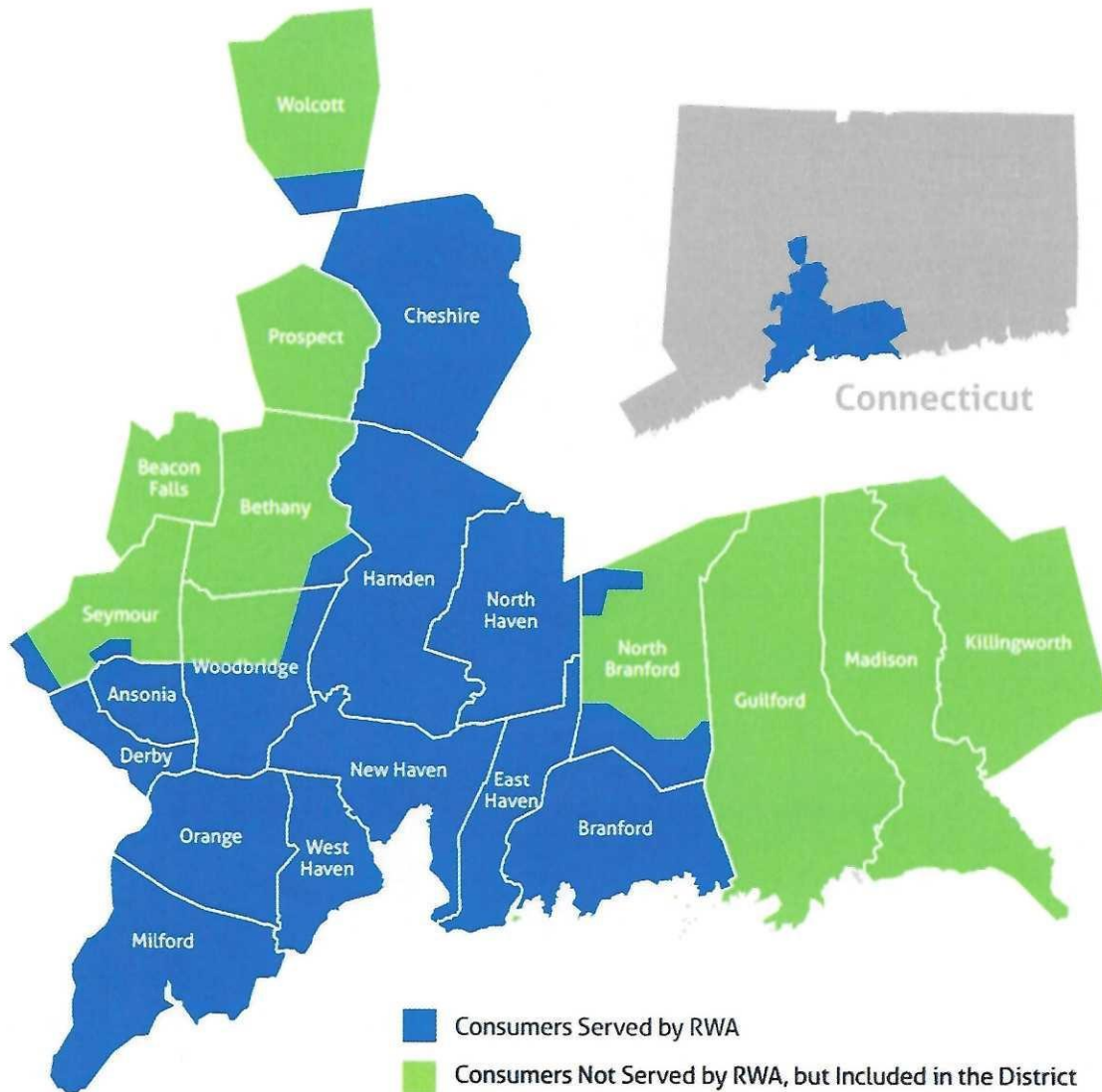
**Public water providers in the state**

- Aquarion Water
- Connecticut Water Company
- Regional Water Authority
- The Metropolitan District Commission
- Other public providers



Map 2

Our Service Area



**Mission:** To provide Connecticut customers with high-quality water and reliable water service at affordable rates through cost-efficient operations and exceptional customer service

Serving 207K customers,  
representing a  
population of ~685K  
within 56 towns

